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No. 507.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA (LAGOS).

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, see No. 470.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1906.



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No. 507.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA (LAGOS).

(For Report for 1904, see No. 470.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Governor's Rest House,

Ibadan,

13th September, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the usual report on the Administration of this Colony for the calendar year 1906.

2. The report shows steady progress. The points to which I would invite particular attention are:—

(i.) The commencement of the serious construction of roads suitable for vehicular traffic. Until last year there was no road, even in the town of Lagos, that was suitable for wheel traffic. At the time of writing the Oyo-Ibadan road, in the interior of the Protectorate, has been completed, and I recently motored over the distance of 35 miles in a little over two hours.

(ii.) The development of two new industries—cotton and maize. The exports of maize are rapidly increasing, and the output of cotton is at present only limited by the capabilities of the Cotton Association's ginneries. I begin to feel great confidence that cotton-growing will prove the chief industry in Nigeria outside the palm oil zone.

I have, &c.,

W. EGERTON,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1906.

FINANCIAL.

The latest accounts for the Colony were made up for the nine months—1st April to 31st December, 1905—and not as hitherto—to 31st March, 1906—to enable the financial year in future to coincide with the calendar year. For the calendar year 1905, a total sum of £379,684 was collected under the various heads of revenue against expenditure, amounting to £414,633. The revenue and expenditure for the calendar year 1904 were £338,124 and £325,188 respectively.

REVENUE.

2. The revenue collected from all sources during the calendar year 1905, as compared with the five previous years, is given in the following statement:—

LAGOS (WESTERN PROVINCE).

Comparative Statement of Revenue.

	Actual Revenue for 1900 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1901 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1902 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1903 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1904 Calendar Year.	Actual Revenue for 1905 Calendar Year.
Customs	£ 190,701	£ 215,924	£ 235,543	£ 260,796	£ 255,862	£ 263,267
Harbour and Light House Dues	808	819	924	1,006	1,542	1,698
Licences and Internal Revenue	6,988	7,328	7,940	8,713	8,749	8,421
Fees of Court or Office	4,510	4,461	10,062	5,980	6,452	8,518
Postal Revenue	1,558	1,802	2,314	2,673	3,838	3,932
Rent of Government Property	440	418	485	502	483	508*
Interest on Investments	2,217	2,201	2,265	2,266	2,321	11,782
Miscellaneous	1,988	3,937	3,638	1,720	874	5,469
Total exclusive of Land Sales	209,038	237,010	313,181	283,730	277,221	305,613
Land Sales	167	226	187	2,115	1,199	1,685*
Total	209,205	237,236	313,368	285,845	278,420	307,298
Railway and Tramway	—	1,326	50,786	47,527	69,004	74,386
Total	209,205	238,562	364,154	333,372	347,424	379,684

* £1,200 erroneously credited in Colonial Accounts to Rent of Government Property is here transferred to Land Sales.

From the above statement it will be seen that the ordinary revenue (excluding railway) of 1905 exceeded that of 1904 by £26,178, and all heads contributed to this appreciation except "Licences" which remained stationary.

The receipts from the railway and tramway realized £74,386, an increase of £15,382 over 1904. The total receipts for 1905

were £41,560 over those for 1904, and £170,481 more than those for the year 1900, when no railway existed.

3. Customs duties, £263,387.—The increase in 1905 over 1904 amounted to £9,425, which was due entirely to the recovery in January, 1905, of £12,285 of uncollected revenue for previous years. But for this windfall there would have been a fall of £2,860 in Customs receipts under the previous year notwithstanding that the Customs tariff was altered in 1905, whereby the duty on imported spirits was raised.

This decrease in receipts is accounted for by the large diminution in the quantity of spirits imported for consumption during 1905; these importations have been steadily decreasing during the last three years:—

1903.		1904.		1905.	
Gallons.	Duty.	Gallons.	Duty.	Gallons.	Duty.
	£		£		£
1,035,820	159,817	1,043,740	155,536	783,159	151,233

4. Harbour and Lighthouse Dues for 1905 showed an appreciation over the previous year of £156, and amounted to £1,698.

5. Licences and Internal Revenue.—The actual receipts for 1905 were £8,421, or £328 less than in 1904, and call for no special comment. There were less spirit licences issued.

6. Fees of Court or Office, £8,518.—This amount is an increase of £2,066 over the 1904 receipts under this head. The increased receipts in 1905 are due to the increase in receipts earned by Government undertakings, Government vessels, ice-making plant, &c., and general increases under most sub-heads.

7. Postal revenue.—The total collected was £3,932, or an increase of £294 over last year, due to the increase in portion of the population corresponding through the post office, and availing themselves of the facilities offered by the money order and postal order services. This source of revenue should continue steadily to improve.

8. Five hundred and six pounds was received during 1905 for "Rent of Government Property" against £483 in the year previously.

9. Interest, £11,782.—During the year £9,243 was received as interest from Crown Agents on portion of loan funds, raised during the year, and lent at interest. This accounts for the increase of £9,461 in receipts during the year 1905, under this head as compared with 1904, when the receipts amounted to £2,321.

10. Miscellaneous.—The sum of £5,469 was collected under this head as against £874 in the previous year. The increased receipts in 1905 are attributable to the refund during the year by the Gold Coast Colony of the amount due by them for the expenses of officers and men lent to that Colony during the Ashanti operations some years previously.

11. Receipts under land sales, &c., amounted to £1,635 against £1,199 in 1904. This increase is due to an amount of £1,200 received as premia on reclaimed land leased by the Government.

12. Railway and Tramway, £74,386.—This amount is £15,382 more than the receipts for 1904, when they were £59,004, and indicate that the advantages of the railway are becoming more widely known and appreciated. With the extension of the railway to Oshogbo, receipts from the railway are anticipated to show considerable improvement in coming years.

LEGISLATION.

13. The following changes have taken place, connected with the Customs tariff, during the year 1905:—

(i.) Ordinance No. 1, of 1905, which came into operation from 1st March, 1905, amended "The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1905," by providing:—

(a) for the omission of the words "inland navigation or overland carriage" from Section 5 of the principal Ordinance, so that drawback of the duty paid is not allowed on goods shipped to Southern Nigeria, such goods are placed on transire, and duty is not again collected in Southern Nigeria;

(b) for the duty on spirits, the strength of which can be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer, and which does not exceed $12\frac{1}{2}$ degrees under proof by such hydrometer, to be charged at 3s. 6d. the imperial gallon, and for every degree, or part of a degree, in excess of that strength an additional duty of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. the imperial gallon, instead of at 3s. the imperial gallon at proof;

(c) for the charging of duty of 4s. instead of 8s. on sweetened spirits;

(d) for the exemption from duty of oil of any kind imported for use as a motor power for engines or machinery of any kind, and not for lighting purposes, and subject to any regulation made in that behalf by the Governor in Council.

(ii.) By an Order in Council of 29th March, all transit fees on Porto Novo goods were abolished, except in the case of gunpowder, flint-lock guns, and petroleum, on which duty is paid on first importation;

(iii.) By an Order in Council of 29th August, the duty on firearms was increased to 6s. each, and rice in the husk, manure of all kinds, wheeled vehicles of every description, and saddlery and harness were exempted from payment of duty.

14. Connected with the change of tariff it may be mentioned that the free storage in the Customs warehouses by an Order in Council of 6th December was reduced from seven days to 72 hours, exclusive of Sundays and public holidays.

EXPENDITURE.

15. The expenditure for the calendar year 1906, compared with the five previous calendar years, is given in the subjoined table:—

LAGOS (WESTERN PROVINCE).
Comparative Statement of Expenditure.

	Actual Expenditure 1900 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1901 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1902 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1903 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1904 Calendar Year.	Actual Expenditure 1905 Calendar Year.
Charge on Account of Public Debt.	29,291	48,008	51,876	52,618	55,908	57,945
Pensions and Gratuities ..	3,238	3,583	5,339	5,024	5,303	6,045
Governor	4,995	5,091	5,243	5,358	5,569	4,187
Colonial Secretariat	3,739	3,927	5,072	5,504	4,029	4,027
Interior	10,235	9,676	8,547	9,942	11,166	15,145
Attorney-General	617	959	841	979	899	1,115
Treasury	2,493	1,994	3,083	3,551	4,268	4,708
Customs	7,437	6,049	5,575	5,721	5,601	8,008
Special	—	17	—	—	—	—
Audit Office	1,297	1,441	1,223	1,198	1,587	1,611
Marine Department	11,245	10,945	10,592	11,257	12,374	15,516
Special	1,532	1	59	802	—	—
Judicial Establishment	6,963	7,375	8,241	8,236	9,404	5,447
Lagos Battalion—W.A.F. Force	22,225	29,314	19,177	27,487	25,489	24,320
Police	13,140	15,486	14,699	15,781	15,700	17,091
Prison	2,968	2,126	3,023	3,317	2,988	3,176
Medical	11,621	13,677	14,823	15,432	17,003	19,530
Registrar-General	327	84	—	—	—	—
Transport	8,322	1,416	—	—	—	—
Educational	2,764	3,645	2,960	2,994	3,567	3,273
Miscellaneous	4,045	4,396	4,770	4,319	5,051	7,047
Post Office	1,704	1,689	1,622	2,024	2,189	2,905
Printing Office	1,064	1,101	1,092	1,404	1,177	1,587
Agricultural and Forests	2,263	3,172	3,341	3,551	4,671	7,690
Laboratory	793	664	690	623	682	658
Land and Survey	1,962	2,413	3,081	3,115	3,515	4,291
Beut	681	776	798	1,011	898	998
Charitable	853	281	240	238	303	416
Sanitary Board of Health	2,718	2,981	2,809	2,930	3,640	*1,514
Public Works	11,167	12,343	10,823	11,967	14,380	16,066
Recurrent	7,324	10,468	7,773	13,262	19,361	23,690
Extraordinary	177,198	206,380	197,994	218,546	236,190	262,130
Marine—Extraordinary	28,146	14,667	9,767	28,455	35,304	64,310
Contribution to Northern Nigeria.	—	—	—	—	—	6,827
Railway, Tramway, and Bridges.	—	3,980	17,709	65,037	53,794	60,416
	200,328	224,927	225,490	310,000	323,188	414,333

* Greater part of expenditure under this head now included under Public Works.
† \$10,000 of this amount was on account of contribution for previous years.

16. The ordinary expenditure for 1905 was £262,199, and the extraordinary expenditure (including a contribution to Northern Nigeria of £21,250 and railway expenditure) was £152,508, making a total of £414,633 for the year. The ordinary expenditure for 1904 was £236,190, and the extraordinary (including railway) £88,908. There was therefore a total increase in the 1905 expenditure over 1904 of £89,445, of which £25,940 was on account of ordinary and £63,505 extraordinary expenditure. Of the latter increase, £21,250 represents the contribution to Northern Nigeria, and £6,527 marine extraordinary expenditure, neither of which heads appeared in the 1904 accounts.

17. The total for the year 1905 (£414,633) exceeded the total receipts (£379,684) by £34,949, owing to estimate of Customs revenue not being realized on account of the large falling off in the importation of spirits.

18. The increase of £2,937 under the head "Charge on account of public debt" was consequent on the issue of the new loan of £2,000,000 to enable the repayment of the Imperial loan and other temporary advances to be effected, and to provide funds for the further extension of the railway—which has been so successful in developing the resources of the Colony and its hinterland—to Oshogbo. The colonial debt has been and is being entirely spent on the construction of bridges connecting the island and town of Lagos with the main land and in the construction of the railway into the thickly-populated interior.

19. Expenditure under pensions and gratuities increased by £743, consequent on several new pensions and gratuities being granted during the year.

20. The saving of £1,172 under head "Governor" was owing to the post being added to that of High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria, whereby only half of the emoluments of Governor and Private Secretary became payable from Lagos funds.

21. The increases in 1905 over 1904 under heads "Interior," "Attorney-General," "Treasury," "Customs," and "Audit" are caused by increases to European and native staff to bring establishment up to an efficient strength. The Customs staff and work had to be entirely reorganized to place it on an efficient basis. The increase under "Interior" is explained by the transfer of expenditure for 16 District Commissioners and their staffs from head "Judicial" to this head.

22. Marine expenditure for 1905 was £4,142 in excess of 1904, which was due to the expenditure on repairs, &c., to

floating craft and increased requirements for stores, &c., found necessary during the year. This Department has undertaken the building of new craft—launches, lighters, &c.—whereby considerable savings are effected over purchases from England.

23. The decrease under head "Judicial" of £8,957 is entirely due to the transfer of the expenditure for 16 District Commissioners and their staffs from this head to Head V., "Interior," these being considered executive rather than judicial appointments.

24. Head XVII., "Miscellaneous," £7,047. This amount is £1,993 more than that expended during the previous year under the same head, and is explained by the payment of £630 to counsel engaged in a Customs law case, whereby over £12,000 was recovered to revenue; the expenses incurred by the Boundary Commission; the expenditure on opening up waterways, and mineral survey.

25. The small additional expenditure of 1905 over 1904 on post office and printing was necessary to meet the extra demands by these Departments for expenditure under "Other Charges" to enable them to cope with increased work required of them.

26. The increase of £3,009 under head "Forests and Agriculture" is due to the support given to the cotton-growing industry and to the general development of the Forest Department.

27. Much of the expenditure hitherto shown under "Sanitary" has been transferred to heads "Medical" and "Public Works Department," and accounts for the decrease (£2,026) under "Sanitary" and proportionate increase under "Medical" and "Public Works."

28. The increase of £1,706 under Public Works Department is explained in the preceding paragraph.

29. "Public Works Recurrent," Head XXVI., expenditure shows an increase of £3,799, which is caused by the increased requirements for several votes under this head. Also to the transfer to this head of certain votes for telegraph services hitherto borne under Public Works Department, Head XXV.

30. Public Works Extraordinary.—The total expenditure was £64,310, against £35,204 for the previous year, and is the largest amount ever spent under this head. The satisfactorily large amount devoted to this heading of expenditure included sums necessary to purchase sites and erect buildings for the better housing of the increasing European staff of the Colony;

for the new Courts of Justice; for more rapid swamp reclamation; for large telegraph extensions; renewals and additions to the electric lighting plant; and new plant for the Government brick works and the printing office, &c.

31. Marine Extraordinary, £6,527.—This expenditure covered the cost of the new steam lifeboat and the balance required to build a launch locally and to complete new marine workshops.

32. The sum of £21,250 was paid to Northern Nigeria during the calendar year 1905 as contribution towards the expenditure of that Protectorate.

