

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 554.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 512.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1908.



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No. 554.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1906; see No. 512.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Lagos,

Southern Nigeria,

21st October, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the usual report on this Colony and Protectorate for the year 1906, the preparation of which was considerably delayed by changes in the staff of the Secretariat.

2. The year was one of exceptional prosperity, which has, I am glad to say, been fully maintained during the current year.

I have, &c.,

J. J. THORBURN,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, P.C., K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.

I.—FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

1. The year 1906 was a record one for trade and revenue. The total sum collected amounted to £1,088,717, which exceeded the original estimate by £64,055 and was £136,968 more than the revenue for the year 1905. Four-fifths of this revenue was derived from Customs duties—a specific duty on seventeen articles of import, and an ad valorem duty of 10 per centum on the value of most other imports.

The amount collected—£1,088,717—places the Colony and Protectorate, as regards revenue, in the premier position of the British Colonies on the West Coast of Africa.

2. The revenue contributions from the Provinces towards the total collected, compared with the collections for 1905, were as follows:—

—	1906.	1905.	Increase.
	£	£	£
i. Western Province	424,862	379,684	45,178
ii. Central Province	213,580	572,065	91,790
iii. Eastern Province	450,275		
Total	1,088,717	951,749	136,968

From this it will be seen that the increase in revenue over 1905 was general to all the Provinces; and of the total increase of £136,968 the Western Province contributed £45,178, and the Central and Eastern Provinces (the old Protectorate of Southern Nigeria) £91,790. Detailed particulars of increases and decreases under each head of revenue, as compared with the previous year, are given in paragraph 6.

3. Of the total revenue collected—£1,088,717—Customs duties contributed £885,858 (as compared with £860,000 originally estimated and £799,112 for the previous year), or 81·4 per cent. of the whole:—

—	Revenue.		Per cent.
	Total.	Customs.	
	£	£	
i. Western Province	424,862	281,381	66·2
ii. Central Province	213,580	186,905	87·5
iii. Eastern Province	450,275	417,572	92·7
Total	1,088,717	885,858	81·4

The lower percentage of Customs revenue to the whole in the Western Province is explained by its large receipts under "Railway" (£84,842) and "Interest" (£22,452) which were not enjoyed by the other Provinces. The percentage of Customs duties to the whole revenue in 1905, for all Provinces, was 84 per cent., which shows a satisfactory tendency in 1906 to development in sources of revenue other than Customs, towards which Head 3, "Licences" (increase over 1905 £1,317), Head 4, "Fees, &c." (increase over 1905 £22,507), Head 5, "Postal Revenue" (increase over 1905 £3,925), Head 6, "Interest" (increase over 1905 £10,246), and Head 9, "Railway Receipts" (increase over 1905 £10,456) principally contributed.

4. Of the total Customs receipts—£885,858—specific duties contributed £754,888 and ad valorem duties £130,970, against £662,124 and £130,799 respectively for 1905, as follows:—

	Year.				Increase + Decrease —
	1906.		1905.		
	Quantity.	Duty.	Quantity.	Duty.	Duty.
Specific Duties:—		£		£	£
On Spirits ... (gallons)	8,821,908	600,784	2,776,896	504,025	+ 96,760
„ Salt... (cwts.)	547,820	26,968	550,210	27,877	— 914
„ Tobacco ... (lbs.)	5,956,198	82,479	4,280,020	71,120	+ 11,859
„ Kerosene ... (gallons)	1,067,007	8,828	947,800	8,186	+ 687
„ Other Articles ...	—	85,839	—	50,969	— 15,127
Total Specific ...	—	754,888	—	662,124	+ 92,764
Ad valorem Duties:—					
On Cottons ... (packages)	44,003	75,654	80,695	88,487	— 7,833
„ Earthenware ...	6,040	1,488	2,048	1,646	— 158
„ Hardware ...	144,015	6,971	177,540	7,557	— 586
„ Provisions ...	68,120	6,917	42,175	7,030	— 118
„ Rice ... (cwt.)	112,051	4,411	114,478	4,289	+ 122
„ Silk Goods ... (packages)	2,354	5,098	1,234	8,160	+ 2,888
„ Soap ...	181,727	2,237	141,758	1,662	+ 575
„ Wearing Apparel ...	5,556	5,905	4,451	5,154	+ 751
„ Woollens ...	1,190	1,712	850	1,721	— 9
„ Other Articles ...	—	10,677	—	15,093	+ 4,524
Total Ad valorem ...	—	180,970	—	130,799	+ 171
Export Duty on Timber ...	—	Nil	—	6,189	— 6,189
Total Receipts ...	—	885,858	—	799,112	+ 86,746

The estimated receipts from Customs duties for 1906 were:—

Specific duties ...	£716,400
Ad valorem duties ...	143,600
Total ...	£860,000

against £885,858 actually received. The specific duties received were £38,488 more than anticipated, whereas the ad valorem duties fell £12,630 short of the estimate, a nett gain over the estimates of £25,858.

5. From the foregoing table it will be seen that the increase of £86,746 in Customs receipts over 1905 was mainly due to the large increased quantities of spirits and unmanufactured tobacco taken into consumption during the year. The increase in the Customs tariff on spirits—from 3s. 6d. to 4s. a gallon—did not come into force until the 22nd December, 1906, so that little benefit to the revenue from the increased rate of duty would be felt during the year under review.

6. The following statement shows the actual revenue received under the various heads in 1906, as compared with the years 1904 and 1905, with notes explanatory of the increases or decreases:—

Item.	Head of Revenue.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Remarks explanatory of the increase or decrease between 1905 and 1906.
1	Customs Duties	£ 773,537	£ 799,112	£ 885,858	<p>Increased Imports—principally Spirits and Tobacco—liable to Customs duties.</p> <p>The larger receipts for 1905 were due to payment of arrears of previous years.</p> <p>Increased receipts generally under all sub-heads, especially under Liquor Licences and Transport services.</p> <p>Larger sales by Government Departments and increased receipts, Electric Light, Sales of Ice, &c., and refunds by Native Courts. The new sub-head of "Fees Forestry Department" realised over £12,000.</p> <p>Larger sales for new Telegraph services and general increase in correspondence.</p> <p>In 1905 receipts for "Sales of Crown Lands" were wrongly credited to this head. See Head 10 "Land Sales."</p> <p>Loan Funds placed at interest.</p> <p>Transfer of "Ivy" Repair Fund to Revenue account in 1906.</p> <p>General increase in Traffic.</p> <p>See note against Head 6, Receipts properly classified in 1906.</p>
2	Harbour, &c., Lighthouse Dues	1,542	1,698	1,431	
3	Licences and Internal Revenue, &c.	14,419	17,711	19,028	
4	Fees of Court or Office, payments, Specific Services, &c., Re-imbursments in aid.	16,277	24,621	47,128	
5	Postal Revenue	7,594	7,915	11,840	
6	Rent of Government Property	483	1,705	563	
7	Interest	5,125	15,391	25,637	
8	Miscellaneous... ..	8,957	8,724	10,730	
9	Railway and Tramway	59,004	74,386	84,842	
10	Land Sales	1,193	485	1,660	
	Total	888,136	951,748	1,088,717	

EXPENDITURE—(1) From revenue.

7. The total actual expenditure for all Provinces, met from revenue, was £1,056,290, against £1,034,035 originally estimated, and £998,561 for the previous year. The Provincial expenditure was as follows:—

Province.	1905.	1906.		Comparison.	
	Actual.	Estimated	Actual.	Actual 1906 v. Actual 1905.	Actual 1906 v. Estimated 1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Western ...	414,633	406,235	450,383	+35,750	+44,148
Central } Eastern }	583,928	627,800	{ 146,937 458,970 }	{ +21,979	-21,893
Total ...	998,561	1,034,035	1,056,290	+57,729	+22,255

9. Included in the Extraordinary expenditure in paragraph four heads of (a) Personal Emoluments, (b) Other Charges, (c) Railway, and (d) Extraordinary Expenditure—was as follows:—

Head.	Year.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1905.	1906.		
	£	£	£	£
(a) Personal Emoluments ...	335,617	382,337	46,720	—
(b) Other Charges ...	331,621	366,236	34,615	—
(c) Railway and Tramway	60,417	61,408	991	—
(d) Extraordinary Expenditure (including contributions to Northern Nigeria).	727,655 270,906	809,981 246,309	82,326 —	— 24,597
Total ...	998,561	1,056,290	82,326	24,597

Nett increase 1906, £57,729.

9. Included in the Extraordinary expenditure in paragraph 8 is a sum of £75,000, which was contributed by Southern Nigeria in 1906 towards the expenditure of Northern Nigeria by order of the Secretary of State. The contribution has been decreased to £71,250, payable during the calendar year 1907.

10. The following statement shows the actual expenditure incurred under the various heads in 1906, as compared with the years 1904 and 1905, with notes explanatory of the increases or decreases:—

SOUTHERN NIGERIA, 1906.

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Item.	Head of Expenditure.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Remarks explanatory of Increase or Decrease.
1	Charg. on account of Public Debt...	£ 55,008	£ 57,945	£ 70,083	Increased loan.
2	Pensions and Gratuities ...	7,841	9,172	12,052	Increase in pension list and gratuities.
3	Governor's Office ...	8,792	7,769	9,423	Purchase of motor car and motor bicycle.
4	Colonial Secretariat ...	8,810	9,608	12,075	Increased establishment and duty pay.
5	Political and Administrative ...	45,564	58,310	66,569	Increased establishment and duty pay for new territories brought under effective control. See "Saving" under Head 6.
6	Judicial ...	13,129	9,929	9,195	Transfer of District Commissioners to Head 5 in 1906.
7	Legal and Registration ...	2,083	2,038	2,610	Increased salaries and duty pay.
8	Treasury and Customs ...	25,373	31,724	33,086	Reorganization on amalgamation and extra Staff for increased trade.
9	Postal ...	—	—	—	} Increased telegraph communication, 1906.
10	Telegraphs ...	10,625	11,449	17,890	
11	Audit ...	3,012	3,189	5,351		Increased establishment for more efficient local audit.
12	Printing ...	3,950	5,279	6,841	Increased establishment and plant.
13	West African Frontier Force ...	89,891	90,609	84,169	Savings on establishment and less expenditure on other charges.
14	Marine ...	78,770	81,666	92,195	Increased establishment and number of craft maintained.
15	Civil Police ...	25,398	29,198	31,411	Increased establishment.
16	Prisons ...	19,711	21,822	22,179	Casual.
17	Forestry and Agriculture ...	12,152	16,124	17,401	Increased establishment and quantity of seeds, &c. for distribution.
18	Medical ...	37,902	42,774	45,610	Increased expenditure on personal emoluments and on Hospitals, &c.
19	Sanitary ...	5,429	4,137	2,613	Western Province expenditure for 1906, shewn under Public Works Department Head.
20	Native Affairs ...	12,844	9,344	8,964	Casual.
21	Education ...	6,697	9,947	12,520	Increased number of Schools.
22	Surveys ...	1,870	3,246	9,236	See Head 23 for 1906. Real increase £699 on personal emoluments and for new map.
22a	Mineral Survey ...	—	—	1,969	Casual.
23	Lands ...	3,515	4,291	Included in 22.	See note against Head 22—"Surveys."
	Carried forward ...	478,366	519,570	573,442	

Item.	Head of Expenditure.	1904.	1905.	1906.	Remarks explanatory of Increase or Decrease.
24	Brought forward ...	£ 478,366	£ 519,570	£ 573,442	Casual.
25	Laboratory ...	682	658	636	Casual.
26	Rent ...	998	966	1,013	Casual.
27	Charitable ...	303	416	325	Increase in expenditure on "Passages of Officers, &c." for increased Staff and in general carriers for opening up country.
	Transport ...	25,514	31,583	35,167	Determined by Secretary of State.
28	Contribution to Northern Nigeria...	57,500	78,750	75,000	Increased expenditure on Expeditionary Works, Tele-
29	Miscellaneous Services ...	38,380	47,206	48,627	grams, &c.
30	Public Works Department ...	25,755	30,000	34,845	Increased establishment. See also note against Head 19 "Sanitary."
31	Roads Construction ...	—	—	1,903	New Head on development of policy of general road improvement.
32	Works and Buildings Annually Re-current.	29,518	35,521	51,217	Increase in standard stocks of materials and stores.
33	Roads and Bridges Annually Re-current.	—	818	1,397	More roads to be maintained. See Head 31.
34	Railway ...	—	—	59,181	Casual.
35	Tramway ...	53,795	60,417	1,539	Casual.
36	Carter and Deaton Bridges...	—	—	689	Casual.
37	Works and Buildings Extraordinary	153,106	153,878	123,102	Less works undertaken.
38	Roads and Bridges Extraordinary...	—	2,874	15,899	New roads and bridges on development of policy of general road improvement.
39	Telegraphs Extraordinary ...	—	17,894	11,204	Less works undertaken on partial completion of telegraph communication.
40	Marine Extraordinary ...	—	18,011	21,104	New Craft.
	Totals ...	863,917	998,564	1,056,290	

EXPENDITURE—(2) From Loan Funds.

