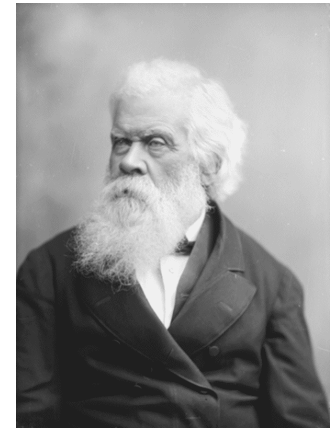


Year 2 General Studies
Sir Henry Parkes

Sir Henry Parkes was one of Australia's more significant politicians. He is often called the 'father of federation' due to his efforts advocating for the federation of the six individual colonies of Australia (New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, and Western Australia).



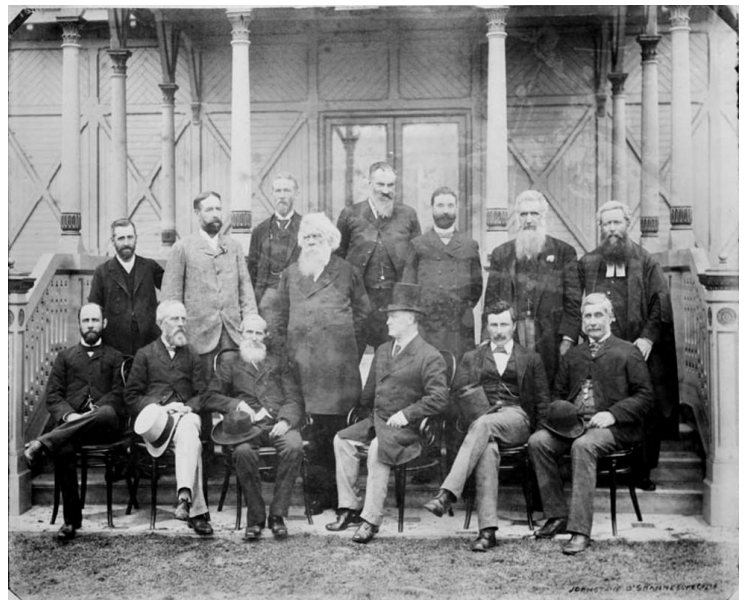
The Tenterfield Oration

On 24 October 1889 Henry Parkes, then Premier of New South Wales, gave a speech at the Tenterfield School of Arts. In the speech he argued that the Australian colonies should federate (unite) into one nation. The Tenterfield Oration (a speech or lecture) is significant because, this was the first time the general public was asked to support the idea.

Australasian Federation Conference

On 6 February 1890 delegates from each of the colonial parliaments and the New Zealand Parliament met at the Australasian Federation Conference in Melbourne. The conference agreed 'the interests and prosperity of the Australian colonies would be served by an early union under the crown'. It called for a national convention (a formal meeting) to draft a constitution for a Commonwealth of Australia.

10 years later in 1901, Australia federated and became a nation. Unfortunately, Sir Henry Parkes did not live to see his vision come true. He passed away in 1896.



Sir Henry Parkes

Questions

1. What is Sir Henry Parkes also known as?

2. How many individual colonies united to form Australia? (Circle the correct answer)

5 / 6 / 11

3. On 24 October 1889 Sir Henry Parkes gave a famous speech. Where did this happen?

4. What is an oration?

5. Sir Henry Parkes was a Premier of New South Wales.

True / False

6. When did Australia become a nation? (Circle the correct answer)

1788 / 1890 / 1901