33. The increased expenditure in railway and tramway, which amounted to £60,416 as against £53,794 for 1904, was due to greater traffic dealt with.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

34. The Treasurer's statement of assets and liabilities (*see* Appendix I.) shows excess assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1905, of £262,260. Of these surplus assets £85,150 is represented by investments, and £1,174 by cash balance and drafts and remittances in transit, making total cash assets of £86,324, against which cash assets & liability of £9,007 appears on account of overdrafts from the bank and from the Crown Agents.

Deposits.

35. The amount held on 31st December, 1905, in favour of depositors amounted to £47,087, as against £42,305 nine months earlier as follows:—

	31st March 1905.	31st December 1905.
	£	£
Savings Bank deposits	22,711	25,184
Bank, British West Africa	10,000	10,000
Customs accounts	1,739	3,046
Sundry accounts	7,855	8,857
Total	42,305	47,087

The "sundry" accounts are made up of prison funds, estate accounts, and personal or departmental accounts.

Advances.

36. The total advances due to the Government on 31st December, 1905, amounted to £24,818. On 31st previous March the advances stood at £33,914. These amounts are principally due from other Governments on account of money order and general services.

	31st March 1905.	31st December 1905.
Other Governments	11,666	16,178
Railway Extension	15,722	—
Brickworks... ..	2,965	2,628
Sundry	3,571	6,012
Total	33,914	24,818

Currency and Banking.

37. British currency passes freely throughout the country, both silver and copper being firmly established, three-penny pieces are especially in demand. Cowries are still used among the natives, but there is no large circulation, and further importation being prohibited, the use of these shells as a medium of exchange will be quickly terminated.

The Bank of British West Africa has a branch at Lagos, where new and more suitable bank buildings were started during the past year and have now been completed. The Government have for some years placed their account with this bank, and have been able to take advantage of the facilities offered where there is a bank established.

The bank has a capital of £250,000, of which £60,000 has been paid up, and a reserve, on 31st March last, of £30,000.

TRADE, SHIPPING, AND AGRICULTURE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

38. The following table shows the total value of trade and the Customs duties collected for the year ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the previous year:—

Imports.					
1904.			1905.		
Commercial and Government.	Specie.		Commercial and Government.	Specie.	
£ 837,986	£ 51,838		£ 1,036,788	£ 68,695	

Exports.					
1904.			1905.		
Commercial and Government.	Specie.		Commercial and Government.	Specie.	
£ 1,062,576	£ 148,144		£ 968,864	£ 175,917	

Duty.					
Total Trade.		Import.		Export.	
		1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
£ 2,180,544	£ 2,224,754	£ 253,661	£ 258,263	Nil	Nil

GENERAL TRADE.

39. The total trade, compared with 1904, shows an increase of £114,210, made up as follows:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	2
Imports.—		
Commercial and Government...	168,802	—
Specie	16,857	—
Exports.—		
Commercial and Government...	—	99,222
Specie	27,773	—
Total	218,432	99,222

Increase £114,210.

40. Of the increase of £168,802 in imports, commercial and Government, there has been a considerable increase of £62,836 in Government importations, due chiefly to the large importations of railway material to be used in connection with the extension of the railway to Oshogbo, which when opened will give a new impetus to the trade of the country, and in a minor degree to the erection of the Customs warehouses and public officers' quarters required in connection with the amalgamation of the Colony of Lagos and the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria which has now taken place.

The increase in general importations, exclusive of specie and Government importations, is therefore £105,966 compared with the previous year, and the total is the largest on record, and this, in a year when there has been a breakdown in the yield of palm oil and kernels, shows that the country is in a prosperous condition.

41. The decrease of £99,222 in the total export trade is entirely due to the failure of the palm products, which in Lagos, as in Southern Nigeria, has been caused by the unfavourable rainfall, and accounted for the decrease of £128,407 in the value of output of those products compared with the previous year.

42. The variations in the importation and exportation of specie continue, as in past years, and this is due to the importation of specie to Southern Nigeria, which is brought back to Lagos by native traders from Southern and Northern Nigeria and used by them in renewing their stocks of European merchandise.

43. On the whole it is considered that the trade of the country is making satisfactory and continuing progress, and as an indication of this it is noticed that although the staple

product—palm kernels—was about 14,000 tons short of the previous year, the tonnage borne by rail from up-country as compared with 1904 is as follows:—

1905	...	...	...	15,226 tons
1904	...	...	...	15,863 tons

—and general merchandise for up-country by rail show increases throughout in the principal commodities.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

44. There is an apparent increase of £4,402 in the import duties collected during the year 1905, as compared with the previous year, but in the receipts for 1905 is included an amount of £12,285, representing duties on spirits short collected in previous years. The actual import duties for the year amounted therefore to £245,978, or a shortage of £7,883, due entirely to the falling off in the importation of spirits caused to some extent by the increased duty on spirit, but more especially by the failure of the output of palm products.

IMPORTS.

45. The quantity and value of the principal articles of import for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the result of the year previous are shown in Appendix A.*

46. The following statement shows the total value of imports into the Colony and the value of imports from the various countries during the last two years, exclusive of specie, and the increases which have occurred in every case during the present year:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1905	1,036,788	780,711	153,500	27,569	75,008
1904	867,986	631,900	149,874	16,180	70,082
Increase ...	168,802	148,811	3,626	11,489	4,926

The import trade, therefore, is apportioned as follows:—

	1905.	1904.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
From the United Kingdom...	75½	78
" Germany	15	17½
" Holland	2½	1½
" Other Countries ...	7½	8

* Not printed.

Compared with the previous year the United Kingdom has gained a proportion of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., which has been lost by Germany, while Holland gains $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., which has been lost by other countries.

DECREASES.

47. The following table shows the quantity and value of the principal articles in which there have been decreases during the year:—

Articles.	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Beads ...	—	£ 19,199	—	£ 21,277	—	£ 20,836
Coopers' Stores	—	17,621	—	16,026	—	15,015
Gunny Bags...	—	8,544	—	16,659	—	15,818
Gunpowder lbs.	243,417	3,167	239,705	3,194	225,893	2,951
Matches gross	—	4,496	—	7,709	108,028	4,824
Soap cwts.	—	5,720	—	5,714	11,477	5,418
Spirits gals.	1,085,820	108,224	1,043,740	78,409	783,159	70,091

48. The following comments may be made in connection with these articles:—

Beads.

The trade in beads continues to be transferred from the United Kingdom to Germany, and while the importations from the United Kingdom show a comparatively large decrease of £1,494, those from Germany have increased by £402.

Coopers' Stores and Gunny Bags.

The decreases are entirely due to the falling off in the exports of palm oil and palm kernels.

Spirits.

The decrease in the importation of spirits is almost entirely due to the failure of the output of palm products, and accounts for the shortness in the revenue received, which would undoubtedly otherwise have reached the estimate.

INCREASES.

Foodstuffs.

49. There have been increases in every article of food, as will be seen on referring to the following table:—

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Flour	7,237	5,694	6,550
Kola Nuts	38,696	41,064	45,567
Provisions	9,684	8,684	19,492
Rice... ..	7,779	6,985	9,268
Salt... ..	8,389	9,465	9,990
Sugar	3,551	3,411	4,161

Clothing.

50. Large increases have taken place under all articles of clothing. The importations are shown below for three years:—

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Cotton Goods	381,993	367,120	423,928
Silk Goods	8,311	7,043	10,410
Wearing Apparel	4,968	6,578	6,939
Woollen Goods	7,324	4,522	6,460

The large fluctuation in cotton goods is caused by the inflated state of the cotton market in 1904, merchants using up their old stocks in that year, and buying when the prices had fallen, and the market less inflated.

Building Materials, Housing, &c.

51. On the whole articles for building purposes, housing, &c., continue to show progress:—

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£
Building Materials	31,743	31,970	40,786
Earthenware	7,375	7,539	9,057
Glassware	2,790	2,537	2,626
Hardware	14,929	13,521	20,766

Tobacco.

52. The importations of "unmanufactured" tobacco for the last three years are shown in the following table:—

1903.		1904.		1905.	
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Lbs. 1,902,822	£ 25,389	Lbs. 1,084,892	£ 21,048	Lbs. 1,054,091	£ 21,278

This consists principally of American leaf tobacco, although a certain amount of tobacco soaked in molasses is imported from Bahia in kegs containing 56 lbs., on which it was found, at the end of 1904, that duty had been incorrectly charged at the rate of 25 lbs. the keg only, kegs of 25 lbs. having been formerly imported as well as kegs of about 50 lbs., and no kegs having been weighed to ascertain the weight of those imported for some years past.

53. The foregoing statements clearly indicate that the condition of the country is improving, and the trade making favourable progress as the means of communication improve.

EXPORTS.

54. The quantity and value of the principal articles exported during the year are shown in Appendix B.*

55. The following statement shows the total value of exports from the Colony to various countries during the last two years, exclusive of specie and goods in transit, and the decrease in each case as compared with 1904:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1905	797,695	281,364	506,149	80,081
1904	917,956	294,989	594,103	81,914
Decrease	120,261	83,575	87,954	1,833

Germany continues to take most of the exports owing to the capture of the palm kernel trade, for which large prices are paid by the German traders.

* Not printed.

The percentages taken by each country are as follows, excluding specie and transit goods:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Other Countries.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1905... ..	88	68	4
1904... ..	82	64½	8½

DECREASES.

56. The following table shows for three years the quantity and value of the articles in which decreases have occurred in the export trade requiring explanation:—

Article.	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Palm kernels ... tons	68,568	£ 567,612	59,518	£ 579,848	45,177	£ 491,044
Palm oil ... galls.	8,174,060	218,245	8,196,442	219,114	2,765,909	179,008
Mahogany	—	56,167	—	25,851	—	10,858
Cocoa ... lbs.	841,461	6,705	821,782	18,892	668,508	10,889
Animals, living ...	—	788	8,566	8,815	1,954	1,869

Palm Products.

57. The falling off in the export of palm produce has been explained in various ways, but the real reason appears to be the short rainfall of 1905, which seriously affected the growth of the nuts. A diagram, I., is attached (*see* Appendix III.), showing the exports of palm oil and kernels for 10 years.

Mahogany.

58. It is reported that a larger proportion of the mahogany cut in Lagos was shipped from Benin River than in previous years, which does not appear in the Lagos returns, and now that the transport arrangements are becoming more difficult as much timber will not be brought out as in previous years.

Cocoa.

59. The falling off in this product is most disappointing, and may possibly have a bad effect for a time on the native farmers, but as in the case with the palm products, the cocoa industry has been affected by the deficient rainfall, and a favourable

rainfall will probably cause a considerable increase in the output during the forthcoming year.

Living Animals.

60. The decrease this year is attributed to a shortage in the herds brought from Northern Nigeria. Supplies of sheep and cattle for local consumption are also shorter than in previous years.

INCREASES.

61. There have been comparatively large increases in various minor products. The quantities and values of the principal of such products exported during the last three years are shown in the following table—

Article	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Coffee lba.	26,550	£ 157	11,220	£ 126	81,801	£ 1,329
Corn tons.	—	2,215	4,880	16,115	9,885	32,504
Cotton ginned "	—	—	895	12,880	571	15,591*
seed "	174	7,111	481	1,184	699	3,557
Hides lba.	—	—	18,080	674	41,501	1,580
Shea Butter "	62	2,702	127	3,285	228	4,914

* Amount arrived at from returns furnished to the Customs. Actual value about double this amount.

Coffee.

62. Owing to the increased prices in the European markets, a revival in this produce has taken place. There are numbers of mature trees which are reported to have been much neglected, and the quality of the coffee affected thereby.

Corn.

63. Corn or maize shows an increase of as much again compared with the last year, even although the output must have been seriously affected by the short rainfall.

The Commercial Intelligence Officer reports as follows on this article:—

Maize.—A very gratifying increase is to be noted under this head—the total exports being just double what they were the previous year. There seems every prospect of maize, which, up to so recently as 1901, was not shipped to Europe, becoming a permanent and valuable fixture in

our export list, and I think we shall not go far wrong in assuming that during the current year there will again be a large increase on the figures for 1905. It is a risky thing to prophesy in this country, but under normal conditions I shall not be surprised to see 20,000 tons go out of Lagos in 1906. When returning from a recent tour in the Western District, towards the end of January, I saw field after field of ripe ungathered maize. Much of this will doubtless be kept for local consumption, but a fair proportion will figure as an export. It may here be noted by the way that for the month of January, 1906, 2,196 tons were shipped, whilst only 101 ton, went away in the same month, 1905. Good as the results have been, it is not altogether surprising that our small farmers have taken so kindly to this product, for it is one which entails very little outlay, and the results (unlike cocoa, &c.), are quickly seen. It is the first coarse cultivated short crop product for which the native agriculturists have had a free and ready market in unlimited quantities, and that fact, *i.e.*, the one of being sure of getting cash down on the spot for bulk without having to wait for the absorption of supplies as a local foodstuff here, will, I believe, have far-reaching effects upon the development of agriculture generally in the Colony. It is to be hoped, therefore, that steamship freights will not be again tampered with, and that this new departure, at all events, may be fostered in every possible way, for very much depends upon the retention of the farmers' confidence, which I am sorry to say, has often been misplaced with regard to commodities for the European market. Although perhaps somewhat outside my province, it may be permissible to point out, for the information of the steamship companies, that generally speaking, the bulky cargoes of maize will be shipped in the off season for oil, and one would think it would, for that reason, be a very acceptable tonnage to the freight carriers. The Lagos Government Railway is, it may be noted, carrying maize for the Ibadan district at about one-third the rate charged for palm kernels.

"The rail tonnage of maize was 2,501 tons in 1905, as against 1,735 tons in 1904.

"Complaints were received from Europe in the latter half of the year as to some of the consignments being shipped in an immature condition. As in all new business, we have to pay for our inexperience or carelessness, and doubtless the merchants this coming season will be better able to discriminate between the good and doubtful qualities. If they decline to buy "green" stuff, the natives will very quickly bring it down in proper condition, for they know the difference quite well. Personally, I should be very sorry to find the merchants requesting the Government to

protect them from themselves, regarding corn, by an extension of the powers of the Produce Inspectors, and, so far as my voice goes, I shall not encourage any such idea.

“Given a continuance of the present steamship and railway rates, I think there is an extremely bright future, beneficial in many ways, before the maize industry; and it may not be out of place to put upon record in its early years the fact that to Mr. H. B. Russell, C.M.G., is mainly due the credit of the inception of this valuable addition to our export trade.

“These maize notes are of course written on the assumption that the staple oil and kernel industries will not be neglected, and that the clearing of greater areas of forest land will not affect our rainfall.”

Cotton.