11. The amount of expenditure incurred during the year and chargeable to loan funds totalled £262,343, all of which was on account of railway extension. This amount increased the total sum expended by the Colony and Protectorate on railway construction, to the 31st December, 1906, to £1,677,756, out of a total loan raised of £2,000,000 (which realized £1,889,252), leaving a balance of £211,495 available for future expenditure.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

12. In the following statement the financial position of the Colony and Protectorate is set out in detail. It will be seen that on the 31st December, 1906, the assets exceeded the liabilities by the sum of £475,497, which is £32,427 more than on the corresponding day of the previous year, when the excess assets stood at £443,070. The improved financial position over 1905 of £32,427 represents the excess revenue over expenditure for the year 1906, as shown in the following balance sheet:—

A Statement showing description and amount of appropriated Funds invested on the 31st December, 1906, and not included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Protectorate on the same date.

Description of Investment.	Amount of Stock.			Actual Price.			Market value on 31st December, 1906.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Police Officers' Guarantee Fund.	3,275	11	0	3,200	0	0	3,185	11	0
Total	3,275	11	0	3,200	0	0	3,185	11	0

Loans.

13. The total indebtedness of the Colony and Protectorate on the 31st December, 1906, on account of the loans issued was £2,000,000, which is not taken into account in the statement of assets and liabilities as shown in the previous paragraph. This loan realized £1,889,252, which was available, and has been mostly expended, for railway construction and bridges in connection therewith.

Considerable further expenditure has been authorized in 1907 on railway extension and other works.

Progress.

14. The comparison of the actual results for the year 1906 has so far only been made with the figures for the year 1905. If the comparison is extended and a retrospect taken for the past ten years the rapid development of the revenue of Southern Nigeria becomes still more marked, and exhibits a period of uninterrupted prosperity and advancement. Diagram 1, Appendix A, shows the actual revenue and expenditure since 1896, from which it will be seen that the revenue has more than trebled itself in the past seven years.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

15. British coins are the legal tender, and circulate freely throughout the Western Province and in the older established portions of the Eastern and Central Provinces—the smaller silver coins being especially in demand. In the territories more recently brought under effective control in the Eastern and Central Provinces British coins are still looked upon with suspicion, and the currency remains in a transition stage. The question of a uniform subsidiary currency for Northern and Southern Nigeria has recently been under consideration,

and a coinage of nickel bronze pennies and aluminium one-tenths of a penny has been approved as being suitable to local requirements, and will shortly be put into circulation.

16. Brass rods, wires, manillas, and cowries are used as currency by the natives, and are accepted as legal tender in those parts of the country in which they have in the past been current. The exchange is regulated by law, and, further importations having been prohibited, they will as a medium of exchange in time be ousted by the new subsidiary coinage.

17. The Bank of British West Africa, with a capital of £250,000, has for some years been established in Lagos, the headquarters of the Western Province, and transacts the banking business of the Government; but adequate banking facilities are still absent in the other Provinces of the Colony and Protectorate. It is obvious that in this large revenue-producing Colony banking facilities at the headquarters of the Eastern and Central Provinces, having a joint revenue of £660,000, are urgently required.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING REVENUE AND TRADE.

18. On 1st January, 1906, the use of Tralles' Alcoholometer was substituted for that of Sykes' Hydrometer in ascertaining the strength of spirits—a strength of fifty degrees Tralles being considered as equivalent to a strength of $12\frac{1}{2}$ degrees under-proof Sykes, and other strengths in proportion. The duty was fixed at 3s. 6d. for every imperial gallon imported not exceeding a strength of 50 degrees Tralles, and for stronger spirits an additional duty of $\frac{1}{8}$ d. for each degree of strength on each gallon was charged.

19. By Order No. 5 of 1906, made under the Customs Ordinance, 1894, the rates of rent charged in Lagos on goods in the King's Warehouse were applied to Calabar and Forcados.

20. By Ordinance No. 16 of 1906 the Customs Tariff Ordinance was amended, and a duty of 4s. for every imperial gallon substituted for the duty of 3s. 6d., and an additional duty of 1d. in place of the additional $\frac{1}{8}$ d. This Ordinance did not, however, come into force until the 22nd December last.

21. The Niger Navigation Order in Council, 1903, was amended by the addition of a regulation providing that steam vessels on the Niger should slow down when approaching canoes to avoid accident and possible loss of life.

22. In September the Spirit Receptacle Ordinance, regulating the vessels and receptacles in which spirits may be imported, was passed. The Ordinance came into operation on 1st March. The size and weight of the receptacles and the quantity of spirit which they are to contain have been prescribed.

23. Proclamation No. 6 of 1906, which came into operation on the 1st April, provides for the collection of buoyage dues by the Customs officers at the following ports, unless the ship is specially exempted:—

Calabar, Opobo, Bonny, Brass, Akassa, and Forcados.

The dues are intended to cover the cost of the upkeep of buoys in the rivers.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING.

General Trade.

24. The following table shows the total value of trade and the revenue derived from customs duties for the year under report compared with the previous year:—

Province.	Customs Stations.	Imports.				Exports.				Total Trade.		Duty.		
		1905.		1906.		1905.		1906.		1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.	
		Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	Commercial and Government.	Specie.	£	£	£	£	
Western Lagos.	Lagos	1,036,788	68,695	1,221,233	166,819	843,877	175,917	1,026,045	200,326	2,614,423	263,283	281,577	—	—
Central	Forcados and Onitsha Warrí Sapele Benin (Koko Town)..	406,748 142,160 — 136,821	136,860 2,238 — 8,379	389,806 181,639 71,969 47,243	105,860 353 3,219 950	419,507 150,802 — 168,612	— — — —	442,933 195,407 89,284 108,076	200 — — —	938,739 377,408 161,482 157,269	100,048 44,569 — 45,501	82,818 56,561 28,247 19,537	—	—
Eastern	Calabar and Obokun Ikang Opobo and Ekwanga Bonny and Bakara .. Derema and Buguma Brass Akassa	358,472 6,726 262,408 100,219 89,273 31,807 20,961	21,442 — 19,482 3,351 5,768 400 —	384,788 9,177 309,709 85,773 84,106 31,946 27,939	8,386 50 11,610 1,522 1,732 500 —	313,439 3,143 350,700 101,208 136,792 53,215 11,415	1,459 — — 650 — — —	358,797 6,653 411,222 100,676 141,900 54,540 13,828	— — — 500 — — —	751,971 15,889 732,541 186,471 228,737 86,996 41,767	106,199 2,313 115,657 39,221 44,038 21,505 10,764	140,363 3,343 156,857 46,939 48,217 22,744 8,548	—	—
	Grand Total ..	2,592,406	286,613	2,847,317	300,651	2,552,710	178,026	2,950,391	201,026	6,299,685	793,128	885,584	6,407	—

N.B.—The Government importations for Northern Nigeria are included in these accounts.

25. The total trade compared with 1905 shows an increase in volume of £709,930, made up as follows:—

Imports.			
		£	£
Commercial	... ..	254,911	
Specie	... ..	34,338	
		289,249	
Exports.			
Commercial	... ..	397,681	
Specie	... ..	23,000	
		420,681	
			£709,930

26. The increase in trade is attributed to the following causes:—

- (a) The fact that the year has been favourable for the cultivated products and that increased attention has been paid to agriculture throughout the country;
- (b) The high prices prevailing in Europe and in the local markets, which have caused an increase in imports and in the value of exports;
- (c) The more settled state of the Protectorate during the year; and
- (d) The increased facilities given to trade and the expansion of European influence.

27. The cultivated products exported consisted chiefly of cocoa, coffee, cotton, maize, and ground-nuts. The following table shows the value of the exports of these products for 1906, compared with the two previous years:—

	1906.	1905.	1904.
	£	£	£
Eastern and Central Provinces ...	81,904	13,281	12,783
Western Province... ..	98,295	63,790	43,607
Total	130,199	77,071	56,390

28. The prices realized for palm products were higher than they have been since the early nineties, but there is some reason to doubt whether these high prices will be maintained.

29. In spite of the large exports from the Gold Coast, cocoa exported from Lagos fetched prices ranging from 56s. to 65s.

per cwt., in November and December, whereas at the same time in 1905 the prices ranged from 36s. to 40s. per cwt.

30. The Protectorate was in a more settled state during the year 1906 than it has been for the last three or four years, the Agbor rising, the most important disturbance of the year, having very little, if any, effect on the trade of the country.

31. There is an increase in trade in every Province. The following figures show the increases which have taken place compared with the year 1905:—

	£
Western Province	489,146
Central Province	65,772
Eastern Province	155,012

32. The general reasons for the increased trade of the year have already been stated. So far as Lagos is concerned those reasons are specially applicable. In addition, the large importations of building material, machinery, and railway material, the supplies for the headquarters station, and the fact that the value of packages, freight, and charges on goods were not included in the figures for 1905, have made the increase for 1906 nearly three quarters of a million sterling.

IMPORTS.

33. The quantity and value of the principal articles of import for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1906, compared with the result of the previous year are shown in Appendix B (I).* (The Porto Novo imports are not included in these figures.)

34. The following statement shows the total value of imports into Southern Nigeria, and the value of the imports from the various countries with which trade is carried on for the last three years, exclusive of specie, and the increase or decrease during the year under report compared with the two previous years:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1906	2,847,000	2,153,000	301,000	271,000	119,000
1905	2,592,000	1,991,000	309,000	177,000	115,000
1904	2,371,000	1,795,000	317,000	163,000	96,000
1905	+255,000	+162,000	- 5,000	+ 94,000	+ 4,000
1904	+476,000	+358,000	- 13,000	+109,000	+ 23,000

35. The trade returns show that there has been an increase of nearly half a million in the value of imports in two years,

* Not printed.

and although for the first nine months of 1904 the transit trade of Porto Novo was erroneously included in the trade figures of the Colony of Lagos without any distinction being made from the ordinary importations, still the inclusion of those figures is counterbalanced by the exclusion of packages and other charges on imported goods from the value of such goods.

36. The following statement shows the distribution of the import trade for the last three years:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	Holland.	Other Countries.
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1906	75·62	10·65	9·55	4·18
1905	76·58	12·11	6·87	4·44
1904	75·71	13·37	6·87	4·05
Average ...	75·97	12·04	7·76	4·23

Decreases in Imports.

37. Decreases have taken place in the value and quantity of the following articles compared with the previous year's importations:—

(i) *Aerated Waters.*

This article shows a decrease in the number of dozen bottles imported of 9,397, valued at £1,640, which is due to the use of locally-made in place of imported aerated waters.

(ii) *Beads.*

A large decrease in the importation of beads, amounting to £10,000, appears in the Western Province returns, but the fact that coral beads, which are entirely imported through Parcel Post, are included in the importations by Parcel Post, whereas in 1905 they were classified as beads, accounts for £4,000. Stoppage in the Northern Nigeria trade it is said accounts for some portion of the decrease, and large stocks were on hand at the beginning of the year. It is noticed that Germany supplies the demand for this article to a very great extent

(iii) *Cotton Goods.*

The falling off in the importation of cotton goods amounts to £31,500. The decrease is made up as follows:—

	£
Lagos	7,200
Eastern and Central Provinces ...	24,300
	<hr/>
Total ...	£31,500
	<hr/>

The following statement shows the value of the cotton goods imported during the last three years:—

—	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£
Lagos	367,000	424,000	417,000
Eastern and Central Provinces ...	357,000	369,000	344,000
Total	724,000	793,000	761,000

(iv) *Earthenware and Glassware.*

Attention is directed to the comparatively large decreases compared with 1905, which have taken place in the importation of these articles. One reasonably expects an increase in such articles in a year when trade is so favourable. The decrease is most marked in the Western Province. The following statement gives the figures for the three years:—

Article.	Province.	1906.	1905.	1904.
		£	£	£
Earthenware ...	Lagos	7,800	9,000	7,500
	Eastern and Central...	7,700	7,800	8,700
Glassware ...	Lagos	1,400	2,600	2,500
	Eastern and Central...	2,100	2,600	1,900

(v) *Hardware and Machinery.*

This item shows a slight decrease of £3,000, attributed to smaller importations by the British Cotton Growing Association and the Government during 1906.

(vi) *Dane Guns and Gunpowder.*

There are large decreases in the importations of Dane guns and gunpowder. The following statement shows the importations into Lagos and the Eastern and Central Provinces in 1905 and 1906.

The importation of these articles has been affected by the large importations in previous years in anticipation of an increased duty. The natives would not buy at the increased price on the duty being raised; and large stocks consequently remained on hand.

Article.	Province.	1906.		1905.		Decrease.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Dane Guns .. No	Lagos ..	3,676	£ 1,299	15,745	£ 5,717	12,069	£ 4,418
	Eastern and Central.	10,390	3,614	14,578	5,280	4,188	1,476
Gunpowder .. lbs.	Lagos ..	218,162	3,346	226,886	2,951	7,724	395
	Eastern and Central.	583,053	7,609	1,036,928	13,588	473,875	5,889

Increases in Imports.

38. There have been increases in most of the principal commodities imported owing to the good year for trade throughout the country; particular attention is directed to the imports of kola nuts, kerosene, and matches. The following heads require some further explanation:—

(i) Silk Goods.

There has been an increase in the value of silk goods imported amounting to £28,500. The Lagos imports show an increase of £29,000. There has been a decrease therefore in the importations of the Eastern and Central Provinces of £500. It is thought that the importation of silks into Lagos has not actually increased to the extent indicated by the figures, for it would mean that such importations have been almost quadrupled in the last year.

(ii) Wearing Apparel.

Although the combined Provinces show a total increase of £3,700 under this head, there is a falling off in the Eastern and Central Provinces of £2,900, as the Lagos imports show an increase of £6,600. This is a partial explanation of the decrease in cotton goods.

(iii) Spirits.

In spite of the increased duty of 3s. 6d. a gallon which was in force throughout the year up to the 22nd December, when a further increase to 4s. a gallon took place, there has been a large increase in the importation of this commodity. The low importations of the year before, the increased area of supply, and the low prices at which the spirit is sold in some districts of the Protectorate, in addition to the larger prices paid for produce in a good trade year, account for this increase. The native chiefs will probably store a large portion of this spirit, which represents their wealth in some parts of the Protectorate, and which will be bartered for produce, cloth, &c., in the native markets.

In Lagos the spirit importations show a very slight increase.

In the Eastern Province, on the other hand, there has been a comparatively large increase caused by the low price ruling in spirits at Egwanga, the great tobacco and spirit importing port, on account of the competition which has been going on during the past year. Some of the increase is also attributable to the greater area to be supplied. It is to be noted that although the Government raise the bulk of the revenue from the duty on spirits, the consumption is considerably below 1 gallon per head of the population, and drunkenness among the natives is very rare.

(iv) *Tobacco Unmanufactured.*

The following statement shows the importations of unmanufactured tobacco for three years:—

Province.	1906.		1905.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Lagos ...	896,875	17,129	1,054,091	21,278	1,034,892	21,048
Eastern and Central.	5,059,323	89,992	3,225,929	69,579	3,826,566	85,352
Total ...	5,956,198	107,121	4,280,020	90,787	4,861,458	106,400

This enormous increase in tobacco in the Eastern and Central Provinces is caused by the large importations at Egwanga due to the small supplies of the previous year, and the abnormally large prices for produce which have prevailed during the year both on account of the good European market and on account of the competition in the Eastern Province. The decrease in tobacco in Lagos is due probably to the difficulty in obtaining supplies and is not important.

(v) *Vehicles.*

Attention is specially directed to the large increase under this head, which includes carts, bicycles, &c. The number of vehicles imported has almost doubled itself in the last year. The figures are:—

—	1906.		1905.		Increase.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£		£
Lagos ...	—	4,435	—	1,646	—	2,789
Eastern and Central.	1,187	4,313	640	3,352	547	961

39. The amount of £527,000 for Other Articles requires some explanation. To facilitate the preparation of entries and invoices merchants are allowed to show the packages, freight, and charges at the end of the entry instead of showing the freight, &c., for each article; a record is kept of these amounts,

which form the largest item that goes to make up this amount. The principal items are:—

			£
Packages, freight, &c.	...	...	307,000
Railway material	...	...	80,000
Uniforms, &c.	...	...	19,000
Parcel Post	...	...	13,000
Cordage, &c.	...	...	11,000
Cartridges loaded	...	...	9,000
Arms, &c.	...	...	5,000
Lead	...	...	5,000
Canvas, &c.	...	...	4,000
Miscellaneous articles	...	...	74,000
			£527,000

The large increase compared with 1905 is due to the fact that in Lagos no account was kept in that year of the amount charged for packages, freight, &c.

40. The specie importations during the year have been very large owing to the increased trade of the country and the consequent demand for specie.

EXPORTS.

41. The following statement shows the total value of exports from the Colony and Protectorate and the various countries to which they were shipped for the last three years, exclusive of specie, and the increase or decrease in 1906, compared with the previous years:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Germany.	France.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1906	2,950,000	1,677,000	1,158,000	36,000	79,000
1905	2,552,000	1,368,000	1,041,000	34,000	108,000
1904	2,635,000	1,408,000	1,091,000	66,000	70,000
1905	+398,000	+309,000	+117,000	+ 2,000	- 29,000
1904	+315,000	+269,000	+ 67,000	- 30,000	+ 9,000

The United Kingdom has taken 56·85 per cent. of the export trade, Germany 39·25 per cent., France 1·22 per cent., and other countries 2·68 per cent. In Lagos Province Germany took 62·17 per cent. of the trade, as almost the entire palm kernel trade is in the hands of the German firms, and the

United Kingdom took 30.12 per cent. In 1905 the United Kingdom took 53.6 per cent. of the export trade, and Germany 40.79 per cent., but in the Lagos Province Germany took 60.07 per cent. of the exports in 1905 and the United Kingdom 31.04 per cent. So that in 1906 compared with 1905 exports to the United Kingdom have increased 3.25 per cent., while those to Germany have decreased 1.54 per cent.; but in Lagos the exports to the United Kingdom have fallen off .92 per cent., while those to Germany have increased 2.1 per cent. The increase in the Lagos exports to Germany in 1906 is due to the fact that Messrs. Witt and Büsch extended their business to Ilesha during the early part of the year and captured the rubber trade of that neighbourhood, which considerably increased the exports of rubber to Germany. It is noticed also that Germany has secured the greater part of the increased cocoa and maize exports.

Decreases in Exports.

42. The decreases which have taken place during the year are small and not very important. The following table shows the value and quantity for three years of the principal products in which decreases in exportation have taken place in 1906 compared with 1905:—

Product.	Province.	1906.		1905.		1904.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Coffee lbs.	Lagos ..	14,550	£ 493	81,301	£ 1,229	11,220	£ 136
	Eastern and Central.	51,322	691	7,066	65	41,673	301
Copra "	Lagos ..	40,280	265	142,744	610	61	626
	Eastern and Central.	11,644	51	3,150	13	17,362	73
Fibre .. packages	Lagos ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Eastern and Central.	5,414	3,210	7,290	4,052	5,781	3,678
Ivory lbs.	Lagos ..	3,977	805	4,871	1,069	4,086	928
	Eastern and Central.	7,917	1,763	7,363	2,262	11,763	3,469
Shea Products tons	Lagos ..	231	4,353	223	4,914	127	3,285
	Eastern and Central.	1,496	14,561	1,561	17,270	1,284	22,390

(i) *Coffee.*

While there has been a considerable decrease in the quantity of coffee exported from Lagos, the output from the Central and Eastern Provinces is considerably larger than it has been for years. A considerable increase is noticeable in the Central Province.

(ii) *Copra.*

The production of copra is confined to the Western Province and practically to the Roman Catholic Mission at Topo. The decrease is due to the fact that large sales of coconuts to the French Government at Konakry were made during the year, and the usual amount of copra was not produced.

(iii) *Fibre.*

The production of fibre is confined to the Eket District in the Eastern Province. It is shipped in packages of about 1 cwt. each. There has been a considerable falling off this year compared with the last two years.

(iv) *Shea Products.*

The Lagos exports again show an increase, although the railway return shows a decrease of 39 tons in the quantity carried. Practically the whole of the Central Province exports goes to the Continent of Europe, and of the Lagos exports only six tons went to the United Kingdom. There are no exports from the Eastern Province.

Increases in Exports.

43. The year, although exceptionally good for produce, is not so good in some respects as 1904, one of the best palm oil and kernel years on record, both in Lagos and the Eastern and Central Provinces. So far, however, as cultivated produce is concerned, except in the case of coffee, the year is the best on record.

(i) *Palm Products.*

The following statement shows the quantity of palm oil and palm kernels exported during the last three years:—

Product.	Province.	1906.	1905.	1904.
Palm Oil ... Galls.	Lagos... ..	3,081,256	2,765,909	3,196,142
	Eastern and Central	12,951,315	11,391,476	13,028,733
Palm Kernels ... Tons.	Lagos	48,337	45,176	59,318
	Eastern and Central	65,010	63,646	70,500

The above statement does not include exports from Porto Novo, but as it was customary to include these exports up to August, 1904, in the Lagos exports, it is likely that some Porto Novo produce was included in the amount shown as exported from Lagos during that year. It is unquestionable, however, that the year 1904 was an exceptionally good produce year, especially as regards kernels.

(ii) *Cotton.*

Cotton is the most important of all the cultivated products, and on the proper establishment of an industry of this kind the future development of this portion of the Empire is largely dependent, as it is an industry which can give permanent employment to the people, and be a constant and reliable source of wealth. As cotton has been grown for some time by the natives in the hinterland of this country for their own use, it is very likely that they understand to some extent the method of cultivation. No doubt a great deal can be done to develop the industry by the erection of large ginneries in the important centres, by the distribution of seed proved by experiment to be suitable for local growth in the neighbourhood of these centres, and by improving the means of communication around these centres. Some considerable time must necessarily elapse before large cotton plantations can be started, because it will be some time before the best method of growing cotton in West Africa is properly understood, and because the native prefers to carry on a small farm of his own rather than work under another's supervision for a certain number of hours each day or at a fixed task; so that at present a constant and sufficiently large supply of labour trained in cotton-growing is not available. Up to the present the cotton industry has made more progress in Southern Nigeria than in other parts of West Africa. Ginneries have been erected at Aro, and others are being erected at Oyo, Iwo, Lafenwa, and Eruwa Road. The following statement shows the exportations of cotton produce in 1906, compared with 1905:—

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Cotton.

Province.	Customs Station.	1906.				1905.				Increase + or Decrease —			
		No. of Bales.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bales in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bales.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bales in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bales.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bales in lbs.	Value.
Western or Lagos ...	Lagos ...	6,038	2,294,629	380	£ 30,715	2,775	1,054,569	380	£ 15,591	+	1,240,060	—	£ + 15,124
Central or Niger ...	Forcados ...	2,046	368,298	180	10,067	11	1,896	180	20	+	366,402	—	+ 10,067
	Onitsha Warri ...	183	32,921	—	760	624	94,400	—	225	—	-61,479	—	+535
	Sapele ...	—	—	—	1	—	10	—	—	—	+65	—	+1
	Benin (Koko Town) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern or Calabar	No export ...	2,229	401,294	—	10,848	535	96,306	—	245	+	304,988	—	+ 10,603
Grand Total ...	...	8,267	2,695,923	—	41,563	3,310	1,150,875	—	15,836	+	1,545,048	—	+ 25,727

N.B.—(1) Exportation of Cotton, raw, from Northern Nigeria—January to December, 1906 included in Forcados.

No. of Bales. 1,914
Weights in lbs. 344,438

Average weight. 180
Value. £9,566

(2) Bales from Western Province average about 380 lbs.
Bales from Central Province average about 180 lbs.

Cotton Seed.

Province.	Customs Station.	1906.				1905.				Increase or Decrease.			
		No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bags in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bags in lbs.	Value.	No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight of Bags in lbs.	Value.
Western or Lagos...	Lagos ...	57,737	6,466,513	112	£ 8,808	14,348	1,605,997	112	£ 3,577	43,389	4,860,516	—	£ 5,231
Central or Niger ...	Forcados and Onitsha. Warri ... Sapele ... Benin (Koko Town)	5,614	449,101	80	727	—	—	—	—	5,614	449,101	—	727
Eastern or Calabar	(No export) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total	...	63,551	6,915,614	—	9,535	14,348	1,605,997	—	3,577	49,003	5,309,617	—	5,958

N.B.—(1) Exportation of cotton seed from Northern Nigeria, January-December, 1906 included in Forcados:—

No. of Bags.	Weight in lbs.	Average weight.	Value.
5,614	449,101	80	£72

(2) Bags from Western Province, average weight about 112 lbs.
Bags from Central Province, average weight about 80 lbs.

(iii) *Rubber.*
Eastern and Central Provinces.

Year.	Total Quantity.	Total Value.	United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
1891—1892	lbs. 373,839	£ 15,537	lbs. 373,839	£ 15,537	lbs. —	£ —	lbs. —	£ —
1892—1893	332,433	17,610	332,433	17,610	—	—	—	—
1893—1894	540,772	27,782	540,772	27,782	—	—	—	—
1894—1895	—	13,282	—	13,282	—	—	—	—
1895—1896	308,309	11,787	307,039	11,736	1,270	51	—	—
1896—1897	380,131	17,442	347,936	15,101	—	—	38,195	2,340
1897—1898	592,309	32,060	537,025	28,837	—	—	64,684	4,122
1898—1899	874,298	60,608	783,424	53,013	—	—	90,874	7,595
1899—1900	1,450,567	105,117	1,203,418	93,374	154,956	11,564	2,193	178
1900	2,251,315	137,289	2,144,827	128,440	106,488	8,849	—	—
1901	1,740,159	106,925	1,718,522	105,818	21,358	1,094	276	13
1902	865,834	46,046	830,674	45,602	35,100	1,344	—	—
1903	1,177,803	61,816	1,144,404	60,611	33,399	1,204	—	—
1904	2,408,926	158,991	2,370,694	156,666	34,284	2,135	3,048	190
1905	2,842,831	226,387	2,752,216	223,793	84,510	2,098	6,105	496
1906	2,506,652	215,817	2,443,699	210,482	62,352	5,235	1,200	100

Western (Lagos) Province.