64. It is thought that the official returns for 1904 are misleading, and that cotton seed was mixed up to some extent with cotton; in any case, there is an increase of about 42 per cent. in the value of the cotton exported, comparing the values of the two together in each year.

The following report has been made by the Commercial Intelligence Officer in connection with this industry:—

“After recently visiting one of the principal native cotton-growing centres in Yorubaland (Oke Ho and Iganna), lying about 120 miles from Lagos town and three days' journey from rail, where all the cotton gathered is absorbed locally for the manufacture of yarn and in turn country cloths, I feel much more sanguine with regard to the future of the raw cotton export trade.

“The question of transport from outlying districts, say, two to four days from rail, is of course the great difficulty, and it must be remembered that, generally speaking, these are the very districts in which there is no palm industry, and where I am certain $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for seed cotton on the spot would be a very acceptable price to the native farmers. But, for the present at all events, it would be very unreasonable to suggest that the British Cotton-growing Association should go so far afield with their steam-ginning plant.

“I believe His Excellency has hit upon the true solution of the difficulty of working these remoter townships by the rough hand gins, similar to those used in India, and if only we can induce the natives to use these gins and bring the lint cotton down to some buying-station on rail, I think it highly probable that cotton-growing for export will here become a large and permanent industry and one

which will not be killed by the return to normal prices in Europe. For reasons fully explained in my previous report on this subject, I think the cheap wooden 'roller' gins have, notwithstanding the comparatively small output, ever so much greater chance of popularity with our up-country natives than the costlier American or British-made 'saw' machines.

"Some idea of the cheapness of labour in the up-country districts may be gathered from the fact that samples of native-spun yarn which I bought retail in the market at Oke Ho (small knots for 100 cowries each), work out at only 8*d.* per lb. for a soft clean, coarse yarn, and 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb. for a hard one, finer, I think, than the imported 6*s.* The only implements used in the ginning, cleaning, and spinning of this native yarn are:—

- (a) a small slab of hard wood,
- (b) a thin iron roller,
- (c) an ordinary native bow, and
- (d) a wooden spindle.

"The whole process is the most interesting one I have seen in this country, and, although the implements are so primitive, the results, apart from unevenness in thread, are, in my opinion, equal to anything all our complicated machinery can produce in Europe. But, of course, it is very slow indeed."

Hides.

65. The increase in the export of this valuable product is most gratifying, and as communication with Northern Nigeria is facilitated, it is expected to divert the greater proportion of this trade, which at present is said to go across to Tripoli.

Shea Butter.

66. There is a comparatively large increase in the output of this product, which is shipped to the neighbouring West African Colonies. There are large areas within the Lagos Protectorate where the shea tree abounds, and as the people of these districts have no palm products to rely on, it will be a great benefit to them if they can find a market for shea produce. In connection with the export of this article it is noticed that whereas in 1904 only 25 tons of shea butter came down by rail, in 1905 there was carried by rail from up-country 131 tons of this product.

Rubber.

67. The exports of this product remained practically stationary during the year, compared with 1904, the value of the article exported in 1905 being slightly less than in 1904.

SHIPPING.

68. A comparative statement of the number and tonnage of steam and sailing ships entered and cleared in the Colony during the years 1904 and 1905 is shown in Appendix C.*

69. The trade of Lagos is greatly hampered by the bar which closes the harbour to all ships with a draft exceeding 11 feet, and the cost of commodities is much increased by the extra freights for the transhipment of goods and the long delays which consequently occur before delivery.

70. The question of deepening the channel across the bar has been under discussion for twenty years, and various reports and suggestions have been made on the subject. It has now been decided to attempt to dredge a channel, and for this purpose a large dredger has been ordered.

Transit Trade.

71. There is a considerable transit trade with the French Colony of Dahomey, via Porto Novo, as is shown by the following statement:—

Year.	Value.	Transit duty paid.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1900	3,268 5 8	199 17 8
1901	6,841 8 6	203 6 2
1902	11,200 14 5	434 12 10
1903	4,437 17 9	246 1 4
1904	7,974 8 10	529 2 0
1905	117,281 14 8*	41 8 8

* Of this sum, £102,609 represents the value of produce exported from Dahomey via Lagos. This was hitherto wrongly included in exports from Lagos.

72. An Order in Council of 29th March, 1905, abolished all transit fees with the exception of 5 per cent. of the duty on kerosene oil, gunpowder, and firearms, and this accounts for the large increase in this trade.

73. Two diagrams—II. and III.—are attached (*see* Appendices IV. and V.) comparing the imports and exports of the Colony to the United Kingdom with those to other countries.

FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.

74. The Forestry Departments of Lagos and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated on the 28th June, 1906, from which date

* Not printed.

they have been under the charge of the Conservator of Forests, Southern Nigeria. In Lagos the Department is rather short of officers.

75. During the year frequent visits were made to all the Government reserved forests, their boundaries were inspected, roads cleared and new ones made, farming and hunting registers checked, and the planting in them of economic plants, such as Para rubber, *funtumia elastica*, Iroko (*chlorophora excelsa*), mahogany, &c., undertaken systematically. In this respect the Mamu and Olokemeji reserves are more advanced than the others. The former has been divided up into compartments that are cleared of undergrowth, the large trees being left as standards, and a certain number planted every year with the indigenous rubber tree, *funtumia elastica*. Up to date, seven compartments, amounting to 150 acres, have been completely stocked with that species, whilst clearing operations were carried out during the year for further planting in 1906. The Olokemeji reserve, owing to its proximity to the railway, is the most valuable one we possess. The forests are mainly of the "deciduous" type, but "mixed" ones are also to be found along the banks of the Ogun River and on the shady aspects of the hills. Valuable species, such as the West African mahoganies and cedars, are to be met with here. A certain amount of restriction has been placed on farming, and the natives were induced to plant up the fallow land with rubber, iroko, and other valuable plants. The Oshun River reserve is much cut up with farming, and, owing to its inaccessibility, difficult to manage. The planting of the indigenous rubber tree was started here during the year.

76. In the Illaro reserve group regeneration under the wild rubber trees was begun, and the planting of six acres with that species accomplished, whilst more land was prepared for planting during 1906. Besides these four reserves, which are either leased to Government or belong to it outright (Mamu reserve), the Department has, conjointly with the Ibadan authorities, the management of the Ibadan State reserve. This was adequately protected during the year.

77. Considerable efforts were made to bring to the notice of the farming and planting communities the value of Para rubber cultivation, which appears to be well suited to the climate of the littoral districts. 5,266 seeds of this species were imported from the Straits Settlements, and these, together with 5,500 procured locally from trees growing in the Ebute-Metta gardens, have formed the nucleus for the starting of Government plantations at Mamu and in the Agege district and for the distribution of seedlings to the general public. A much larger quantity of seed will be imported next year for distribution to farmers in the Colony.

The cultivation of *castilloa elastica* at Olokemeji has proved a failure, the plants having been exterminated by a boring beetle identified by Mr. Dudgeon as *Inesida leprosa*. The same insect attacks the parent trees in the Ebute Metta gardens.

The India rubber tree, *ficus elastica*, appears to be well suited for cultivation out here; it has done excellently at Olokemeji, where a small plantation exists, and it has been distributed to farmers residing in the reserve. The cultivation of this species will be greatly extended next year.

Plantations of that valuable timber tree, iroko (*chlorophora excelsa*), are also being started in the vicinity of the railway.

78. The Botanical Gardens both at Olokemeji and Ebute Metta were well maintained during the year, especially the former, which is being increased and has supplied the bulk of the plants distributed; the work of distribution is becoming heavier every year, and it alone practically takes up the whole time of one European officer. The distinguished French botanist, Monsieur A. Chevalier, who visited them last rains, commented very favourably on the gardens.

During 1905 the distribution amounted to 43,552 plants, 556 suckers, 300 cuttings, 208 bundles, 1,708 counted seeds, 79 lbs. weight of seed, and 50 pods, the bulk of which consisted chiefly of Gold Coast kolas (15,820), cocoa (15,380), *funtumia elastica* (2,700), nutmeg (1,359), shade trees (824), assorted ornamental plants (3,583), and 200 bundles of Bahama grass.

Thanks to the generosity of His Excellency the Governor, the Curators of Botanical Gardens from various parts of the world, and to Societies and private individuals, the gardens have been enriched by the acquisition of a large number of valuable plants.

79. The series of agricultural experiments were carried out at Olokemeji in connection with various crops. It was found that on poor, light soil there is but little difference in the yield per acre between cotton grown on small ridges and that grown on the flat.

The most suitable variety for cultivation at Olokemeji, the climate of which is that of the "dry zone" (rainfall 51.5 inches and a long, hot, dry season) appears to be the Upland American (Black Rattler). Next to this comes the Egyptian cotton (Mit Affi).

These are the most suitable as far as yield per acre of cotton is concerned. The British Cotton-Growing Association report that the best quality cotton experimented with was Janovich (Egyptian), the produce of which was valued at 6½*d.* to 7*d.* per lb., and Abassi (Egyptian), at 6½*d.* per lb. These valuations were made at home, on material grown at Olokemeji. All the cotton experimented with suffered, not only from the attacks of

caterpillars, but the bolls themselves were invaded by a small hemipterous insect that Mr. Dudgeon identified as *oxycarenum hyalinepennis*, the presence of which induces discolouration of the fibres. The Department is much indebted to Mr. Worsley, manager of the British Cotton-Growing Association, Lagos, for help in carrying out these experiments.

Guinea corn, one of the most paying crops for the poor light soils of the dry zone, and maize were both successfully grown in the ordinary rotation of crops. The cobs of the latter are attacked before harvesting by a species of weevil that does a great deal of damage to the corn. The native method of trying to remedy this by smoking the corn in the cob after it is harvested has proved quite ineffectual. Mr. Farquhar recommends the corn being threshed out and fumigated in properly erected kilns similar to those in which hops are dried and cured in Worcestershire. Experiments in growing flax or linseed failed entirely. A large crop of castor oil was grown, and the seed given to the Locomotive Superintendent, Government Railway, Lagos, for experiment; his report showed that six cwt. of crushed seed yield 28 gallons of oil at a cost of 1s. 10d. per gallon. The yield per cent. of weight is thus 35 per cent., a very good figure. The oil is now being tried on the machinery, and a further report is promised on the results.

The ramie fibre plant grows most luxuriously at Olokemeji, and promises, if unchecked, to become a troublesome weed. Mr. Foster, the Curator, started a demonstration plot of 5½ acres, of which 3½ acres were planted up with cocoa under the shade of some of the best varieties of West Indian bananas, and ½ acre under the shade of pigeon peas; the latter, however, are not suitable for nurses, as they drop most of their leaves during the dry season. In addition to these, small plots were planted up with tobacco, Jamaica ginger, arrowroot, and eschalots, all of which have done well, thus showing, without doubt, that farmers in this country need not limit themselves to the cultivation of only a few crops.

Three pupils were attached to the gardens during the year, and have turned out satisfactory work.

80. The revenue derived from the sales of timber and "chew sticks" in the Olokemeji reserve amounted to £47 18s. 3d., and that for the sales of economic and ornamental plants to £84 10s. 6d., making a total of £132 8s. 9d. The expenditure of the Department for 1905, including £2,000, granted to the British Cotton-Growing Association, comes to £5,039 17s. 1d.

81. The supervision of timber exploitation has been left in the hands of the District Commissioners and Native Councils. Seventeen timber leases exist in the Ondo district, and during the year they yielded 3,255 logs, on which royalties amounting to £1,738 10s. were paid; half of this sum was credited to the "Prison Fund," and the balance to the native chiefs.

LEGISLATION.

82. During the year under review there were 11 ordinances passed by the legislature of the Colony. The majority of these are of no great importance, and only amend minor points in the principal Ordinances referred to. There is only one ordinance of the year which calls for any particular mention, and that is the Mining Regulation Ordinance, passed on March 17th. Up to this time there had been no law for regulating mining operations, and as there were several applications from persons desirous of prospecting for minerals in the Colony or Protectorate, it was found that such a law was urgently needed. There was some slight opposition on the part of two or three of the native unofficial members of Council to the introduction of the Bill, these members fearing that the rights of native chiefs would be interfered with by the passing of the Bill, but on its being pointed out that the very essence of the measure was to safeguard the native communities from parting with valuable rights without adequate consideration, all opposition was withdrawn, and the Bill, after being referred to a Select Committee, on which the original dissenting members, amongst others, sat, was unanimously passed in all its terms.

83. It will be observed that two Supply ordinances were passed in this year; the reason for this being that a change was made with regard to the time the financial year should end. The first ordinance dealt with the Supply up to March 31st, 1905 (the end of the old financial year), and the second ordinance with the Supply up to December 31st, 1905 (the end of the new financial year).

84. The following is a full list of all the ordinances, Orders in Legislative Council and Executive Council made during the year:—

ORDINANCES.

- No. 1. The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1905, passed 28th February.
- No. 2. The Supply Ordinance, 1905, passed 3rd March.
- No. 3. The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1905, passed 9th March.
- No. 4. The Statute Laws Revision Ordinance, 1905, passed 9th March.
- No. 5. The West African Frontier Force (Lagos Battalion) Ordinance, 1905, passed 17th March.
- No. 6. The Mining Regulation Ordinance, 1905, passed 17th March.
- No. 7. The Supply Ordinance, 1905, passed 3rd November.
- No. 8. The Customs Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.

- No. 9. The Pensions Ordinance, 1904, Repeal Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.
- No. 10. The Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.
- No. 11. The West African Frontier Force (Lagos Battalion) Amendment Ordinance, 1905, passed 6th December.

ORDERS IN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

- Orders and Rules made under Ordinance, No. 3, of 1878, on 29th August, 1905.
- Order made under the Petroleum Ordinance, 1889, on 29th August, 1905.
- Order made under the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1905, on 29th August.

ORDERS IN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

- Rules made under the Mining Regulation Ordinance, No. 6, of 1905, on 29th March.
- Order made under the Pensions Ordinance, No. 4, of 1902, on 26th May.
- Order and Rules made under the Wild Animals, Birds, and Fish Preservation Ordinance, No. 15, of 1900, on 29th August, 1905.
- Order made under the Customs Tariff Ordinance, No. 1, of 1905, on 30th August.

EDUCATION.

85. There were four meetings of the Board of Education during the school year.

86. The number of schools offered for inspection was as follows:—

—	Infant.	Primary.	Secondary.	Remarks.
Government ...	5	5	1	Representing five schools.
Assisted ...	29	27	2	Representing 32 schools.