Year.	Total Quantity.	Total Value.	United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
1892	lbs. —	£ —	lbs. —	£ —	lbs. —	£ —	lbs. —	£ —
1893	50	3	—	—	50	3	—	—
1894	5,867	324	5,723	319	144	5	—	—
1895	5,089,576	269,893	3,200,123	166,344	1,380,280	80,000	489,173	23,549
1896	6,484,363	347,721	5,635,595	259,067	1,333,831	82,279	114,937	6,375
1897	4,458,327	283,185	4,000,410	246,889	457,908	36,296	—	—
1898	3,778,266	285,410	3,550,292	262,907	227,974	22,502	—	—
1899	1,993,525	160,315	1,830,816	144,224	162,889	10,089	20	2
1900	590,332	48,230	555,480	44,400	40,852	3,833	—	—
1901	194,280	14,749	187,103	14,269	7,177	480	—	—
1902	151,440	9,272	142,176	8,554	9,204	618	—	—
1903	131,311	15,583	118,255	14,465	13,056	1,118	—	—
1904	265,458	22,961	244,379	21,843	21,070	1,118	—	—
1905	260,560	22,656	235,424	19,796	31,136	2,860	—	—
1906	927,627	91,260	619,044	63,907	30,858	27,353	—	—

The great proportion of rubber exported from Southern Nigeria is obtained in the Eastern and Central Provinces, principally from the *funtumia elastica*, which grows in the forests, and up to the present practically the whole of the rubber exported is forest produce, rudely prepared by the native with little or no intelligent control of the collection. The foregoing statements show the quantity of rubber exported from the Eastern and Central Provinces and Lagos from 1891-2 to 1906. There has been no systematic cultivation or preparation of the rubber, and the forest trees have been destroyed through want of knowledge and practically uncontrolled collection, except during the last four years, when a serious attempt has been made by the Forestry Department in the Eastern and Central Provinces to arrest the evil. In the hinterland of Lagos the efforts of the Forestry Department are restricted to advice, the rules relating to rubber under the Forestry Proclamation not being in force.

(iv) *Maize.*

This product is practically confined to the Western Province. The exports for the past three years are shown in the following statement:—

	Total.		United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
1904	4,689	16,115	3,510	11,785	155	485	1,031	3,845
1905	9,385	32,503	6,668	22,921	2,543	8,701	174	882
1906	13,053	37,386	7,792	21,980	5,027	14,764	234	642

(v) *Ground-Nuts.*

The exportation of this product appears at present in the Central Province returns only, and the trade is confined to the Niger. The following figures show the development which has taken place in the last four years:—

	cwt.	£
1903	9,363	2,732
1904	15,144	4,999
1905	15,805	6,959
1906	33,216	13,486

It is probable that this industry will show a considerable development when the railway is constructed to Jebba, as it is no doubt handicapped at present by the want of proper transport; possibly the abolition of tolls in Ilorin will attract a certain amount of this produce to Lagos without affecting the Niger exportations.

(vi) *Cocoa.*

There has been an enormous development in cocoa during the last year, confined chiefly to the Western Province. In the Eastern and Central Provinces there has been some further development; but there the farmers have not taken up agriculture to the same extent as in Lagos during the last few years, and the same amount of system and healthy competition does not exist. The following table shows the exports of cocoa from Lagos and the Eastern and Central Provinces for the last three years:—

Province.	1904.		1905.		1906.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Lagos	821,732	13,892	896,350	10,889	1,153,439	20,893
Eastern and Central.	367,728	4,982	388,479	6,019	466,548	6,161

(vii) *Skins of all kinds.*

The trade in these skins is practically confined to the Western Province; the exports for the last three years from Lagos are:—

	£
1904	674
1905	1,530
1906	3,383

44. The other products exported and classified under "Other Articles" in the trade returns of the Colony are native provisions, native soap, sheep, goats, and horses exported to the Gold Coast and West African ports, Calabar beans, capsciums, camwood, native drugs, oil beans, "potash," poultry, wood oil, and other articles.

PORTO NOVO TRADE IN TRANSIT THROUGH LAGOS.

45. It would be incorrect to include this trade in the import and export trade of the Colony, because the goods are only conveyed through the inland waters and are never landed in Lagos at any private wharf. It is the rule that kerosene, gunpowder, and firearms should pay duty in all cases before importation is allowed, but on such commodities going through the inland waters to Porto Novo a drawback is granted of 95 per cent. of the duty; otherwise there is no charge, even on the boats that carry this trade. The development of this trade has been considerable. The follow-

ing statement shows the principal exports in 1906 compared with those for 1905:—

Article.	1906.	1905.	Remarks.
Cotton, Raw ... lbs.	84,915	—	} Value of export trade £162,721.
" Seed	66,080	29,120	
Maize Tons	4,207	40	
Palm Kernels	10,844	10,950	
Palm Oil Galls.	171,011	12,400	
Rubber "	2,646	4,480	

In Lagos no detailed account was kept of the importations for Porto Novo; it is not possible, therefore, to furnish a comparative statement of the principal imports, but the value of British and foreign manufactures imported in 1905 amounted to £14,673 as against a total of £36,193 for 1906. The following table shows the principal imports for 1906:—

—	Total.		United Kingdom.		Germany.		Other Countries.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton Goods .. packages	533	£ 12,590	506	£ 11,912	27	£ 678	—	—
Matches gross	21,250	1,732	—	—	21,250	1,732	—	—
Salt tons	14,190	1,176	12,145	956	2,045	220	—	—
Silk Goods packages	43	540	42	797	1	43	—	—
Tobacco (manu- lbs.	60,369	1,571	46,455	1,118	19,914	453	—	—
factured).								
Tobacco (Unmanu- "	371,388	9,398	219,288	5,557	161,100	3,841	—	—
factured).								
Other Articles	—	8,886	—	5,592	—	3,104	—	190
Totals	—	36,193	—	25,932	—	10,071	—	190

Import Duties.

46. The increase in import duties received during the year as compared with the previous year amounted to £92,456, and the amount collected exceeded the estimate by £25,584.

The figures for the last three years are shown in the following table.

—	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£
Western Province... ..	253,861	263,283	281,377
Central Province	168,009	190,148	187,196
Eastern Province	344,875	339,697	417,011
Total	766,745	793,128	885,584

47. The increase in the Customs revenue collected is due to the greater quantity of gin, unmanufactured tobacco, and kerosene imported during the year 1906.

48. The following table shows the revenue derived from the principal revenue-producing articles, compared with the revenue derived from the same articles in 1905:—

Articles.	1905 (including Lagos.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Spirits*				
Brandy*	207	323	} 91,742	—
Gin*	296,799	474,251		
Liqueurs*	239	523		
Rum*	46,013	100,167		
Whisky*	4,088	4,230		
Unenumerated*	391	21,291		
Tobacco (Unmanufactured)	71,119	82,479	11,360	—
Gunpowder	31,555	19,083	—	12,472
Salt	27,877	26,963	—	914
Kerosene	7,736	8,823	1,087	—
Dane Guns	5,357	3,517	—	1,840
Cotton Goods	78,854	75,654	—	3,200
Hardware and Machinery ...	6,876	7,176	300	—
Provisions	7,030	6,918	—	112
Other Articles	47,681	54,187	6,506	—
	£ 161,306 + 631,822			
	£ 793,128	885,585	110,995	16,538

Nett increase £92,457.

* Duties on spirits for Lagos, 1905, not shown separately, but amounted to £161,306.

SHIPPING.

49. In Appendix A is shown the number and tonnage of the ships which have entered and cleared from the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria during the year 1906. It is not possible to make any comparison owing to the amalgamation of Lagos Colony with Southern Nigeria Protectorate, as ships which call at Lagos also called in some cases at the river ports, and a combination of the statistics of the two places would give a most inaccurate result. The return is important in so far as it shows the growth of British and foreign shipping, and of the number and tonnage of the ships of each nationality. There is an apparent large increase in the number of foreign ships and a corresponding large decrease in the number of British ships if the return is compared with the 1905 return for the Eastern and Central Provinces. This is easily explained. In the 1905 return for the Eastern and Central Provinces, the branch boats from Lagos were included

in the shipping, so that there was a comparatively large addition to British shipping which is not included in 1906. Lagos is the port of call for all the German boats going to the south, and the German boats which go regularly to and from Porto Novo have also been included in these returns and are an addition to the returns for the Eastern and Central Provinces.

50. The following table shows the total value of trade carried in British and foreign ships during the last year:—

	Southern Nigeria.		Porto Novo. (In transit.)	
	1906.		1906.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	£	£	£	£
Entered	2,779,926	368,343	25,842	10,351
Cleared	2,400,401	751,017	40,654	123,409
Total	5,180,327	1,119,360	66,496	133,760

It is not possible to make any comparison with previous years, as a return of the value of the trade carried was not kept in the Western Provinces in the past. The following return showing the trade carried in British and foreign ships in the Central and Eastern Provinces during the last three years may be of some interest:—

	British.			Foreign.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Entered	1,651,448	1,615,222	1,608,297	141,021	138,314	151,920
Cleared	1,509,190	1,497,537	1,688,609	209,527	213,404	236,438
Total	3,160,638	3,112,759	3,296,906	350,548	351,718	388,358

The returns show that so far as the Eastern and Central Provinces are concerned British shipping has taken a very fair proportion of the increased trade.

51. So far as the ocean steamship services are concerned there has been a marked improvement in the arrival of the mail steamers up to time, and the time tables of the steamship companies are more reliable than in the past. The boats are

required to adhere to the dates shown in the tables, and a faster and better class of ship is quickly replacing the old type.

52. A local fortnightly service was inaugurated at the end of the year between Lagos and the Gold Coast ports. This service relieves the main line boats of the intermediate cargo and deck passengers from those ports for Lagos, and very often prevents a day's delay of the large mail steamers at the Coast ports and the transshipment of the passengers and cargo at Lagos, which very frequently necessitated the branch steamer remaining for a night outside the bar at the entrance of the harbour.

III.—FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURE.*

Examination of Forests.

53. Some hitherto unexplored forests were visited during the year. In the Western Province this work was carried out by the Conservator of Forests in conjunction with the Provincial Forest Officer, and in addition to examining the Mamu and Oshun river reserves, a tour was made through the forests of the northern portions of the Jebu Ode and the central parts of the Ilesha districts.

54. In the Central Province the "swamp" forests between Forcados, Ramos, and Dodo Rivers were for the first time examined by a Forest Officer, who reports that the mahogany found in this part of the country is *Khaya Panchii*. Some fine belts of high evergreen forest are met with along the banks of the creeks wherever firm solid ground is to be found. The bulk of the vegetation, however, belongs to the mangrove swamp type.

55. The Provincial Forest Officer visited some unexplored country to the north of the Cross River, in the Eastern Province, as well as the better known portions of the Oban Hills.

Alteration of Reserved Area.

56. There have been no additions to the reserved areas except in the Central Province, where the Native Councils of the Warri, Sapele, Ifon, Agbor, and Benin City districts have passed laws reserving the forests along both banks of the rivers for a distance of 1,000 yards back on either side. This

* A report on the Forest Administration of Southern Nigeria will be published separately in the series of Colonial Reports—Miscellaneous.

is an important move in the right direction, and not only ensures the protection and regulation of the water supply, but also reserves the most accessible and easily exploitable areas for the production of large timber.

The exploration of the forests mentioned above was undertaken with a view to selecting the best areas for future reservation. This, however, will take some time, and the hilly country to the north of the Cross River cannot be taken up till the country has been put under direct administrative control.

Forest Protection.

57. With the exception of the general protection against felling for purposes of farming given to some of the more important economic trees growing on areas leased out for timber exploitation, it may be said that the bulk of the forests of Southern Nigeria are still threatened with extermination at the hands of the native farmers. Their system of agriculture, as practised in the more wooded portions of the country, is one of the most wasteful known. Steps are taken to induce them to adopt improved methods, but progress in this direction is still slow.

58. Most of the reserves in the Western Province were more or less successfully protected during the year. Protection against fire was undertaken for a portion of the Oloke Meji Reserve, which is situated in the "dry zone."

Regeneration of Forests.

59. The method of farming adopted by the natives has given a favourable start in the struggle for existence to such plants only as are capable of easily reproducing themselves by means of coppice and stool shoots, and root suckers; and these unfortunately are in general not of economic importance. Natural regeneration by means of seeds is exceedingly difficult in the thick secondary growth that springs up on abandoned farms in the interval between two successive farming rotations.

Plantations.

60. The existing plantations in the reserves of the Central Province have been steadily augmented during the year, more especially as regards *Funtumia elastica*.

In the Mamu reserve, which contains a splendid plantation, eighteen compartments were cleared of undergrowth and blanks filled in with plants of that species, besides which twelve other compartments were made and fully planted up with rubber. Ten acres were also put down with Para rubber in the same reserve. Steady progress continues to be made also in the establishment of new plantations of *Funtumia elastica* all over the Central Province. During 1906 plantations, 369 in number, containing 167,135 plants, were made in

the Benin districts, and 134 plantations, containing 40,320 plants in the Niger region, as compared with a total of 119,800 and 31,832 plants, respectively, for the previous year.

61. Messrs. Alexander Miller Brother, who were the first to take up the cultivation of Para rubber in the Central Province, have purchased 30,000 more seeds with a view to increasing the size of the Sepele plantation. The latter is now in very fine condition, and the plants show excellent growth. The African Association made an attempt to start Para rubber plantations in the Central Province, but they do not seem to have pushed the matter further. A large number of seeds were sown at Benin City, whence the young plants will be distributed to the various district headquarters. The plants in the Forest Office compound are now from 12 to 15 feet high.

62. In the Eastern Province little has been done in the way of making plantations of rubber. A few of the European trading firms have small areas planted up with *Funtumia elastica* and *Ficus elastica*, but there has been no active interest taken in the matter by the natives, who as a rule appear to be fully engaged in the palm oil trade. Rubber trees have been planted in most of the district stations and along some of the main roads in Calabar.

A very good plantation of Para rubber has been made in the new extension of the Calabar Gardens. The plants have shown exceptionally fine growth.

63. The Provincial Forest Officer of the Central Province reports that rather over 35,000 seedlings of mahoganies (*Khaya*, *Pseudocedrela*, and *Entandrophragma*) were planted out by holders of timber leases, and that these have been largely supplemented by freeing from dominant growth suppressed seedlings growing naturally in the forests.

Exploitation of Major Forest Produce.

64. The number of mahogany logs exported from Southern Nigeria during 1906 was 20,274, valued *locally* at £68,718, as against 13,442 logs, valued at £49,557, in the previous year.

The increase is mainly due to the impetus given to the trade by the higher prices offered in the home markets. The bulk of the timber was furnished by West African "Mahoganies" belonging to the genera *Khaya*, *Pseudocedrela* and *Entandrophragma*, of the natural order *Meliaceæ*.

A few logs were also cut from a species of *Guarea* and realized fair prices in Europe.

65. Further efforts were made to place other kinds of West African woods on the European market, but with little success. There are, however, a large variety of woods now that have been favourably reported on by timber brokers and they afford ample scope for any new enterprise in this direction. The introduction of improved methods of hauling timber by means

of mechanical appliances and draught animals is still a desideratum.

Exploitation of Minor Forest Produce.

66. (a) *Rubber*.—The total output of rubber for 1906 (including exports from Northern Nigeria) amounted to 3,434,279 lbs., valued locally at £307,077, as compared with 3,109,707 lbs., valued at £249,043, in the previous year.

67. Experiments were made with a view to preparing rubber of a better quality with the ordinary appliances available to the natives, and it was found that with the exercise of a little care as regards straining the latex of impurities, washing the freshly coagulated latex, and cutting it up into thin strips that can be more easily dried in wood smoke, a product was obtained that was valued in England at prices ranging from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. a lb., when best Brazilian Para was selling at 5s. 2d. a lb. The latex experimented with was that of *Funtumia elastica*, and nothing but the most simple articles such as demijohns, earthen pots, a sieve, and a empty bottle or two, were used for preparing the rubber.

68. Demonstrations were given to the rangers, forester, forest guards, and pupils in such simple methods of preparing the improved produce, and it is hoped that the natives generally will adopt the system. There is not the slightest doubt that the price of our best rubbers such as that procured from *Funtumia elastica*, *Landolphia Owariensis*, and *Clitandra elastica* can be doubled by the exercise of a little care in the preparation of the produce. Such efforts, however, will not be successful unless a substantially higher price is paid to the natives for the superior article and the Adulteration of Produce Ordinance is simultaneously put into force. The two rangers, who were sent to French Guinea for the purpose of learning the methods employed there in preparing rubber, returned to Southern Nigeria towards the end of the year, and have since been employed in teaching the natives of the rubber yielding districts of the Protectorate what they have learnt.

69. (b) *Gums*.—The export of gum copal in 1906 was 34,634 lbs., valued at £6,650, as compared with 33,207 lbs., valued at £3,967, in the previous year. The plant that furnishes this product is a lofty tree of the moist evergreen forests and is known to botanists as *Cyanothyrus Ogea*, (*Daniellia Oblonga* is a synonym). It is common in parts of the Western and Central Provinces.

The trade in "Balsam Copaiba" has fallen off very much of late years, probably on account of the reduced prices now paid for it at home. The tree that yields this product is *Daniellia thurifera*, a plant characteristic of the open forests of the "dry zone." It is extremely plentiful all over the hinterland.

No gum arabic is collected within the limits of Southern Nigeria.

70. (c) *Fibres*.—The trade in piassava fibre appears to have fallen off somewhat during 1906; the exports amounted to 5,414 packages, valued at £3,210, against 7,290 packages, valued at £4,052 in the previous year. In the Eket District where the bulk of the fibre is prepared, efforts are being made by some of the local agents of the European trading firms to encourage this industry as much as possible. Immense areas of swampy land in Southern Nigeria are occupied by the palms, *Raphia vinifera* and *Raphia Hookeri*, from which this fibre is procured.

71. There are other good fibre-yielding plants to be met with in the country, such as the tall shrub *Honkenya ficifolia*, the ubiquitous *Urena lobata* and the tree *Sterculia Barteri*, the best fibres of which are used by the natives for making strong durable ropes. It seems, however, to be a very difficult matter to get the natives to take up any industry, and very little headway is made unless a special organization is started to push the matter through.

72. (d) *Oil, Beans, and Seeds*.—A small trade was done in the seeds of the Dika nut tree, *Iringia Barteri* and *Pentaclethra macrophylla*. Both these products are, however, used by the natives for food, and unless the prices offered at home improve, there will be but little inducement for them to start a regular industry in these seeds. The *Shea butter* tree *Bassia Parkii* (*Butyrospermum Parkii*—synonym), is very plentiful in some of the districts of the hinterland, more especially in the Western Province. Efforts are being made to interest the Yorubas in this trade, which is confined to regions in which the palm oil does not grow.

Agriculture.

73 *Experiments*.—The Provincial Forest Officer of the Western Province reports that a number of experimental crops were grown at Oloke Meji in addition to those in the ordinary routine of farm cultivation. The most important experiments were made with cotton, rice, and jute. Experiments were also made in the cultivation of tobacco, castor oil, bananas, and various leguminous crops.

74. Agriculture has lately made rapid strides in the Western Province, where the cultivation of cotton, maize, cocoa, and ground-nuts shows a very satisfactory increase for the year. The Yorubas as a race are keen agriculturists and quick, compared with other races of Southern Nigeria, to take advantage of any improvements in cultivation or recommendations brought to their notice.

75. There is ample scope for the extension of cocoa cultivation in the moist regions of the Central and Eastern Provinces.

where the climate is very favourable to the growth of that plant.

76. Ground-nuts should be more extensively cultivated than they are at present. This is a most useful crop to introduce into any system of crop rotation, more especially on the poor exposed soils of the interior, where the organic constituents are generally deficient.

77. An Agricultural Show held at Lagos towards the end of the year proved a great success. It was largely attended by natives from all parts of the Colony and Protectorate, and will no doubt give a great impetus to the interest taken in agriculture.

78. In the Western Province a large number of plants of economic importance were distributed during the year from the Oloke Meji Gardens to farmers and others interested in their cultivation. The totals amounted to 25,944 plants; 1,996 suckers; 629 lbs., 116 packets, and 1 box of seeds; 140 lbs. and 36 packets of tubers; and 38 bundles of grass.

The pupils attached to the Gardens have been put through a systematic course of instruction (which lasts for three years) in the propagation of plants, the essential conditions requisite for good growth, pruning, elementary botany, farming, and plantation work in the forests. They have been well reported on by the Curator. After the completion of this course the best pupils are generally given appointments in the more important native States and Districts.

79. The arboretum of wild indigenous plants has been increased and the plants properly labelled and identified, whilst the collection in the herbarium has been augmented by something like 200 specimens, which have been properly mounted and dried, duplicates being sent to Kew for identification.

80. A fair amount of plant distribution was done from the Onitsha Gardens and plantations in the Central Province. The locality, however, is not a good one for this purpose—it is too dry and far from the centres where the cultivation of crops such as cocoa, Para rubber, &c., can be successfully undertaken. The kitchen garden was well maintained and several kinds of European vegetables grown.

81. The stock farm at Onitsha was abandoned and the cattle either transferred to other districts or sold. Past experience has shown that this locality is too much infested by flies (*Glossina palpalis* and *Glossina fuscus*) for any success to be attained in the breeding of cattle.

82. The Botanical Gardens at Calabar, Eastern Province, were considerably extended in the direction of the new barracks and portions planted up with plants such as *Funtumia elastica*, *Ficus elastica*, *Castilloa*, and Para rubber. The latter have made excellent growth and average about 12 feet in height. Other plots of land were planted with fibre-yielding

plants such as Jute, *Honckenya ficifolia*, *Urena lobata*, and Ramie.

83. Considerable additions were made to the stock of tropical plants, more especially as regards fruit trees. The *Mangosteens*, *Lichis*, *Pomegranates*, &c., are doing well. The *Nipa* plantation across the river appears to be established, and the sago palms planted in the hollow in the Gardens are in excellent condition.

84. A stock farm was started at Calabar with a view to establishing a dairy. For this purpose three cows and some bull calves were imported from the Canary Islands. Unfortunately two of the former and one of the latter died during the year. The cause of death in the case of the cows was reported by the Medical Officer to be hypertrophic cirrhosis of the liver in the one case, and intestinal obstruction in the case of the calf.

The Medical Officer reported that the blood of the calf that died contained parasites similar to those found in the Indian disease (human) known as *Kala-azar*. In no case was trypanosomiasis infection detected.

Game Laws.

85. The number of elephant licences issued during 1906 in the Central Province was five, as compared with six in 1905. Some game reserves are being taken up, and it is to be hoped that a few areas at least will serve as sanctuaries for wild animals in the true sense of the word.

86. The only outcome of the present legislation on game preservation has been to limit the shooting of a few *bonâ fide* European sportsmen whilst the constant drain of animal life caused by literally tens of thousands of native hunters who shoot everything they see, night and day, in season and out of season, throughout the year remains unchecked.

Collection of Plants and Wild Products.

87. The importance of pushing on the Botanical Survey of Southern Nigeria has been kept in mind, and several collections of plants were made and forwarded to Kew for authoritative identification. The same has been done with wild products of economic importance, such as timber, oil seeds, fibres, edible fruit, &c.

IV.—LEGISLATION.

88. The chief legal event of the year has been the cancelling of the Letters Patent of 1886 constituting the Colony of Lagos and the revocation of the Orders in Council providing for the Administration of the Protectorates of Lagos and Southern

Nigeria, and the promulgation of Letters Patent and an Order in Council constituting the Colony of Southern Nigeria and providing for its Government, together with that of the Protectorate.

89. The Order in Council and the Letters Patent are dated the 16th February and the 28th February, respectively, but both came into operation on being proclaimed in the Colony on the 1st May. No change has as yet been made in the application of the laws, it being declared that all laws in force in any part of the territory prior to the commencement of the new system of government shall continue in force until further provision is made by the local legislature.

90. The legislation of the year has dealt with the registration of medical practitioners, the transfer of prisoners between the prisons of the Colony and Protectorate, the establishment of the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund, the regulation of the receptacles in which trade spirits may be imported, the naturalization of aliens, the expropriation of the Hausa Lands, and the survey of steamers carrying passengers, together with minor amendments of existing laws.

The following is a full list of all Ordinances, Proclamations, Orders, Rules, and Regulations made during the year:—

Ordinances.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1 of 1906. | The Governor in Council Ordinance, 1906. |
| 2 of 1906. | The Trade Marks Amendment Ordinance, 1906. |
| 3 of 1906. | The Towns Police and Public Health Ordinance, 1906. |
| 4 of 1906. | The Sale of Palm Kernels Ordinance, 1906. |
| 5 of 1906. | The Registration of Medical Practitioners and Dentists Ordinance, 1906. |
| 6 of 1906. | The Transfer of Prisoners Ordinance, 1906. |
| 7 of 1906. | The Forestry Ordinance, 1906. |
| 8 of 1906. | The Travelling and Field Allowance Ordinance 1900 Repeal Ordinance, 1906. |
| 9 of 1906. | The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Ordinance, 1906. |
| 10 of 1906. | The Trade Spirits (Regulation of Receptacles) Ordinance, 1906. |
| 11 of 1906. | The Naturalization of Aliens Ordinance, 1906. |
| 12 of 1906. | The Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Ordinance, 1906. |
| 13 of 1906. | The Hausa Lands Ordinance, 1906. |
| 14 of 1906. | The Passengers Steam Vessels Survey Ordinance, 1906. |
| 15 of 1906. | The Weights and Measures Ordinance, 1906. |
| 16 of 1906. | The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1906. |
| 17 of 1906. | The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1906. |
| 18 of 1906. | The Pilotage and Harbour Ordinance, 1906. |
| 19 of 1906. | The Supply Ordinance, 1906. |

Proclamations.

- 1 of 1906. The Customs Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
- 2 of 1906. The Customs Tariff Further Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
- 3 of 1906. The Public Officers' Guarantee Fund Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
- 4 of 1906. The Commissioners Proclamation, 1906.
- 5 of 1906. The Niger Lands Transfer Proclamation, 1906.
- 6 of 1906. The Crown Lands Management Proclamation, 1906.
- 7 of 1906. The Native Courts Proclamation, 1906.
- 8 of 1906. The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Proclamation, 1906.
- 9 of 1906. The Spirit Licence Amendment Proclamation, 1906.
- 10 of 1906. The Marriage Proclamation, 1906.