87. There was an increase of 229 children on the registers of the above schools during the year. The number on the

registers, the average attendance, and the numbers examined in the schools offered for inspection are as follows:—

Description.	Number.	Number of Pupils on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Number Examined.
Church of England Mission ...	13	2,101	1,619·7	1,606
Roman Catholic Mission ...	7	1,040	779·3	941
Wesleyan Mission ...	10	830	607·6	592
United Native African Church	2	175	143·3	120
Total Assisted Schools ...	32	4,146	3,149·9	3,259
Government Schools ...	5	237	121·4	202
Total Government and Assisted Schools.	37	4,383	3,271·3	3,461

In explanation of the smallness of the average attendance at Government schools, it may be mentioned that these are new schools, some of them in out-stations where the necessity for regular and punctual school attendance is slow in taking root in the native mind.

88. The Government grants to assisted schools were apportioned as follows:—Church of England, £999; Roman Catholic, £829; Wesleyan, £373, United Native African Church, £93, making a total of £2,294.

89. Nine schools presented children for examination in sanitation, and though only 45 per cent. of the children passed the examination, the results, taking into consideration the newness of the subject, were promising.

90. Excellent work has been done at the St. Mary's Convent School for Girls in Lagos town, where 121 girls were presented at the annual inspection. The curriculum includes instruction in domestic economy, comprising laundry and needle work, in which good results were obtained.

91. Little progress has as yet been made in technical or industrial teaching in the Colony. It is hoped soon to arrange a scheme of agricultural teaching for the village schools especially. Carpentry, pottery, and metal work will, it is hoped, be developed as subjects of instruction in the near future.

92. The annual competitive exhibition of school work held in Lagos on the 16th of December, proved very successful, and the results obtained were, on the whole, very satisfactory. On the 20th and 21st of December the examination for teachers' certificates took place, and 52 teachers were successful in

obtaining certificates. Simultaneously was held an examination for Government scholarships tenable at secondary schools. Twenty candidates presented themselves for five scholarships.

93. The sum of £20 offered for the school in which the most thorough and practical work is done was awarded to St. Mary's Convent School for Girls.

94. In last year's report, the Inspector of Schools was obliged to comment unfavourably on the lack of discipline observable in many of the assisted schools, and the inadequate control which many teachers seemed to exercise over their classes. The Inspector of Schools notes that the discipline maintained in the schools shows some improvement, though it is in some cases still below the desired standard.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

LAGOS HOSPITAL.

95. The staff of the hospital consists of one resident medical officer, three European nurses, nine native nurses, and 16 apprentice native nurses.

European Section.

96. The European ward of the hospital contains 10 beds—six male and four female; the average daily occupation during the year 1905 being two.

During the year 1905 the number of Europeans treated in hospital was as follows:—

Officials, Lagos	...	...	...	27
„ railway	...	...	...	22
Non-officials	...	...	...	68
				117

including:—

- 63 Cases of malarial fever, 5 deaths;
- 9 Cases of blackwater fever, 2 deaths;
- 11 Cases of dysentery, 1 death;
- 1 Case of septicaemia, who died;
- 1 Case of acute febrile neuritis, who died;
- 2 Cases of cardiac affection, 1 death;
- 2 Cases of liver abscess, 1 death;
- 1 Case of colitis, who died;

giving a total of 13 deaths out of the 117 patients admitted to the hospital, or a death-rate of 11.11 per 100.

(N.B.—It is usually the serious cases that seek admission into the hospital, the less important ones being treated at their own houses.)

Native Section.

97. During the year 1905 a new ward of 17 beds was opened to provide accommodation for the men of the West African Frontier Force.

The total number of beds in the native section of the hospital is now 60, the average daily occupation since the opening of the new ward being 52; previous to that, of the 46 beds in wards A, B, C (three of which beds have now been abolished), there was an average daily occupation of 37.

One hundred and eighty-eight operations were performed (excluding knife operations). The number of natives who were patients at the hospital during the year was 891, viz.:—

Officials	...	...	...	...	26
West African Frontier Force...	...	...	...	...	153
Police Force	...	...	...	...	154
Paupers	...	...	...	...	558
					891

of these 113 were suffering from malarial fever, 6 deaths;

- 10 suffering from dysentery, 2 deaths;
- 2 suffering from beri-beri, 2 deaths;
- 11 suffering from tetanus, 10 deaths;
- 10 suffering from tubercle, 3 deaths;
- 26 suffering from pneumonia, 11 deaths;

the total deaths among the native in-patients being 95, or 10.66 per 100. Many of the serious cases come to hospital moribund, native treatment having failed to cure.

The chief diseases were malarial fever, pulmonary and intestinal acute diseases, rheumatism, and chronic ulcers.

The attendance of out-patients during the year was 18,151, an average of 1,512 per month. This represented a total of 4,243 cases, of whom four died, 3,029 were cured, and 916 returned as improved.

YABA LEPER ASYLUM.

98. During the year 1905 there were 10 admissions, 8 discharges, and no deaths. At the close of 1904 there were 12 male and 3 female patients in the asylum, as compared with 11 males and 6 females at the end of the year under review.

MEDICAL STAFF.

99. The medical staff consisted of:—

- 1 Principal Medical Officer,
- 1 Senior Medical Officer,
- 15 Medical Officers,
- 4 Native Medical Officers.

Medical Officers were stationed in the following districts during 1905:—

- 1. Lagos East District.
- 2. Lagos West District.
- 3. Lagos Hospital.
- 4. Ereko Dispensary.
- 5. Massey Street Dispensary.
- 3. Ebute-Metta (and Dispensary).
- 7. Epe (and Hospital).
- 8. Badagry (and Hospital).
- 9. Ikorodu-Shagamu (and Dispensary).
- 10. Ibadan (and Dispensary).
- 11. Aro (and Dispensary).
- 12. Ilesha (and Dispensary).
- 13. Lagos Railway Oshogbo Extension, Ibadan.
- 14. Lagos Railway Oshogbo Extension, 32½ mile camp.
- 15. Lagos Railway Oshogbo Extension Survey Party.

PRISON.

100. The staff consists of one European officer, 22 warders, and two matrons (clerical staff extra). The system is separate throughout, there being accommodation for 164 convicted male prisoners, 16 females, and 22 untried prisoners.

101. On the 31st of December there were 184 prisoners of all classes in custody. Three executions took place during the year, and six other deaths occurred—from natural causes.

102. Indoor labour consists of book-binding, carpentering, tailoring, laundry, making mats, screens, baskets, and palliasses. Outdoor labour—the prisoners are chiefly employed in filling in swamps. The total earnings for the year accruing from labour amounted to £1,609. The total cost of maintenance was £2,879.

JUDICIAL.

103. In July the new Courts of Justice were opened by His Excellency the Governor.

The building, which contains a court for the Chief Justice, a court for the police magistrate, a law library, registrar's offices, &c., is of fine proportions and well suited for the purposes for which it was designed.

104. As regards the criminal statistics, the number of cases before the magistrates shows a further decrease. The more serious offences, tried at Assizes, increased, amounting to 81, as compared with 41 in the previous year. The method, however, of recording the cases has been altered. According to the old system, the number would be 56. There appears to be no special reason for the increase.

The number of cases tried by the Supreme Court under its extended jurisdiction at Abeokuta and Ibadan was small. Only 13 criminal cases were heard during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

105. The estimated European population in Lagos and Ebute-Metta (suburb) was 400, of whom about half were officials. The rest are classified as merchants, missionaries, and ladies. There were also "Syrians," who are not included in the above total.

This European population is practically 25 per cent. larger than it was four years ago.

106. The deaths among Europeans were 15 in Lagos town and two at Ebute-Metta. Of these, seven were officials (including three from railway). There was one death from dysentery among officials (a railway official). Non-climatic diseases caused six of the total deaths, and in three of the fatal malarial fever cases there was chronic long-standing disease other than climatic. The total number of Europeans treated at the Lagos Hospital was 117.

107. There were 45,410 successful vaccinations performed in Lagos Colony and Protectorate, in spite of the great difficulties presented by superstition, ignorance, established customs, and the influence of the small-pox god priesthood.

108. The anti-malarial campaign (swamp land reclamation, use of quinine for prophylaxis, use of kerosene oil, &c.) has continued with most satisfactory results.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA (LAGOS), 1905.

35

115. The following statement shows the development of postal service during the last five years:—

	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Letters and Postcards ...	219,469°	357,312°	218,504*	239,236*	325,584	370,776
Newspapers, &c. ...	119,194	539,544	119,564	99,139	139,968	169,152
Articles Registered... ..	—	—	—	—	26,413	28,044
Articles Insured	—	—	—	—	21	31
Parcels	5,481	11,892	8,680	10,993	11,431	11,942
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Money Orders Issued ...	8,513 5 5	9,391 17 0	9,258 0 8	11,016 14 5	12,128 3 6	10,398 2 6
Money Orders Paid ...	12,439 9 4	12,205 11 8	10,266 9 7	10,881 19 7	13,173 18 2	18,636 18 2
Postal Orders--	—	—	—	—	—	2,175
Number Sold	—	—	—	—	—	(Value £1,064 15s. 6d.)
Number Paid	—	—	—	—	—	542
	—	—	—	—	—	(Value £382 18s. 4d.)
Postal Revenue	1,522 5 4	1,875 1 8	2,151 2 4	2,691 4 10	3,639 18 3	£ s. d. 3,853 1 2

* Including Registered Articles.

PUBLIC WORKS.

116. The year under review has been notable for the completion of several important buildings and works, and the following may be mentioned in particular, the figures in brackets representing total costs:—

BUILDINGS.

New Courts of Justice; a solid, imposing and commodious structure, built in Tinubu Square on the site of the old Court House which had served its purpose since 1877, but which was quite inadequate for current requirements—(£11,948).

New quarters for officers and new offices and stores for the West African Frontier Force—(£4,782).

New ice factory—(£4,093).

Quarters for the Director of Public Works—(£2,212).

Quarters for the Principal Medical Officer—(£1,775)

Four new market sheds—(£1,838).

New quarters for Public Works Department, European staff—(£1,268).

Extensions, electric light station—(£1,296).

Additions to the printing office (costing £378) and to the lands office (£282) were made during the year, and a considerable amount of minor work was done both at headquarters and at out-stations.

RECLAMATION OF SWAMPS, &C.

117. This work was actively continued in various parts of Lagos Island, and over 50,000 cubic yards of soil were used in filling in the areas reclaimed. The appearance of the northern and southern points of the Island has in consequence of these operations undergone a complete change as compared with, say, four years ago, and the prospects of good health in these parts of the town have been greatly enhanced—this apart from the throwing open of considerable space excellently adapted for business premises on the north, and dwelling houses on the south, in a town which had already become very congested. Incidentally it may be noted that a portion of the reclaimed area to the north has already been sold on terms which recoup the Government for its outlay. Buildings of quarters for European officers were commenced during the year on the reclaimed area formerly known as Kokomaiko Swamp, to the south of the Island, and although it is believed that a few years must elapse before the whole of this valuable space can be safely utilized for buildings, there can be no question as to the wisdom of the scheme, whereby one of the most noisome patches in Lagos town has been blotted out.

SANITARY.

118. Three new public wells have been sunk and all others periodically cleaned out. Useful work was also accomplished in the direction of road and street repairing, surface drainage, and sanitation generally.

ROADS.

119. 1905 marks the commencement of the Oyo-Ibadan road, upon which it is hoped that some practical solution of the transport difficulty will be found. In view of the importance of this question it may be noted that the road has a width of 12 feet clear, but has been so constructed as to allow of widening when motor or other vehicular traffic demand it. The maximum gradient is 1 in 20, and all bridges and culverts are of a permanent character. The distance from present rail-head at Ibadan to Oyo is about 35 miles. Influenced by the better facilities for transport, one of the leading Lagos firms has acquired land for a factory at Oyo, and has already opened up in a small way there. In view of the fact that the town is on the main caravan route to the north, and that the important centres of Ogbomosho and Iseyin are within practically a day's journey, other houses may be expected to follow.

In Lagos town over a couple of miles of roads were re-made, including the Marina, which is coated with laterite gravel, brought down by rail. This road has now a surface which in evenness will compare very favourably with the average highway in England.

TELEGRAPHS.

120. Generally speaking, communication with the interior was well maintained during the year. The construction of the new line from Ibadan to Akure was completed, thereby establishing more reliable communication with Southern Nigeria than by the old cable and air line from Lagos to Forcados.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

121. Notwithstanding the disadvantages under which the Lagos Dockyard continues to labour on its old site, all the existing river craft have been maintained in good running order with the exception of the Governor's yacht "Maud" and steam launch "Lily"; the latter has been condemned as unfit for further service, and the former cannot be used until facilities for docking her and renewing the whole of her bottom exist.

The old lifeboat slipway near the signal station has been removed and temporarily relaid close to the present workshops, where it has proved very useful.

The s.s. "Eko," bought from Messrs. Elder, Dempster, and Co. for the purpose for a nominal sum, has been dismantled and sunk off Magazine Point to assist in keeping up the foreshore. In addition to a variety of work executed in connection with dockyard requirements, several small jobs have been undertaken for outside firms, including the overhaul of Messrs. Miller Brothers' launch "Colonel."

122. List of steam craft in the Marine Department:—

	Dimensions.	Draught.
S.W. "Maud"	133 ft. by 26 ft.	3 ft.
S.L. "May"	63 " " 9 " 6 in.	3 " 6 in.
S.L. "Evelyn"	60 " " 9 "	3 " 6 "
S.L. "Ester"	60 " " 9 "	3 " 6 "
S.L. "Otho"	54 " " 12 "	5 " 6 "
S.L. "Margaret"	70 " " 11 "	3 " 6 "
S.L. "Ilo"	35 " " 7 "	3 "
S.P. "Constance"	30 " " 6 " 6 in.	3 "
Steam Life Boat "Moseley" ...	57 " " 15 "	3 " 6 "

The latter is one of the finest lifeboats in the world, and has already proved of the very greatest use in connection with the Lagos bar. She has a Yarrow water tube boiler and twin screws working in tunnels.

CONSTRUCTIONAL WORK.

123. The steam launch "May" (63 ft. by 9 ft. 6 in.) has been built locally to replace the steam launch "Lily," condemned. Designed in the early part of the year and material ordered at once, work actually commenced on this craft in July, and by the end of the year she was all but completed for service.

The steam launch "Olive" (66 ft. by 12 ft.), intended for mail and transport service, was laid down in November. A barge (No. 4), for the Public Works Department, was completed and delivered in August. A 35 ft. canoe, with 4 in. light draught, was built for district use. Among smaller craft designed and built during the year may be mentioned an 18 ft. cutter, two 15 ft. dingies, and a 20 ft. Accra canoe (the latter not quite completed in December).

This is the first attempt at constructional work in the Colony, and in spite of the poor facilities at present available for such work it has been clearly shown that river craft of all kinds can be constructed at Lagos at much less cost, in an equally short time, and with workmanship but little inferior to that of an English building yard.

The Marine Department is fortunate in possessing the services of an expert designer and shipbuilder, and with plenty of skilled native labour available at all times, the outlook for the future in this most important branch is distinctly encouraging.

CLEARING OF WATERWAYS.

124. The one big effort of the year in this direction has been the clearing of the waterways for steam launch navigation in the sudd region, which extends from Aboto, in the eastern district, as far as Siluko, and for some considerable distance down the Siluko River into Southern Nigeria. For the first time on record sudd cutting by machinery has been tried, and this, augmented by the use of hand sudd cutting saws on the same principle as those used with the machine, has proved most successful.

A close study of the currents in the different waterways throughout this area and their peculiarities at different seasons of the year enabled the officers in charge of this work to overcome every difficulty, and when work ceased in December not only were launches able to navigate everywhere with ease, but new routes had been opened up and distances thereby considerably shortened.

A good deal of explosive work was found necessary, principally in the narrower waterways, such as the Aboto Creek, where the sudd is not so much an obstacle to navigation as submerged snags and overhanging trees.

LIGHTHOUSE—HARBOUR AND BAR SERVICES.

125. The lighthouse has worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The harbour has received every attention, the buoyage being efficiently maintained and regulations generally enforced. A constant watch has been kept and all changes duly noted on the bar. The depth of water over the bar has averaged about 13 ft., but the draught of vessels entering or leaving the port has been much limited by a spit carrying 10 ft. 6 in. only at high water, lying across the inside channel, to leeward of the western breakers. Buoys have been laid as required to define the best channel and to mark the positions of the various wrecks. Observations of the height of the rollers, good and bad bars, tides and currents have also been made, and show that dredging work is possible, and a dredger has since been ordered to attempt the creation of a direct channel across the bar for deep draught vessels.

MAIL SERVICES.

126. The weekly launch service to Porto Novo has been satisfactorily maintained, 1,516 passengers being carried during

the year; and that to the eastern district has been considerably accelerated owing to the clearing of the waterways in the sudd region.

The various steam craft of the Department covered 28,940 miles, and 3,328 passengers were carried. The fares collected amounted to £558.

ICE PLANT.

127. The ice-making machinery is in charge of the Marine Department. The erection of a new ice plant, capable of turning out 5 tons of ice per day, if necessary, was completed and machinery started in March. It has since worked most satisfactorily. The ice is sold to the public at $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. (average), and this pays working expenses.

STAFF.

128. The European staff consisted of the following during 1905:—

- 1 Marine Superintendent and Port Master,
- 1 Assistant Superintendent and Port Master,
- 1 Marine Officer,
- 1 Constructor,
- 1 Shipwright,
- 1 Superintendent Engineer,
- 1 Engineer,
- 1 Boilermaker,
- 1 Plater, and
- 1 Fitter.

MILITARY.

129. The authorised strength of the Lagos Battalion, West African Frontier Force, in 1905 was one major commanding, one captain second in command and adjutant, three captains company commanders, 12 lieutenants, and 513 rank and file.

130. The distribution of the Lagos Battalion of the West African Frontier Force, commanded by Major P. Maclear, was, as in 1904, viz.:—One company at Ibadan, furnishing one section at Saki and a small detachment at Ilesha; two companies at Lagos, furnishing a small detachment at Jebu Ode and also the depôt company at Lagos.

131. At the end of January, owing to a serious outbreak of guinea worn weakening the strength of the Southern Nigeria Regiment, "A" Company of the Lagos Battalion, under Captain Byrne and Lieut. Barrow, proceeded to Calabar and took

part in the Southern Ibibio Expedition and Ezza patrol, returning to Lagos at the end of May.

132. In October, owing to a rising taking place in the Kwale country in Southern Nigeria, two companies under Major Maclear proceeded to Sapele and took part in the operations, returning to Lagos in the middle of November.

133. Brigadier-General Morland visited Lagos and inspected the regiment, 12th until 23rd December.

New quarters for the European officers were in course of construction at the end of the year.

CIVIL POLICE.

134. The authorised establishment of the force was 492, which includes three European officers. The actual strength on the 31st December was 478. The total cost of maintaining the force was £15,849. The men recruited are chiefly Yorubas.

DISTRIBUTION.

135. 350 men were employed in Lagos town and adjacent stations; the remainder were in the districts. The area of country over which the police work and have jurisdiction is approximately 3,500 square miles.

136. The whole force is armed with Martini-Enfield carbines and short sword bayonets; every man is exercised annually in a course of musketry.

DETECTIVE BRANCH.

137. This branch consists of one native superintendent and 14 non-commissioned officers and men, all plain clothes officers. The cost of maintenance was £756; the work accomplished by this sub-department was satisfactory.

CRIME.

138. There was a decrease in crime, compared with the previous year, as the following figures will show:—

2,209 persons were apprehended for all offences against 2,473 in 1904, a decrease of 264. 1,510 cases were dealt with at the courts (53 of which were indictable), against 1,734 in 1904, a decrease of 224. Larceny and receiving was the predominant offence. Thirteen cases of murder were reported, and arrests made in all with the following results:—2, sentenced to be hanged; 1, imprisonment for life; 2, convicted of manslaughter; 5, cases dismissed for want of evidence in Lower

Courts; 2, discharged at Assizes; 1 (lunatic), ordered to be detained during His Majesty's pleasure.

FINGER PRINT SYSTEM.

139. In October this system was started for the identification of criminals, and 152 impressions and photographs were taken. It will, however, be some time before the real value of this system will be felt. It, however, acts as a deterrent to the commission of crime.

FIRE BRIGADE.

140. This department, which is under the direction of the Chief of Police, consists of one native superintendent and 20 kroomen, is equipped with a Shand & Mason steam fire engine, 21 lengths of delivery hose, three lengths of suction hose, hose reel, and other fire appliances. The cost of maintenance was £470.

Seven calls were received during the year, and the total value of property destroyed was estimated at £240, which consisted chiefly of bamboo houses with thatch roofing. There was no loss of life.

LAGOS GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

141. In the early part of the year under review sanction was accorded to the commencement of work on the extension of the railway beyond Ibadan. The survey was pushed forward rapidly, and completed for a distance of over 50 miles. Following close on this, the alignment was quickly determined and works started. At the close of the year good progress had been made. After long correspondence on the subject of gradient and curvature, sanction was obtained to adopt a limiting grade of 1 in 80, and 10-chain radius as the exceptional minimum for curves. By this means an easier and cheaper working road will be provided for train transport, which will save in recurring working charges very considerably more than the annual interest on the extra cost of construction, if any. The estimate provided for a capital outlay of £6,500 per mile for a line with grades of 1 in 50 and $7\frac{1}{2}$ chain curves, and it is quite possible that this figure will not be exceeded for the improved line.

142. There was no change in the length of the line open to traffic during the year 1905, which, therefore, stood at 125.5 miles.

143. The general results of working compare as follows with the previously reported 12 months:—

—	1904.	1905.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Gross earnings	60,336	72,649	12,313
Working expenses	53,394	56,775	3,381
Net earnings	6,942	15,874	8,932

The results per open mile and per train mile run for 1905 compare equally favourably with the earlier years, both in regard to receipts and expenditure. The former improved by 20 per cent. and the latter are several points lower than the previous record. The net result is an increase from 13*d.* per ton mile realised in 1904 to 25*d.* in the net earnings for 1905. The improvement has occurred almost entirely in the goods traffic. The coaching receipts were stationary.

The total goods tonnage rose from 46,203 in the earlier period to 58,263 tons carried in the year under report. This increase occurred, partly in the stores carried for Government Departments, but more especially under railway materials carried for construction. There is an actual drop of 606 tons in the weight of public merchandise during the last year. The enhancement of rates, however, introduced from 1st January, 1905, prevented this shrinkage in tonnage from actually lessening the income from public merchandise, for the earnings from this source show an increase of £3,172. The explanation of the declension in public merchandise is that 1905 was a bad agricultural season. The results so far as the rail-borne trade was concerned indicate that the increased freight charges did not operate to restrict business.

144. The principal falling off occurred in the traffic in palm kernels and palm oil. Of the former, 1,435 tons less were carried than in the preceding year, and of oil 435 tons. In both cases the drop in the rail-borne trade was proportionately much less than the total trade declension shown by the trade statistics. The diminished business in the commodities mentioned was partially counterbalanced by improved traffic in other articles.

145. Government traffic contributed £1,556 more to the total income. This was due to the fact that under recent orders full tariff rates are now charged for such traffic, whereas formerly Government stores were carried at actual cost of haulage. The credits on account of carriage of construction materials realised £21,900. The whole of this material was for the Oshogbo Extension.

146. The influence of the British Cotton-Growing Association was felt in the large movements of cotton and cotton seed during the year. The business during 1905 promises to be much more important. Cotton is still carried free, the cost of so doing being credited to the railway at something below the actual cost of haulage, in order to assist the efforts of the association. It is understood that the British Cotton-Growing Association are arranging for the extension of ginning and pressing operations, and contemplate establishing an oil press to treat the seed as well.

147. Another commodity which is rising in importance is corn (maize), of which 2,500 tons were carried in 1905, as against 1,500 in the previous year, and only 200 tons in 1903.

148. The traffic possibilities and prospects are regarded as sufficiently hopeful. There is reason to think that the conditions of railway transit will soon be more fully appreciated by the rural population. The conditions of life must alter in process of time, and the population which now looks for little more than to satisfy the primary wants of nature begins to advance, attains a higher level of existence, and seeks a fuller measure of comfort. The extension of the railway to Oshogbo should be immediately followed by an improvement in the traffic. Action has been taken to provide local feeder roads along the extended line. The means of transport over these feeder roads has also been under consideration. The use of light motor lorries and the employment of trained draught oxen are among the proposals now being seriously considered. In regard to the latter mode of transport, the British Cotton-Growing Association is actively co-operating with the railway in these experiments, and the result, so far, has given satisfactory assurance of success.

149. The working expenses for the year under review amounted to £56,775, as compared with £53,394 in the earlier period. The increased expenditure is not disproportionate to the extra business done. For on the basis of gross ton mileage, the ultimate standard unit of transportation, the cost of movement works out at 623 pence per thousand gross ton miles, as against 722 pence in 1904. Among the causes operating in 1905 which favourably affected the cost of working, the cheaper price of coal is the chief. A coal contract with Messrs. Elder, Dempster, and Co. was obtained at 32s. 6d. per ton, as against the former rate of 45s. Of the old construction engines five have been rebuilt and placed in service with gratifying results. There were no engine failures during 1905. The trains, with but few exceptions, run to scheduled time, and the working results are considered satisfactory.

150. There were six accidents on the railway, involving either injury or death, resulting in two persons being killed

and four seriously injured; of these, none were passengers or railway employees, all the injured persons being trespassers on the line.

151. The quantitative value of work done by the railway is indicated in the following figures for the three contrasted periods:—

	Year ended 31 Dec. 1903.	Year ended 31 Mar. 1905.	Year ended 31 Dec. 1905.
Train miles	118,299	126,709	151,401
Vehicle miles	809,679	884,088	1,181,111
Total number of passengers ...	100,063	116,267	106,972
Total tonnage of goods	37,885	46,203	58,263
Unit mileage	4,911,934	4,593,366	4,047,466
Ton mileage of goods	2,922,620	3,369,776	4,182,222
*Gross ton mileage	17,805,744	19,112,912	21,872,262
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average receipts per open mile ...	408 8 9·2	408 15 1·7	579 17 6·6
Do. do. train per open mile	8 7·9	9 6·3	9 7·2
Do. do. passengers ...	2 5·4	2 4·7	2 6·6
Do. do. ton of public goods	1 1 8·3	1 0 7·4	1 2 10·1

* Freight and dead weight.

152. The financial result on the total capital applied for railway purposes proper represents a net return of about 1·5 per cent during the year 1905. The freight and passenger rates have been fixed at rates that are unremunerative on the present volume of traffic and much lower than is customary on West African lines, which have proved exceptionally costly to construct and require a highly-paid European staff one-third in excess of requirements in order to provide for the frequent absences on leave necessary to Europeans in this climate. The Government, while anxious to see the railway paying maintenance, interest, and sinking fund charges, is unwilling to increase the rates to accelerate the attainment of this desirable result, and looks more to the indirect revenue receipts owing to the development of the country by means of the railway than to direct railway receipts.

153. Statement of audited traffic for the year ending 31st December, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905:—

Period.	Coaching.		Goods.		Telegraph Earnings.	Sundries.	Total.														
	Public.	Government.	Public.	Government.*																	
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.									
Calendar year 1902...	13,884	11	5	1,490	14	5	23,608	13	7	3,693	12	3	245	10	6	388	16	0	43,311	18	2
Do. do. 1903...	15,402	8	11	3,098	19	1	26,943	5	10	5,134	14	5	346	19	5	332	14	3	51,259	1	11
Do. do. 1904...	14,608	0	7	2,860	11	8	35,069	19	10	4,072	0	9	491	9	4	605	8	0	57,707	10	2
Do. do. 1905...	14,450	3	8	3,336	19	0	38,960	19	6	14,509	2	11	535	8	8	856	8	5	72,649	2	2
Total ...	58,345	4	7	10,787	4	2	124,582	18	9	27,409	10	4	1,619	7	11	2,183	6	8	224,927	12	5

	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
*Government Stores	886	1,137	1,010	2,679
Railway Construction Material.—				
(a) Oshogbo Extension	—	—	—	3,836
(b) Open Lines	2,808	3,998	3,062	7,994
Total	3,694	5,135	4,072	14,509

154. The senior administrative staff of the railway consisted of:—

General Manager—Mr. F. Bedford Glasier.
Deputy Manager—Mr. W. Butler-Wright.
Locomotive Superintendent—Mr. T. H. M. Bonell.
Maintenance Engineer—Mr. J. H. Black.
Accountant—Mr. A. G. Hubbard.
Chief Storekeeper—Mr. F. S. Cochrane.

ADMINISTRATION.

155. The Governor, Sir W. Egerton, K.C.M.G., left the Colony on leave of absence in July, and the Government was administered during the remainder of the year by Mr. J. J. Thorburn.

156. The Honourable C. H. Harley-Moseley, Colonial Secretary, left the Colony in January and has been placed on the retired list on completion of nearly 25 years' service, eleven of which were in the service of this Colony.

157. The Honourable E. A. Speed, Attorney-General, acted as Colonial Secretary from January to the end of the year.

158. The Audit Department was amalgamated with that of Southern Nigeria, and an Auditor for the combined Administration was appointed in May, together with a considerable increase in staff, to enable the Department to more adequately cope with the increasing work and the necessity for a greater degree of supervision than had hitherto been possible.