Orders.

- 1 of 1906. Order made under "The Commissioners Proclamation, 1900."
 - 2 of 1906. Order made under "The Native Currency Proclamation, 1902."
 - 3 of 1906. Order made under "The Towns Regulation Proclamation, 1905."
 - 4 of 1906. Order made under "The European Reservation Proclamation, 1902."
 - 5 of 1906. Order made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1894."
 - 6 of 1906. Order made under "The Supreme Court Proclamation, 1900."
 - 7 of 1906. Order made under "The Prisons Proclamation, 1900."
 - 8 of 1906. Order made under "The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Proclamation, 1906."
 - 9 of 1906. Order made under "The Native Courts Proclamations, 1901 and 1903."
 - 10 of 1906. Order made under "The Police Proclamation, 1902."
 - 11 of 1906. Order made under "The Commissioners Proclamation, 1900."
 - 12 of 1906. Order in Legislative Council made under "The Petroleum Ordinance, 1889."
 - 13 of 1906. Order in Executive Council made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1876."
 - 14 of 1906. Order made under "The Registration of Medical Practitioners and Dentists Ordinance, 1906."
- Order in Executive Council made under "The Supreme Court Ordinance, 1876."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1876."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Proclamation, 1900."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Diseases Exclusion Proclamation, 1904."

Order in Legislative Council made under "The Lights, Buoys, and Beacons Ordinance, 1890."

Order in Executive Council made under "The Customs Ordinance, 1876."

Rules and Regulations.

- 1 of 1906. Rules made under "The Post Office Amendment Proclamation, 1903."
- 2 of 1906. Rules made under "The Supreme Court Proclamation, 1900."
- 3 of 1906. Rules made under "The Forestry Proclamations, 1901 and 1905."
- 4 of 1906. Regulations under "The Northern Nigeria Registration of Imports and Exports Proclamation, 1906."
- 5 of 1906. Rules under "The Firearms Proclamation, 1902."
- 6 of 1906. Rules made under "The Hospitals and Dispensaries Proclamation, 1903."
- 7 of 1906. Rules made under "The Native Courts Proclamation, 1906."

V.—EDUCATION.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

91. Eight new Government Schools were opened in 1906, one of them being the new Girls' School at Onitsha. Of these schools, one was opened in the Western Province at Ayetoro, five in the Central Province (at Onitsha (2), Uromi, Agbor, and Sabon-gidda), and two in the Eastern Province (at Azumini and Eket). All these schools appear to have made a good start, and several of them are largely attended. The opening of the new buildings of the Lagos Mohammedan Government School was marked by a very large increase in attendance.

There are at present 31 Government Schools, four of them girls' schools, in the Colony and Protectorate, five in the Western Province, 17 in the Central Province, and nine in the Eastern Province.

92. It is a most hopeful phase of educational work in this Colony that a proposal to open a school is almost invariably welcomed by chiefs and people. Several District Commissioners have borne witness to the excellent effect produced in towns by the opening of a school. If the right type of schoolmaster can be obtained, the presence and example of an educated man in a "bush" village, all the inhabitants of which (with the possible exception of a Native Court Clerk) are wholly illiterate, will exercise a beneficial influence and will prove of assistance to the Government.

MISSION SCHOOLS.

93. The progress made by the Mission Schools generally has been a most satisfactory feature of the year's work. The average attendances in the old schools assisted by the Government are greatly in excess of those of any previous year. A large number of new schools have been opened in places where before there were no schools.

94. The Church Missionary Society.—The 14 schools of this Mission which are carried on in Lagos have continued their good work throughout the year. The Grammar School, which is the oldest secondary school in the Colony, showed an increased attendance. The results at the annual examination were not so good as the Managers of this School have a right to expect, and the same is true of the other secondary schools in Lagos, the Roman Catholic, St. Gregory's School, and the Wesleyan High School. Relatively, the primary schools in Lagos appear both in respect of teaching and discipline to be ahead of the secondary schools.

The Church Missionary Society Girls' Seminary is a well-managed school under efficient European control.

In the Brass District, the Church Missionary Society carries on well-managed schools at Twon and Nimbe. It is to be hoped that the withdrawal from Brass of the European missionaries, who took an active part in school work, will not have a deteriorating influence on these schools.

The Niger Delta Pastorate Mission, an off-shoot from the Church Missionary Society, carries on useful schools in the Bonny, Degama, and Opobo districts.

95. The Wesleyan Mission has seven schools in Lagos subject to Government inspection and in receipt of Government grants, including one secondary school, the Wesleyan High School. Useful work is carried on in the large primary schools conducted by this mission. There has been considerable difficulty hitherto in obtaining and retaining the services of suitable teachers, but it is hoped that the Training Institution which is carried on at Ibadan will gradually remove this obstacle.

96. The United Free Church of Scotland Mission continues to carry on excellent work in its mission schools at Calabar, and on the Cross River, where they have opened several new schools in the past year. The Hope Waddell Institute and the Duke Town Grammar School still continue to supply the educational needs of Calabar and district, and at Creek Town, near Calabar, there are well-managed schools for boys and girls.

The Hope Waddell Institute is one of the largest secondary schools in the Colony, and occupies five buildings erected by the Government at a cost of £12,000. It is hoped that this school will justify the expenditure incurred. With a large European staff, it is especially fitted to be a centre for the training of clerks, skilled mechanics, and teachers for Government service.

97. The Roman Catholics have a considerable number of schools in the Onitsha and Asaba districts of the Central Province, and in the Calabar district in the Eastern Province.

The Onitsha Mission deserves great credit for the excellent educational work of the past three years. Whereas in 1903 there were less than 200 children attending school in the whole of the Onitsha district, the Roman Catholic Fathers were recently able to present no less than 630 children in their schools in Onitsha alone, and there are, in addition, 11 new schools in the outlying district which have been admitted as Assisted Schools.

The Onitsha Convent girls' schools and similar establishments at Lagos and Calabar, are doing excellent work under able European supervision.

The Roman Catholic boys' school at Calabar, is largely attended and well conducted.

In Lagos, the Roman Catholic secondary school has already been referred to. The elementary school teaching of this mission is here, as elsewhere, very good. One of the principal reasons for the undoubted success of the Roman Catholic Missions in this country is the adequate and careful European control and supervision of the schools.

98. The United Native African Church has two schools at Lagos in receipt of Government grants.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION. (GOVERNMENT.)

99. The Bonny Government School made good progress during the year, especially in the matter of industrial teaching. The following classes were successfully conducted, the attendance being good and the work done satisfactorily: Carpentry, Coopering, Agriculture, Telegraphy, and Typewriting. The school has benefited by the appointment of an Assistant Principal, which should ensure unbroken European supervision.

100. The two technical schools for carpentry at Benin City and Warri have been working regularly throughout the year.

The quality of the work done in the shops has been satisfactory. The greater part of the furniture supplied to the schools in the province during the year was made in these schools.

MISSION INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT ASSISTED BY
GOVERNMENT.

101. At the Hope Waddell Institute, Calabar, there are Printing, Tailoring, and Carpentry Workshops in which apprentices are taught by European instructors, and it is hoped that in the future, while some of these apprentices find employment under the Government, others, more particularly those who have learnt carpentry, will practise their trades and teach others in their own towns and villages.

102. The Onitsha Industrial Mission, founded by Bishop Tugwell, employs apprentices at carpentry and furniture making under able European instruction. The house and office furniture made at this workshop has received high commendation from experts.

103. The Roman Catholic Mission at Onitsha has a useful carpenter's shop also under European control. Brickmaking and market gardening are also taught with considerable success.

Summary of Attendance.

104. It will be noticed that the average attendance continues to be very unsatisfactory. This is one of the great difficulties in the way of successful teaching in the Colony. At times of the year when labour is wanted on the farms the parents take the children away for weeks at a time.

—	ASSISTED SCHOOLS.				
	No. on Register.		Total.	Average Attendance.	Grants earned by Examination.
	Boys.	Girls.			
Lagos	3,530	1,335	4,865	2,837	£ 2 428 19 0
Central Province ...	1,550	111	1,661	1,285	515 18 0
Eastern Province ...	2,400	423	2,823	1,288	1,104 4 0
Total	7,480	1,869	9,349	5,410	4,049 1 0
GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.					
Lagos	649	2	651	537	—
Central Province ...	1,038	115	1,153	802	—
Eastern Province ...	728	11	739	470	—
Total	2,415	128	2,543	1,809	—

With regard to the return from Government Schools, it must be remembered that the majority of these schools have been opened for less than two years, and that their growth, though steady, is slow.

Subscriptions to Schools.

105. The following receipts were paid into Revenue in 1906 as local contributions to Government Schools:—

—	Chiefs' Subscriptions	School Fees.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Central Province	687 10 0	109 5 0	796 15 0
Eastern Province	191 0 0	833 19 0	1,024 19 0
Total	878 10 0	943 4 0	1,821 14 0

These figures include £678 18s. 0d. school fees received at Bonny Government School.

106. The difficulty of obtaining suitable head-teachers for primary schools has still to be overcome, for though Bonny Government School and the higher grade Mission Schools are giving a fair supply of promising pupil teachers there is no doubt that competent teachers are still difficult to obtain.

VI.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

LAGOS HOSPITAL.

European Section.

107. The accommodation for patients is as follows:—

European wards:

Ten beds—six male and four female; the average daily occupation being 3·3. There are four European Nurses attached to this Hospital; and besides nursing sick Europeans they supervise the nursing of the native wards, in which they take a great interest.

108. During the year the number of Europeans treated in the Hospital was as follows:—

Officials ... 61 (of whom 18 were Railway officials).
Non-officials ... 74

Treated ... 135 with 8 deaths.

Amongst the diseases treated were:

64 cases Malaria	...	...	...	2 deaths.
11 ,, Blackwater-fever	...	...	...	3 ,,
8 ,, Dysentery	...	...	...	1 death.
1 case of Necrosis	...	...	...	1 ,,
1 ,, Morphinism	...	...	...	1 ,,

Native Section.

109. During the year 1906 the number of natives treated in the Hospital was 1,218, viz.:—

Officials	...	...	...	44
West African Frontier Force	...	...	...	237
Police	...	...	...	182
Paupers	...	...	...	755

Treated 1,218 with 91 deaths.

Yaba Leper Asylum.

110. During the year 1906 there were treated at the Asylum twenty-eight patients.

There was one death. Five absconded. One was sent back to his country. There remained at the Asylum at the end of the year twenty-one patients (thirteen males and eight females).

Calabar European Hospital.

111. The daily average number of cases in the Hospital was 2·2. There are five European Nurses with one native Nurse for this Hospital.

112. During the year 1906 155 cases were treated in the European Hospital, one of which terminated fatally.

Among the 155 cases treated, there were eight of Blackwater-fever, three of Filarial Infection, 73 of Malarial Fever, and 2 of Dysentery.

Twenty-three cases were invalided, 18 to Europe and five for a sea trip.

St. Margaret's Native Hospital, Calabar.

113. There were 798 cases treated, with 44 deaths, being 11 cases less and five deaths more than in the previous year. In addition, 7,129 out-patients received treatment. Two European Sisters from the Roman Catholic Mission are attached to the Hospital and assist in attending to female patients.

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

114. Among the less important Government institutions the following hospitals and asylums may be mentioned:—

A quarantine hospital was opened at Forcados, seven miles up the Elder River, away from the harbour.

The small native hospital at Warri was properly conducted, and a small European hospital, with two wards, has been opened at Sapeli.

The Lunatic Asylum at Calabar was used for criminal lunatics, but a larger and better constructed building was started during the year at Yaba, about four miles from Lagos. Hitherto lunatics from Lagos have been sent to Sierra Leone.

A beri-beri and isolation hospital, with two wards, has been opened at Bonny during the year. A native hospital is also on the point of completion, and was occupied during the last two months of the year. Hospitals for natives—well built in native fashion—are maintained throughout the districts of Southern Nigeria.

PRISONS.

115. There are 30 prisons in the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, an increase of seven compared with the number in existence at the end of 1905; and the total number of prisoners confined during the year throughout the prisons was 12,171. The prisons are all in good condition, and several have been rebuilt and enlarged. As necessity arises the older buildings will be dealt with similarly. New prisons have been built at Agbor, Ikom, Oka, and Forcados, and for the present meet the requirements of these districts.

116. There were 277 deaths during the year, compared with 274 in 1905, and 31 judicial executions. There were 89 escapes and 68 recaptures.

The total number of punishments inflicted was 964; of these 118 were corporal and 846 loss of marks, reduced diets, solitary confinements, &c.; the increase in punishments is attributed to the larger number of prisoners confined.

117. The earnings of the prisoners in the Colony and Protectorate during the year amounted to £16,873; and the expenditure on their maintenance, &c., to £22,230.

118. The health of the prisoners has been good and no serious epidemics have occurred. All prisons have been regularly visited by the Visitors of Prisons during the year, and their reports on prisoners and prisons were generally favourable. In the few instances when they were adverse, steps were at once taken to rectify the faults.

The Transfer of Prisoners Ordinance has been of great assistance in relieving overcrowding, and also enabled convicts to be moved to districts where their labour could be better utilized.

119. During the year great improvement was noticeable in the efficiency of the native staff, but there is still great difficulty experienced in obtaining the services of suitable men for prison duties.

VII.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

JUDICIAL REPORT.

Lagos.

120. The total number of persons brought before the Police Magistrate at Lagos and before the various District Commissioners of the Western Province presiding in their own District Courts, was 2,900, as against 2,420 in 1905. Of this number 188 were discharged for want of prosecution, 348 were discharged on the merits, 2,266 summarily convicted, and 98 committed for trial.

121. Though 98 persons were committed for trial in 1906 yet the Returns show 124 persons as having been tried at the Assizes (as against 81 in 1905). This discrepancy is due to the fact that the Assizes being held quarterly, persons committed for trial during the months of October, November, and December in any year are not tried before January of the next year.

The following table shows the number of cases dealt with in the various District Courts, the nature of the offences, and how they were disposed of:—

	Number discharged failing prosecution or sufficient evidence.	Number of cases discharged.	Number of persons summarily convicted	Number of persons committed for trial.
Offences against the Person—				
Lagos	32	30	116	1
Badagry	1	6	32	2
Epe... ..	3	9	35	—
Ikorodu	4	15	25	—
Shagamu	4	17	25	—
Ibadan	4	13	26	—
Abeokuta	1	1	8	—
Total	49	91	267	3
Cattle Stealing and Arson—				
Lagos	6	2	9	—
Badagry	—	3	32	3
Epe... ..	—	—	1	—
Ikorodu	—	1	3	—
Shagamu	—	1	5	—
Ibadan	—	1	3	—
Abeokuta	—	—	—	—
Total	6	8	53	3

	Number discharged failing prosecution or sufficient evidence.	Number of cases discharged.	Number of persons summarily convicted.	Number of persons committed for trial.
Offences against Property other than Cattle Stealing and Arson—				
Lagos	41	59	230	11
Badagry	12	22	83	9
Epe... ..	3	11	37	—
Ikorodu	—	11	22	2
Shagamu	—	9	23	—
Ibadan	2	13	31	—
Abeokuta	8	12	18	—
Total	66	137	444	22
Offences against Master and Servants' Acts—				
Lagos	1	—	—	—
Badagry	—	—	—	—
Epe... ..	—	—	—	—
Ikorodu	—	—	—	—
Shagamu	—	—	—	—
Ibadan	—	—	—	—
Abeokuta	—	—	—	—
Total	1	—	—	—
Other Offences—				
Lagos	55	42	676	18
Badagry	1	36	257	18
Epe... ..	1	2	104	4
Ikorodu	6	8	190	11
Shagamu	—	12	182	7
Ibadan	3	7	48	11
Abeokuta	—	5	45	1
Total	66	112	1,502	70
Total Number of Persons Apprehended—				
Lagos	135	133	1,031	31
Badagry	14	67	406	32
Epe... ..	7	22	177	4
Ikorodu	10	35	240	13
Shagamu	4	39	233	7
Ibadan	9	34	108	11
Abeokuta	9	18	71	1
Total	188	348	2,266	99

Eastern and Central Provinces.

122. During the year 1906 the total number of cases dealt with by the Courts, not including the Native Courts, was 2,840, of which number 2,574 were tried by the Magistrates.

123. There was an increase in "Offences against the Person" of 111, and a decrease of 40 in "Offences against Property"; in "Other Offences" there was an increase of 485.

124. There were 247 prosecutions for burglary and larceny at Calabar in 1906, as contrasted with 234 in 1905.

125. On comparison of these figures with those of 1905 and other years the total shows a considerable increase, but this is due to the greater control of the area of jurisdiction, and also to the increased area brought under control, and the increase therefore will no doubt continue as time goes on.

126. There were 85 Native Courts in operation in 1906, the number of cases dealt with being 11,493 criminal and 25,520 civil. This represents a very great increase over the total for 1905, the number of criminal and civil cases in that year being 25,636. The increase may be ascribed to the more efficient work done by these Courts, and the greater supervision exercised over them.

Native Courts.

Table showing the number and classes of offences dealt with by the Native Courts, and how the cases were disposed of during 1906 :—

	Total.	Assaults.	Other offences against the Person.	Larceny.	Other offences against Property.	Offences against the Adulteration of Produce Proclamations 1902 and 1905.	Other Offences.
Convictions	7,134	1,061	859	649	560	120	3,845
Dismissals	2,355	373	735	325	223	7	692
Transfers to District Commissioner.	147	12	28	8	7	—	97
Cases otherwise disposed of	1,857	189	440	189	248	5	786
Totals	11,493	1,635	2,097	1,171	1,038	132	5,420

VIII.—CLIMATE.

TEMPERATURE.

127. The mean temperature at Lagos Observatory was 80·3°. The highest shade temperature, 99°, was recorded at Onitsha and Afikpo in March, Asaba in February, and Benin City in March; and the lowest 54·5° at Benin City in January.

RAINFALL.

128. The rainfall at stations on the coast is much heavier than at inland stations.

The maximum rainfall in 1906 was 251·49 inches at Egwanga, in the Eastern Province, and the minimum 40·92 inches at Olokemeji, in the Western Province.

The rainfall at Lagos was 74·76 inches, at Calabar 156·64 inches, at Bonny 142·26 inches.

The following table shows the rainfall during the year at stations where reliable registers were kept:—

Table showing the Rainfall (in inches) of Lagos and Out-stations during 1906.

Month.	Lagos.	Ondo.	Ibadan.	Olokemeji.	Badagry.	Epe.	Oshogbo.	Oyo.	Shaki.	Ilesha.	Otta.
January ..	1·04	·14	·06	·33	·62	1·22	—	—	*	Meteorological station recently re-established.	—
February ..	2·18	1·00	·96	19	5·28	2·78	—	—	*		·67
March ..	1·11	3·13	2·35	171	2·02	·77	1·47	3·48	*		1·52
April ..	4·00	4·01	5·15	210	5·72	4·10	6·80	5·10	*		3·52
May ..	16·02	7·98	7·13	8·01	13·52	14·50	5·58	7·70	4·61		13·48
June ..	22·30	8·70	4·22	6·43	11·32	10·03	5·24	5·89	6·94		6·50
July ..	15·90	12·43	9·69	6·93	8·02	9·01	10·49	5·69	4·71		14·50
August ..	1·63	4·77	2·63	1·02	·32	4·03	1·75	1·59	2·77		1·02
September ..	1·67	0·80	8·90	6·59	1·35	2·31	12·27	5·61	7·80		2·23
October ..	6·91	·78	3·17	4·31	4·23	4·53	3·93	6·94	7·46		2·85
November ..	1·37	1·68	1·49	1·67	2·21	·86	—	1·68	—		·60
December ..	·58	·28	·40	1·63	2·30	—	·27	2·85	—		—
Total ..	74·70	54·59	46·40	40·92	58·34	60·23	47·95	46·00	34·32	—	47·58

* No records available.

Eastern Province.

Month.	Bonny.	Egwanga.	Calabar.	Bende.	Obubra Hill.	Brass.	Degema.	Opobo.	Owerri.	Afikpo.	Akassa.	Ikot-Ekpene.
January ..	·77	·39	·40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ..	2·16	3·88	1·05	3·88	—	—	—	—	—	3·00	—	—
March ..	3·25	5·47	7·11	2·08	—	—	—	—	—	·20	—	—
April ..	9·82	12·07	14·73	11·19	—	—	—	—	—	6·81	—	—
May ..	14·12	26·34	17·99	10·87	—	—	—	—	—	13·46	—	—
June ..	10·37	56·70	13·10	10·13	—	—	—	—	15·17	4·70	—	—
July ..	21·38	41·05	28·52	8·37	—	—	—	—	23·75	18·80	—	—
August ..	6·58	26·84	18·37	17·60	—	—	—	—	—	19·10	—	—
September ..	24·01	33·03	24·68	12·90	—	—	—	—	22·49	10·07	—	—
October ..	15·30	25·28	19·34	9·52	—	—	—	—	12·05	8·63	—	—
November ..	21·10	13·85	5·65	—	—	—	—	—	1·21	—	—	—
December ..	4·40	5·18	5·70	·50	3·50	—	—	—	·57	—	—	—
Total ..	142·26	251·49	156·64	67·08	3·50	—	—	—	80·14	90·77	—	—

Central Province.

Month.	Forcados.	Sapele.	Asaba.	Benin City.	Iken.	Warri.	Aboh.	Onitsha.
January ...	.80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ...	6.57	2.15	1.53	2.15	—	—	—	1.41
March ...	5.87	3.89	—	1.55	—	—	—	.77
April ...	4.46	9.21	4.48	3.85	—	—	—	5.95
May ...	11.34	9.2	2.49	10.47	3.80	—	—	9.69
June ...	8.14	15.55	3.58	3.06	6.80	—	—	4.03
July ...	13.20	14.73	1.79	16.32	1.49	—	—	4.74
August ...	13.35	14.78	4.26	12.34	2.33	—	—	15.60
September ...	13.85	16.33	15.36	17.12	7.90	—	—	9.25
October ...	13.65	17.24	10.53	17.07	4.85	—	—	6.35
November ...	2.95	2.90	.25	4.44	—	—	—	.27
December ...	4.15	.50	—	1.53	—	—	—	.15
Total ...	98.33	106.69	44.27	93.30	27.17	—	—	58.21

IX.—VITAL STATISTICS.

129. There are no means of ascertaining or even of estimating approximately the native population. Officers acquainted with the various parts of the hinterland have formed estimates of the population, which, added together, give the following figures:—

Western Province	...	...	...	3,000,000
Eastern Province	...	...	...	1,500,000
Central Province	...	...	...	1,585,000

130. The births and deaths registered form but a very small proportion of those which have actually taken place, and therefore the figures are of no value in considering the statistics of the whole country.

131. In the Eastern and Central Provinces accurate statistics have been prepared for the European section of the community; it is unfortunate that equally reliable statistics for the Western Province have not been kept, but an estimate of the European population has been made and death statistics have been kept in Lagos and Ebute Metta, which include the deaths of Europeans throughout the province.

132. The European population resident in the Colony and Protectorate on the 31st December, 1906, as obtained from the results of the returns from the various districts, is 1,022, distributed as follows:—

Western Province	...	...	...	400
Eastern Province	...	...	...	349
Central Province	...	...	...	273

1,022

133. The following table shows the various districts in the Eastern and Central Provinces in which the European population is distributed and the deaths and invalidings which have taken place during the year. Similar figures are not available for the Western Province.

Return of the European Population as on 31st December, 1906, and of the Invalidings and Deaths, during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1906.

Provinces and Districts.	Males.			Females.			Total.	Invalided		Rate per 1,000.	Deaths.		Rate per 1,000.
	Officials.	Traders.	Missionaries.	Officials.	Traders.	Missionaries.		Officials.	Non-officials.		Officials.	Non-officials.	
Central Province—													
Warri	12	29	—	—	—	—	41	—	1	24·3	—	—	—
Forcados	4	21	—	—	—	—	25	1	2	120	—	—	—
Sapele	5	42	—	—	—	—	47	3	—	63·83	—	1	21·27
Benin City	14	21	—	—	—	—	35	3	1	114·28	1	1	57·14
Ifon	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Idah	1	2	3	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Onitsha Asaba	24	22	27	—	—	19	92	1	3	43·47	2	1	32·6
Aboh	3	0	1	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	1	—	100
Ishan	2	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Agbor	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	333·3
Kwale	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oka.. ..	3	2	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	1	—	166·6
	74	148	32	—	—	19	273	8	7	—	0	3	—
Eastern Province—													
Calabar	44	51	21	5	2	22	145	—	1	6·89	1	1	13·8
Eket	1	4	7	—	—	5	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ikot-Ekpeno	8	2	2	—	—	7	19	1	—	52·6	—	1	52·6
Uyo.. ..	1	—	3	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Owerri	5	3	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	125	1	—	125
Brass	4	8	2	—	—	1	15	—	—	—	1	—	66·6
Akassa	13	1	—	—	—	—	14	1	1	142·8	—	—	—
Bonny	7	13	—	—	—	—	20	1	2	150	—	—	—
Degema	1	31	—	—	—	—	32	1	1	62·5	—	1	31·25
Ahoada	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aba	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Opobo	1	30	—	—	—	—	37	—	2	51·05	—	2	51·05
Ikom	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	250
Obubra	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Afikpo	11	2	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bende	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	400	—	—	—
Aro-Chuku	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abakaliki	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
	193	300	67	5	2	55	622	15	14	46·62	9*	9*	28·93

* In addition to these figures five Europeans died on steamers.

DEATHS.

Western Province.

134. The following figures have been given in connection with the deaths among Europeans during 1906:—

Comparative table showing deaths among European population of Lagos and Ebute Metta from malaria and blackwater fever in 1900, 1905, and 1906.