159. A new post, that of Commercial Intelligence Officer, was created, and Mr. C. A. Birtwistle was appointed in February.

160. Two additional surveyors were appointed to the Lands and Survey Department to enable the survey of the Colony to be dealt with more effectively.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

161. From a general standpoint the history of the Colony for the year 1905 presents no striking novelties; on the other hand, the general trend of affairs points distinctly towards progress and expansion. During the year the great advantage derived by the Colony owing to its geographical position has begun to make itself felt. This is due in the first instance to the fact that the town of Lagos is beginning to assume the character of a large trading entrepôt, the up-country native traders realizing the advantage derived by bringing down produce for immediate shipment.

162. In connection with the development of the up-country trade, active consideration has been extended to the state of the Lagos bar. The latter forms a serious obstacle to making the port of Lagos unquestionably the most important and largest along the coast, and the question of adopting measures to remove this obstacle, although mooted for a considerable time, was not actively entertained until this year. The result is the proposal to work a dredger, which shall maintain a channel that will allow ocean-going steamers to discharge within the lagoon port of Lagos. Hitherto all discharge and loading of cargo has taken place either immediately outside the bar or at Forcados, which is the next southward port along the coast. This entails the service of a subsidiary number of steamers, which again incurs not only considerable delay in all transshipping, but very great inconvenience and risk not only to cargo but passengers. The necessity for attending to the needs of passengers has been making itself acutely felt.

163. A further point of interest which during the year has received attention is the construction of roads. In common with all native tribes along the coast, the use of vehicular traffic is utterly unknown to the native of the Lagos hinterland, owing undoubtedly to the fact that the bush paths have for years proved sufficient to the needs of the country. The present development, however, every day goes to prove the necessity for roads capable of bearing vehicular traffic. In the town of Lagos the systematic laying down of metalled thoroughfares has been rigorously and most successfully pushed and hand traction encouraged. Experiments are also being made with a view to introducing the bullock as a draught animal. These have so far been successful, and it is anticipated that the native will in time understand the advantages of vehicular traffic when they become more apparent to him.

164. The telegraph construction initiated during the year in conjunction with that of Southern Nigeria will prove invaluable in time, in spite of the difficulties experienced in providing an efficient native telegraph staff.

165. The railway extension to Oshogbo is another successful item of progress which is of interest, as is also the clearing of waterways, which inaugurated the systematic traffic of launch services between the Colony and Southern Nigeria.

166. A most satisfactory experiment in the matter of boat construction was successfully put through by the Marine Department, and is useful in showing the possibility of turning out efficient results with native artisan work strictly under European supervision. It is, moreover, worthy of note that the constructional work done by the Marine Department of the Colony is unique of its kind on the coast.

W. FOSBERY,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

10th September, 1906.

APPENDIX I.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1905.

Liabilities.	Amount.		Assets.	Amount.	
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Deposits, viz.—			Cash in Treasury, 31st December, 1905.	54	18 7
Savings Bank	25,183	14 2	Sub-Accountants' Balances, 31st December, 1905.	1,022	9 6
Bank, British West Africa	10,000	0 0	Unadjusted Balance Railway Open Lines Account.		
Customs Duties	2,447	17 2	Unadjusted Ibadan Oshogbo Imprest Account.	64,171	4 11
Unclaimed Goods	598	3 11	Advances due to the Colony, viz.—		
Sundries	8,857	11 0	Sierra Leone Government	930	11 5
Deposits, Railway Account... ..			Northern Nigeria Government... ..	6,598	10 7
Advances Overpaid			Southern Nigeria "	8,649	5 6
Due to Bank, British West Africa (Account Overpayment).			Brick Works	2,627	11 1
Due to Crown Agents for Colonies			Sundries	6,011	12 6
Due from Colony on Loan Account			Advances, Railway Account		
			Deposit Overpaid	24,817	11 1
			Suspense Account (Ebute Meta Works).	5,827	8 6
			Investments—	1,833	1 7
			General		
Excess of Assets			Steamer Depreciation Fund	44,904	16 0
			Bank, British West Africa	7,895	10 4
			Savings Bank	10,000	0 0
			Advance to Crown Agents from Loan Funds.	22,350	0 0
			Drafts and Remittances		
				96	13 8
				797,722	6 11

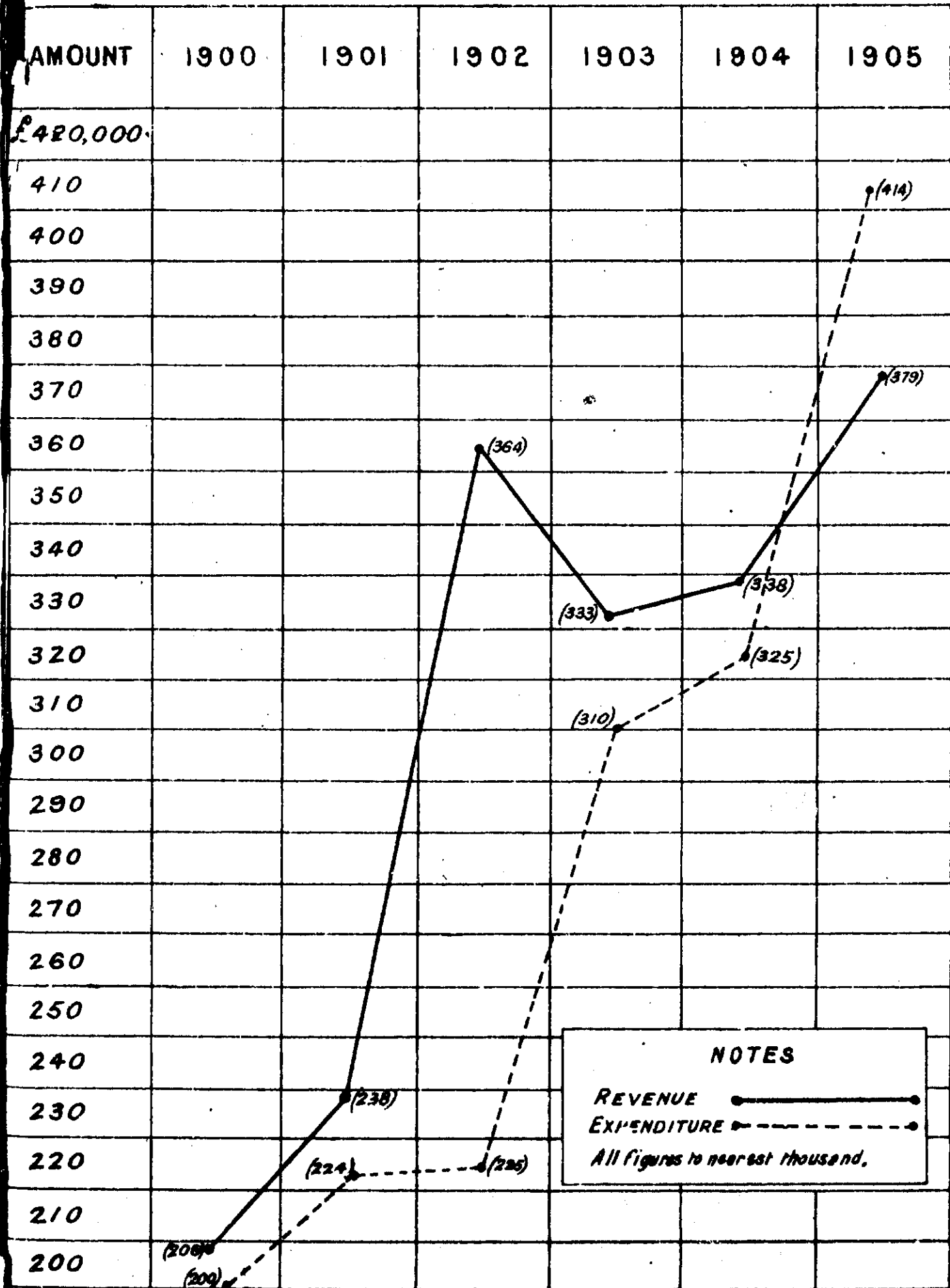
Loan receipts from all sources £1,889,426 2s. 5d.

Railway Construction Account 1895, 31st December, 1905, £1,415,413 9s. 1d.

Appendix II.

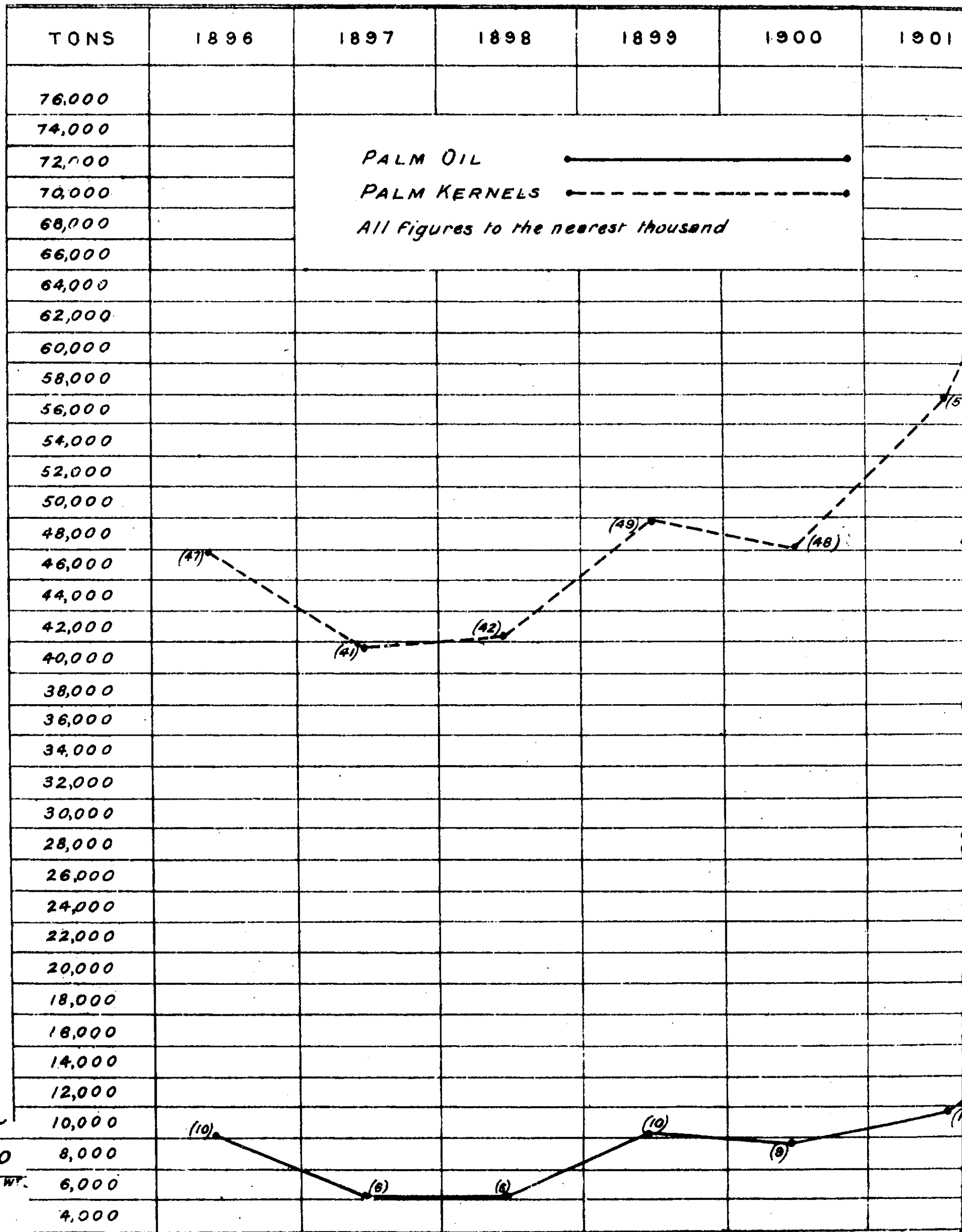
LAGOS.

**CHART SHEWING ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE CALENDAR YEARS 1900 TO 1905.**



COLONY OF L

CHART SHEWING THE QUANTITY OF PALM OIL AND PALM



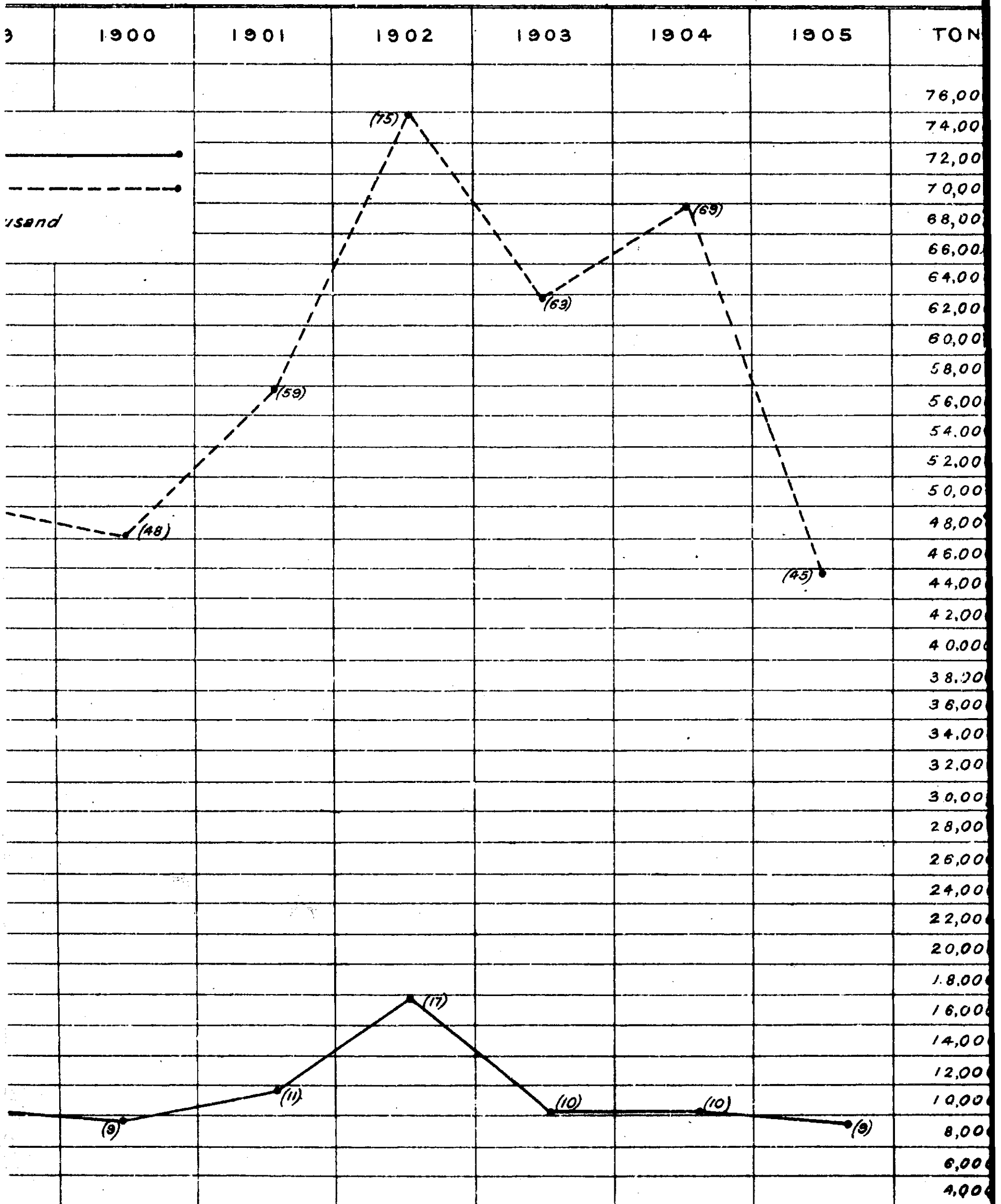
211.06 WT 3307. 1123.

Appendix III.

COLONY OF LAGOS.

Diagram

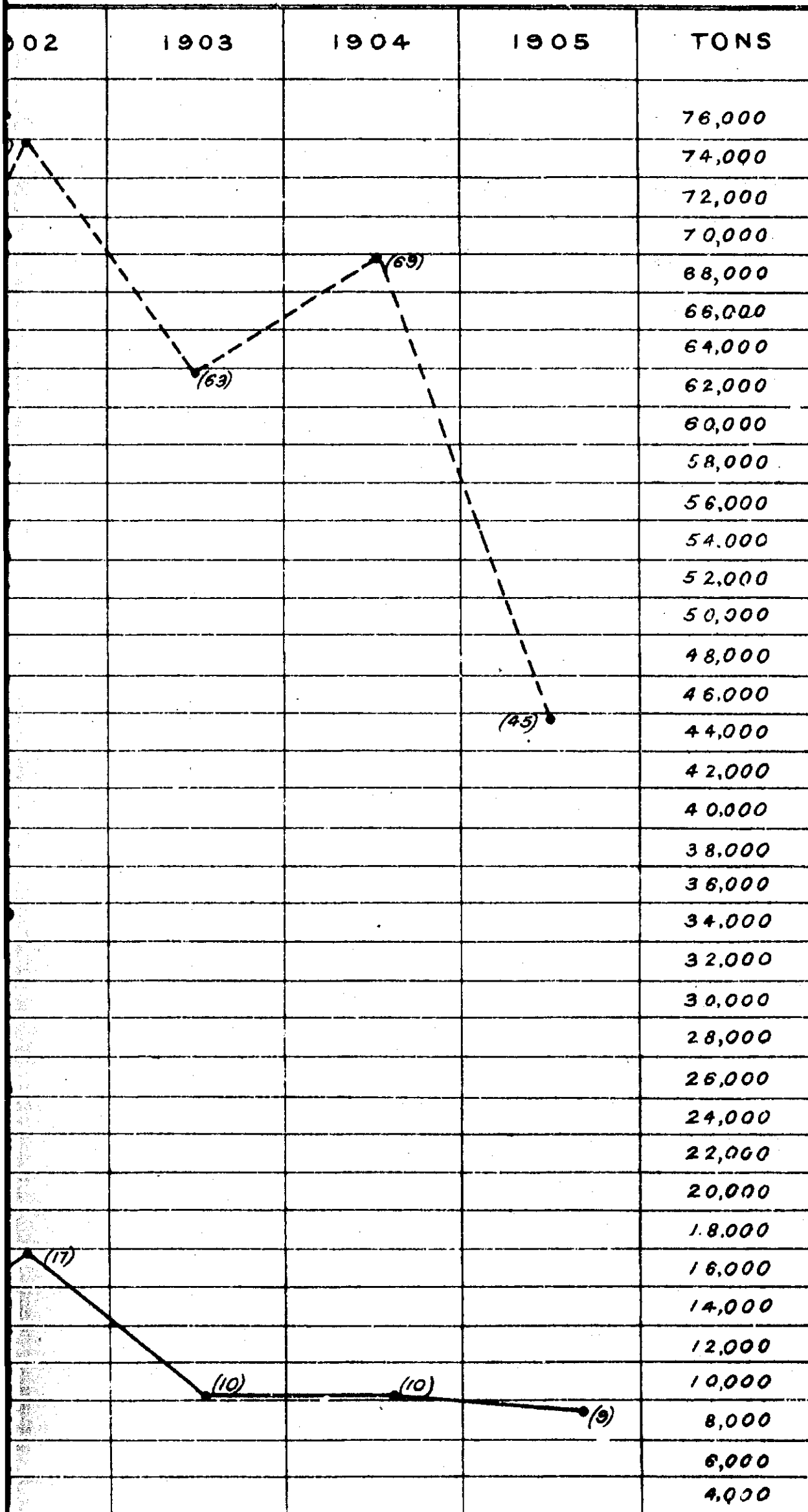
OF PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS EXPORTED FROM 1896 TO 1905.



S.

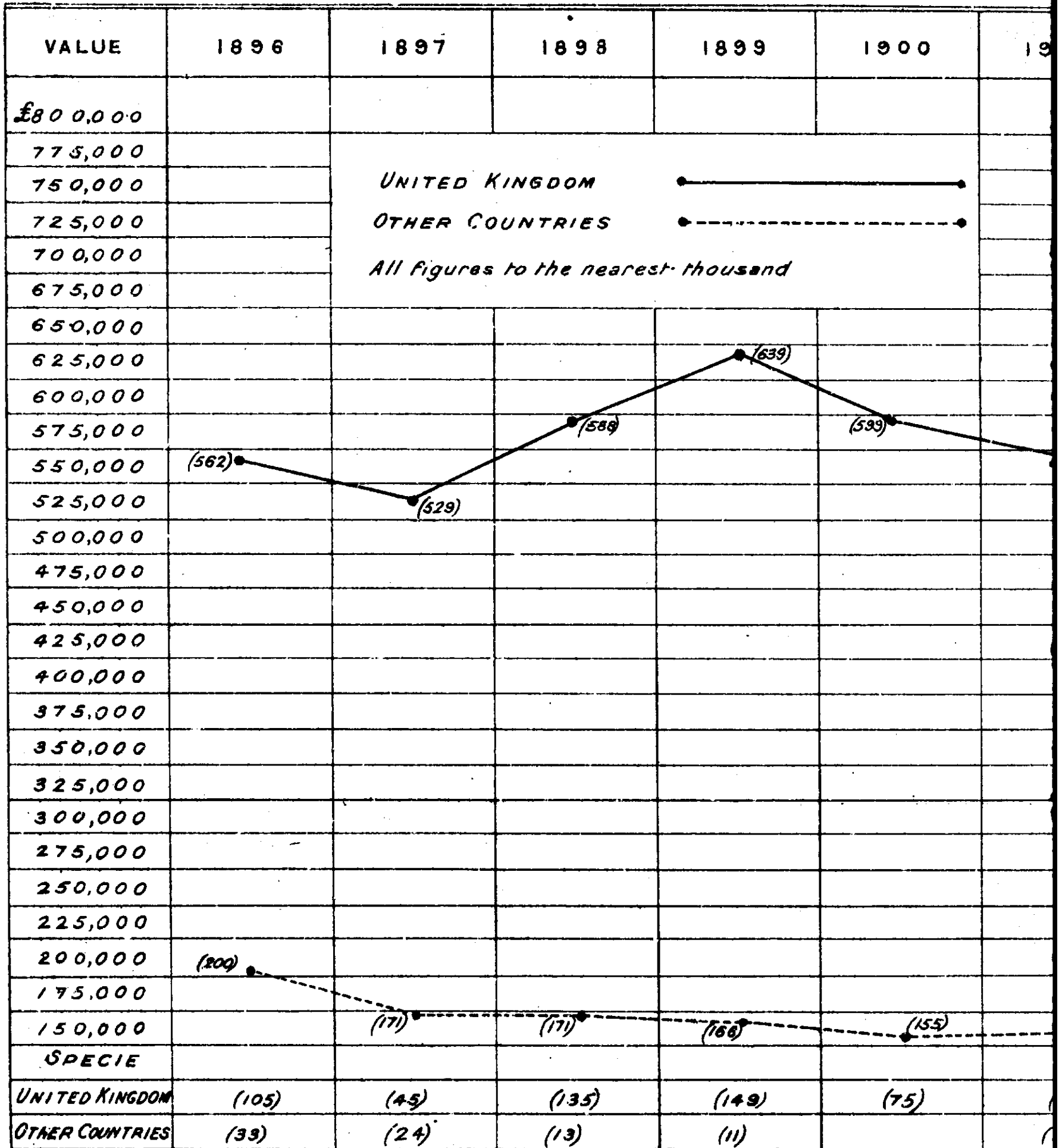
Diagram I

S EXPORTED FROM 1896 TO 1905.



COLONY OF

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF IMPORTS (EXCLUDING SPECIE) FROM THE



Appendix IV.

COLONY OF LAGOS.

Diagram

(SPECIE) FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM 1896 TO 1905

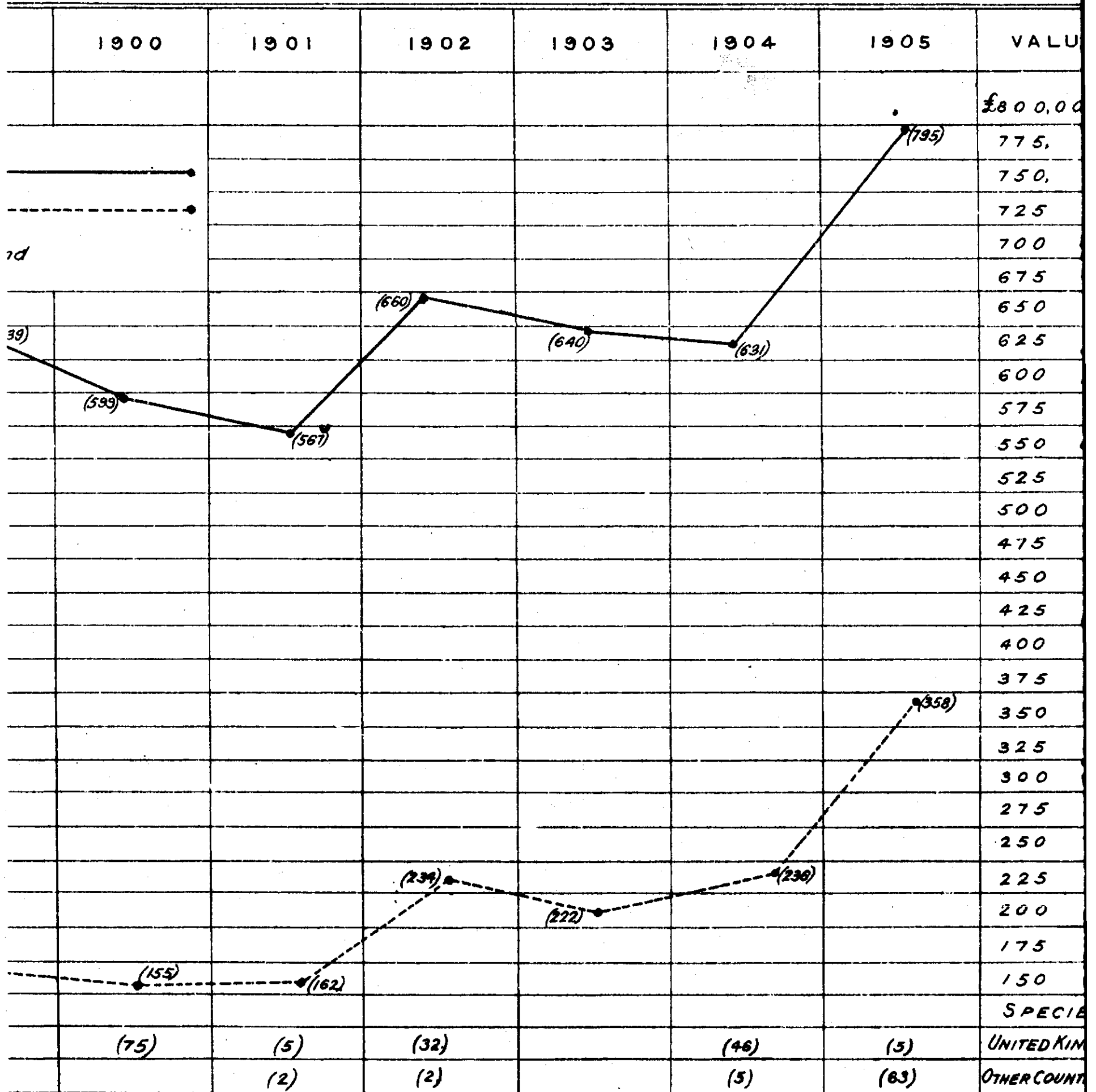
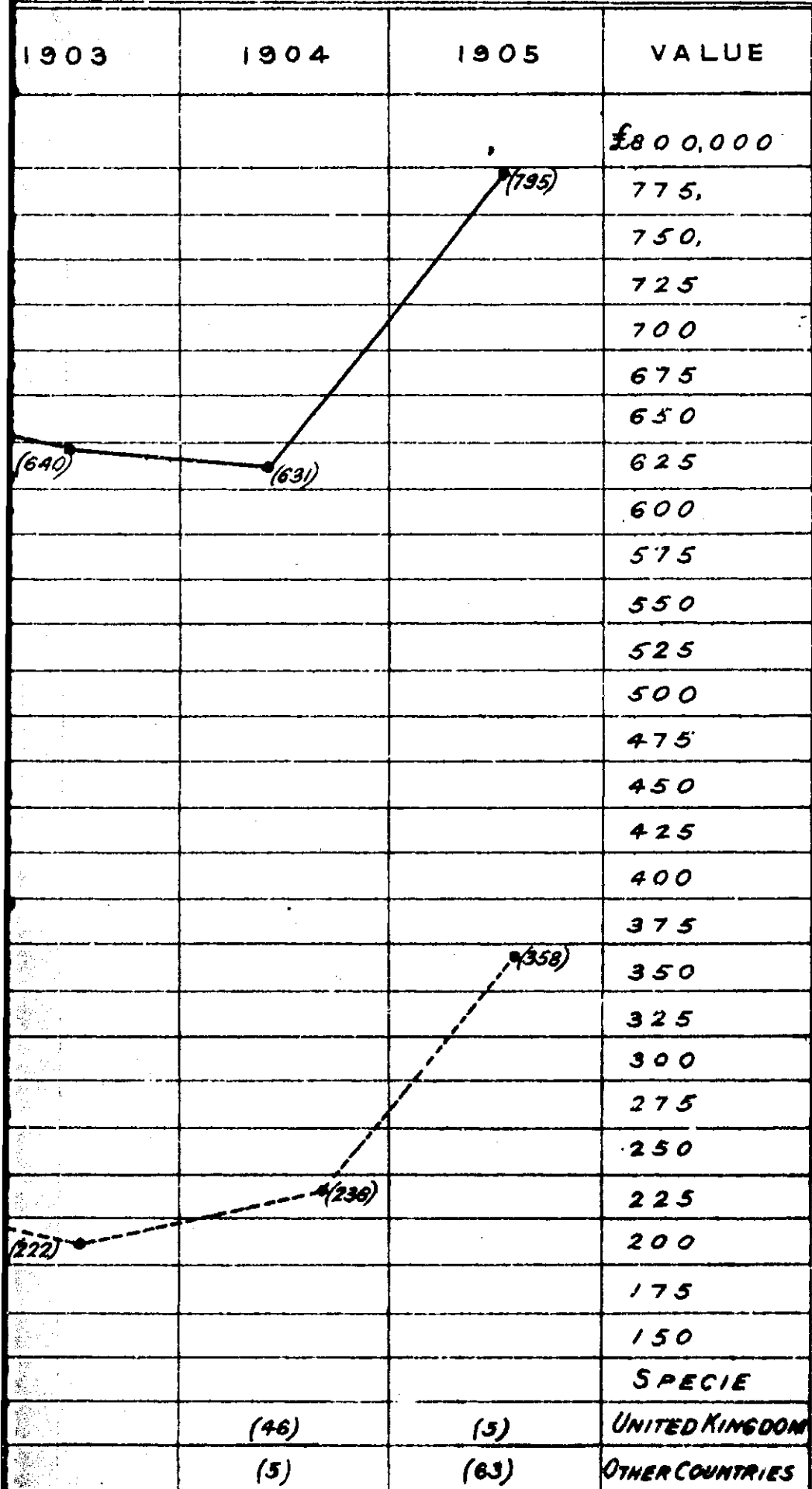


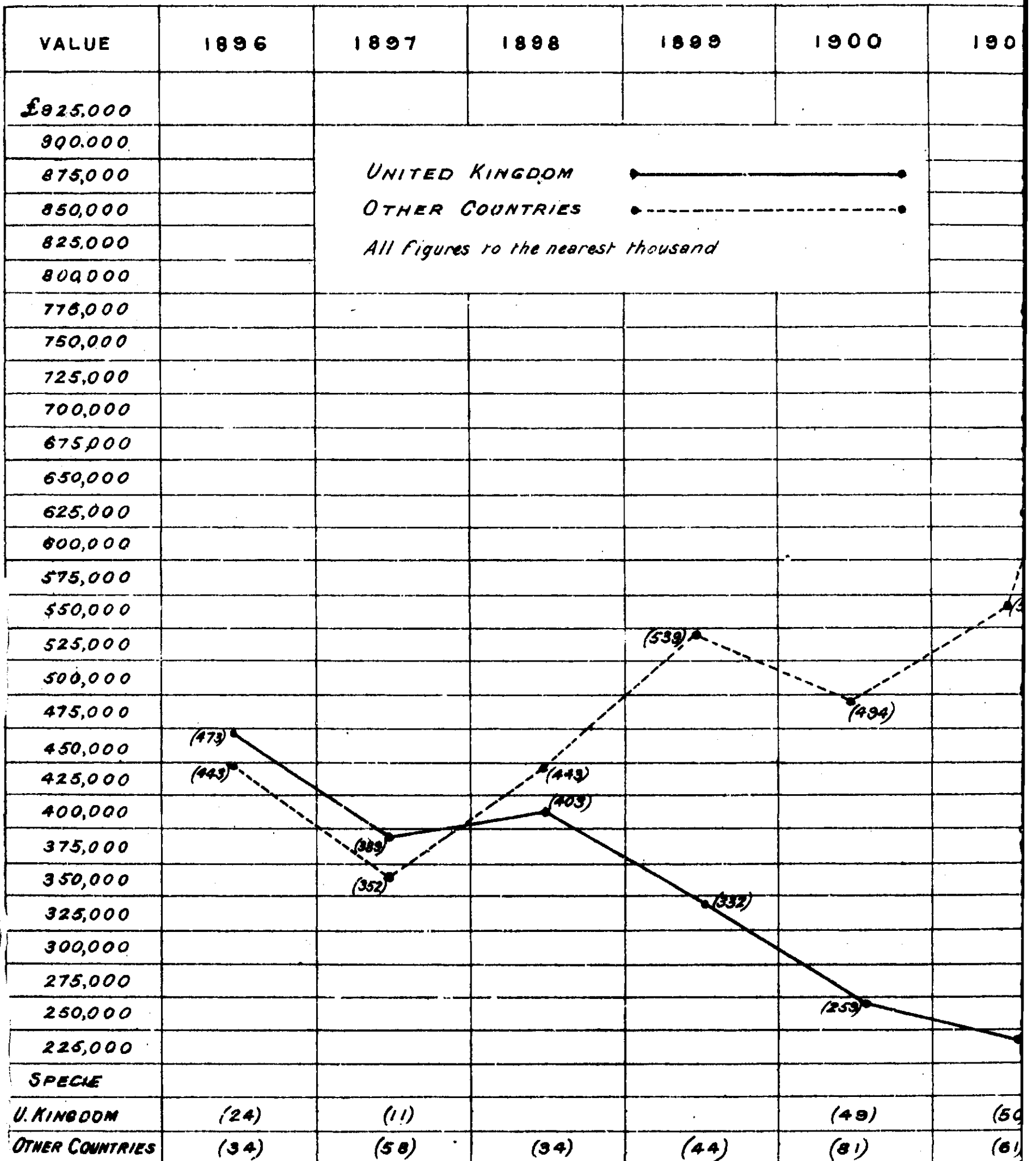
Diagram II.

AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM 1896 TO 1905.



COLONY OF L

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF EXPORTS (EXCLUDING SPECIE) TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OTHER COUNTRIES



Appendix V.

Diagram

COLONY OF LAGOS.

EXPORTS OF SPECIES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM 1896 TO 1905.

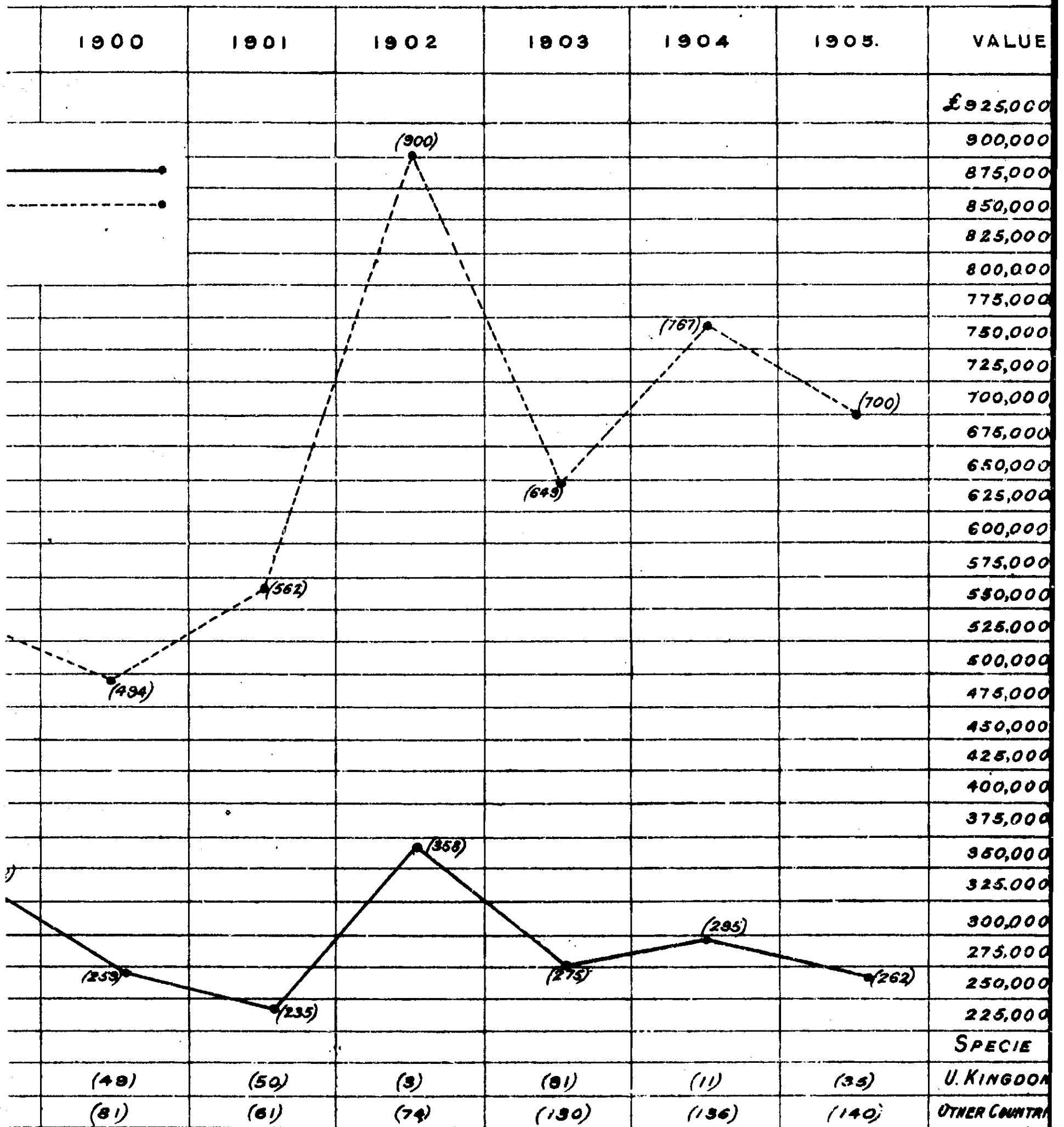
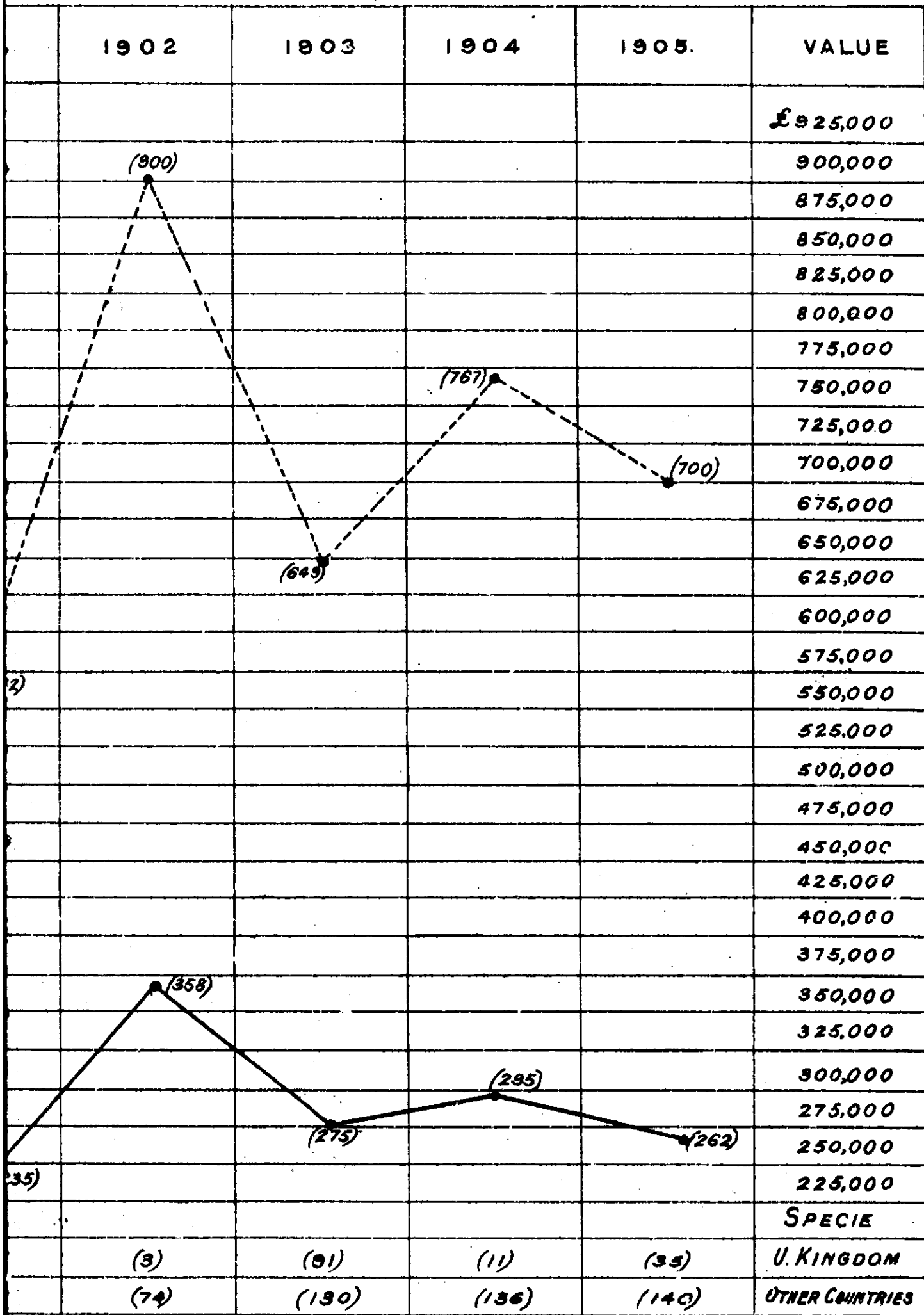


Diagram III.

AGOS.

ED KINGDOM, AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM 1896 TO 1905.



COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
480	Basutoland	1904-1905
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904-1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands... ..	"
496	Bahamas	1905-1906
497	Barbados	"
498	Malta	1905
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	1905-1906
500	Colonial Survey Committee	"
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905-1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. B. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.