Year.	Popula- tion.	Officials.		Non-Officials		Total.	
		Black- water.	Malaria.	Black- water.	Malaria.	Black- water.	Malaria.
1900 ...	233	0	5	7	10	7	15
1905 ...	—	2	1	2	6	4	7
1906 ...	400	1	0	4	5	5	5

135. Anti-mosquito work started and quinine prophylaxis first became prevalent during the latter part of 1900. It is to be noted that more influence can be brought to bear on officials than on other European residents as to taking quinine and early treatment.

Eastern and Central Provinces.

136. During the past year, as will be seen from the foregoing table, the Central Province has suffered most, in spite of the strenuous efforts which have been made in every direction to improve the sanitation and the conditions of living in the various stations. There were six deaths among officials and three deaths among non-officials from a population of 273; and in addition five deaths occurred on board steamers in Forcados harbour.

137. In the Eastern Province the number of deaths recorded is three officials and six non-officials.

138. On the whole, although the death-rate is considerably higher than in 1905, the health of the Europeans was better than it has been for years, for only 29 Europeans were invalided during the year, as compared with 88 in 1905, the next best figure during the last five years being 42 in 1904.

139. The following table gives the average death and invaliding rates for the five years 1902-1906:—

Comparative European Vital Statistics for Five Years.

Year.	Number.	Died.	Invalided.	Death-rate per 1,000.	Invalidings per 1,000.
Officials :—					
1902	125	3	31	24	248
1903	159	2	27	12·57	169·84
1904	157	7	18	44·58	114·64
1905	199	5	43	35·1	216
1906	198	9	15	45·45	75·75
Non-Officials :—					
1902	279	8	17	28·67	60·93
1903	301	10	27	33·22	89·70
1904	343	12	24	34·98	59·97
1905	334	7	45	20·9	134·7
1906	424	9	14	21·2	33
Total Euro- peans :—					
1902	404	11	48	27·22	118·81
1903	460	12	54	26·08	117·79
1904	500	19	42	38	84
1905	533	12	88	22·5	165·1
1906	622	18	29	28·93	46·62

140. It will be noticed that the death and invaliding rates among officials are considerably higher than among non-officials. This is no doubt because the officials undergo more exposure than the non-officials, who carry on their business generally at well-established centres, except those employed in the timber industry, whereas the officials are in many cases engaged in opening up new country and improving the methods of Government in up-country districts where the conditions of life are more difficult owing to lack of proper housing accommodation, sanitation, and to the necessity of living to a great extent on tinned food.

141. The rapid progress of these territories has necessitated a large increase in staff, and, although special attention has been paid to sanitation and the conditions of living, officials as a whole have had to live under very trying circumstances, especially in the Central Province and up the Cross River in the Eastern Province. At the same time the question of providing suitable accommodation for officers continues to receive special attention, and the building of quarters is being continually carried on, so that it is hoped during the next few years to provide proper quarters for the European staff, without whose energetic and cheerful work, frequently given under most trying conditions, the administration of the country could not possibly be carried on.

X.—REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

MARRIAGES.

Western Province.

142. Sixty-one Christian marriages were registered in 1906, of which four were by Special Licence. One church was licensed for the celebration of marriages.

Marriage fees collected—£42 15s.

Eastern and Central Provinces.

143. The number of marriages registered as having taken place during the year was 80 against 74 in 1905, an increase of six. Of these 48 were celebrated in Calabar district, three in Afikpo, 12 in Uyo, 16 in Onitsha, one in Benin City. Sixty-four marriages were solemnized by the Church and the remaining 16 according to native custom.

District Registrars are accountable for fees collected under this head as they are made payable to them.

INSTRUMENTS AFFECTING LAND.

Eastern and Central Provinces.

144. Four leases of lands were added this year to the Register of Government Deeds, three for lands in Calabar and one in Warri.

Thirty-three Instruments were registered during the year, namely 21 leases, 10 powers of attorney, one transfer of power of attorney and one notice to terminate lease.

Seven leases out of the above number were granted by the Government to various European firms and individuals.

The fees collected amounted to £25.

Western Province.

145. The sum of £235 8s. 9d. was collected for the year in fees for the registration of Instruments affecting lands, copying documents, searching the registers, &c.

PATENTS.

146. No patent for any invention was granted during the year in any of the Provinces.

TRADE MARKS.

Eastern and Central Provinces.

147. There were eight trade marks registered during the year and 11 applications, four of which were successfully opposed; the remainder have been published in the "Gazette."

Fees collected, which include fees for searches in the Register, &c., amounted to £29 1s. 6d., as against £23 17s. 0d. in 1905.

Western Province.

148. There were 39 applications filed for registration of trade marks and 16 trade marks were registered. 'Trade marks' fees collected amounted to £43.

XI.—POSTAL SERVICE.

149. The development of the business of the Postal Department has been commensurate with the general advancement of the Colony, and there are large increases recorded in all the principal branches of the Department. During the year considerable improvements have been made in the post offices throughout the Colony and Protectorate, and especially at Lagos and Calabar. On the amalgamation of Lagos with Southern Nigeria an officer was appointed in sole charge of the Post Office, the Telegraphs which had hitherto been carried on in conjunction with the Post Office in Southern Nigeria and with the Public Works in Lagos being placed under a separate Department. This arrangement relieves the Post Office of a considerable amount of work and responsibility and allows the Postmaster-General to devote his whole time to the development of his Department, on which the demands of the public are steadily increasing.

ORDINARY CORRESPONDENCE.

150. The number of ordinary letters, post-cards, newspapers, and book packets which passed through the Post Office during 1906 is estimated at 1,701,466, being 214,711 in excess of the number dealt with in 1905. The figures for the years 1902-1906 are as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1902	920,237
1903	1,081,409
1904	1,277,983
1905	1,486,755
1906	1,701,466

REGISTERED CORRESPONDENCE.

151. The number of registered letters and other articles which passed through the Post Office during 1906 was 90,501. In the previous year the total was 69,642. There is thus an

increase of 20,859. The figures for the years 1904-1906 are as follows:—

Year.				Number.
1904	...	...	...	62,278
1905	...	...	...	69,642
1906	...	...	...	90,501

INSURED CORRESPONDENCE.

152. The number of insured letters and other articles, not including parcels, dealt with in 1906 was 80. In the previous year the total under this head was 101. There has therefore been a decrease of 21, due probably to the confidence reposed by the public in the registration system.

153. The following table shows the number of insured letters, &c., dealt with during the years 1904-1906:—

Year.				Number.
1904	...	...	...	56
1905	...	...	...	101
1906	...	...	...	80

PARCELS.

154. The total number of parcels dealt with during the year was 35,636, being an increase of 4,588 as compared with 1905.

155. The system of insurance of valuable parcels was taken advantage of in 2,308 cases during the year.

156. The following is a statement of parcels dealt with during the years 1902-1906:—

Year.				Number.
1902	...	...	...	19,798
1903	...	...	...	24,711
1904	...	...	...	26,815
1905	...	...	...	31,048
1906	...	...	...	35,636

MONEY ORDERS.

157. The total value of money orders issued in 1906 was £54,257 18s. 0d., being an increase of £2,566 14s. 10d. on the transactions of the previous year, the total for which was £51,671 3s. 2d.

158. The value of money orders received during the year amounted to £29,421 6s. 8d., being an increase of £2,393 3s. 2d. on the previous year's figures, which were £27,028 3s. 6d.

159. The transactions with the United Kingdom in 1906 amounted to £29,117 7s. 8d., being £2,735 14s. 1d. less than in the preceding year; but this decrease is more than accounted for by the large increase of £3,623 18s. 0d. in the value of

postal orders sold, the latter being more generally used than money orders for remitting small sums.

160. The following table shows the value of money orders received and issued during the years 1902-1906:—

Year.						Issues.			Receipts.		
						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1902	...	...	...	...	...	32,206	5	5	13,492	13	11
1903	...	...	...	...	...	40,085	7	2	14,041	8	4
1904	...	...	...	...	...	45,022	17	0	18,811	3	4
1905	...	...	...	...	...	51,671	3	2	27,028	3	6
1906	...	...	...	...	...	54,257	18	0	29,421	6	8

POSTAL ORDERS.

161. The total number of postal orders sold during the year was 9,184, with a value of £4,688 13s. 6d. In 1905 the figures were 2,273 and £1,064 15s. 6d. respectively.

162. The number of postal orders paid in 1906 was 1,343, with a total value of £972 5s. 0d. In the preceding year the figures were 542 and £382 18s. 4d. respectively.

163. The postal order system was introduced into the Western Province in March, 1905, and from the commencement of the current year the system was extended to all offices in the Eastern and Central Provinces.

164. The following is a statement of postal orders sold and paid during the years 1905-1906:—

Year.						Sold.			Paid.				
						No.	Value.		No.	Value.			
							£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1905	...	...	...	...	...	2,273	1,064	15	6	542	382	18	4
1906	...	...	...	...	...	9,184	4,688	13	6	1,343	972	5	0

MAIL SERVICES.

165. The following additional internal mail services were established during the year:—

Itu to Aka	} Weekly services.
Itu to Ikot Ekpene	
Ikot Ekpene to Uyo	
Sapele to Kwale	
Benin City to Ifo	
Benin City to Agbor	

166. The mail services between Bonny-Akassa and Bonny-Degema *via* Bakana, hitherto performed by canoes, have during the year been replaced by launch services. This change considerably expedites the delivery of mails to persons resident in these districts.

XII.—TELEGRAPHS.

167. During the year a considerable amount of construction work has been carried out in the three Provinces.

In the Western Province a direct wire (200 lb. copper) was erected between Lagos and Ibadan (128 miles) on the railway and handed over for working in June, 1906.

The Ibadan-Akure section (150 miles) was completed but further clearing was found necessary owing to frequent interruptions due to falling trees in the dense forests through which this line passes. Considerable progress was made with the clearing, which will be completed, it is hoped, together with a bicycle patrolling track along the line, in 1907.

168. Between Ibadan and Oyo the wooden poles were replaced by iron poles, and the wire, where damaged, renewed.

169. The Lagos-Forcados coast line, which consisted of an iron wire, was replaced between Lagos and Omulume by a copper wire, and since then has been working well to Leckie and Benin River. Between Benin River and Forcados, however, the cables have failed and a mile and a half of the Forcados River cable was carried away in a tornado by drifting buoys and tugs. In the Escravos and Benin Rivers the cable had become completely worn out. It therefore became necessary either to renew the cables or to close the line; it was decided to close the line temporarily and to provide new cables in 1907.

170. In the Central and Eastern Provinces during the year 181 miles of poles and 193 miles of wire were erected, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of cable laid, making an aggregate, since the commencement of the work, of 344 miles of poles and 357 miles of wire erected and 5 miles of cable laid.

171. Offices were opened at Agbor, Asaba, Onitsha, Oka, Oguta, and Owerri, quarters for the clerks and linesmen being provided in each case; except at Onitsha, where a permanent building costing £365 was provided, the offices and quarters were built of mud with mat roofs, and of a uniform design throughout. The furniture for the offices and all the fittings were provided by the Public Works Department, the cost of such offices furnished and properly fitted, together with quarters, averaging about £100 each.

172. Four parties consisting on an average of two European foremen, one interpreter, four native headmen, 46 labourers and two linesmen, worked for a total of 158 weeks. Two of the parties were disbanded for six months owing to the large number of foremen due for leave. Very conveniently their leave coincided with the rainy season.

173. The telegraphs in Southern Nigeria have been constructed through country which presents many great difficulties, and in order to prevent the inconvenience of delay due to interruptions caused chiefly by falling timber, alternative routes are being provided. The telegraphs have advanced ahead of the roads, and have penetrated through and opened up a considerable portion of the territory of Southern Nigeria, and, as roads, motor-transport, and railways follow through the territories thus opened up, many of the initial difficulties with which the telegraphs have had to contend will disappear.

174. The following list shows the position of the Department on 31st December, 1906:—

Telegraph Offices (including railway) ...	51
Miles Telegraph Wire	1,640
„ „ Cables	44½
Number of Telegrams (excluding railway)	152,054
Value of Inland Paid Telegrams ...	£1,321
„ „ „ Official „	£3,382
Value of Telegrams for abroad handed in at Government Offices:—	
Private	£1,888
Official	£845

XIII.—LANDS SURVEY.

175. The work of this Department has been chiefly topographic and geodetic, comprising mainly accurate theodolite traverses and refined telegraphic exchanges, for the purpose of establishing absolute and independent checks on the theodolite work, where “closes” were not possible.

176. The theodolite work now amounts to about 1,500 miles, and this has been checked by 14 telegraphic exchanges for longitude.

177. About 1,800 plots have been measured abutting on the Lagos Railway line, commencing at about the 33rd mile-post and continuing to the 60th.

178. A large contour survey has also been carried out at the source of the Ilo River, in connection with the proposed water-supply of Lagos.

179. A considerable amount of survey work has been carried out for other Departments, including (a) survey, location, and laying out of a tram-line from Five Cowrie Creek to the dejection jetty in connection with the new scheme of sewage disposal; (b) survey and levelling of portion of Iddo Island for filling in and improvement purposes; (c) a series of surveys and soundings on the Bar in connection with the bar improvement scheme; and (d) survey and soundings at Apapa for the development of the slipway scheme.

180. An important survey has been carried out at Ebute Metta, which has defined and detailed the greater part of the large area expropriated by Government in that locality; each holding and Crown grant has been described on approved methods, and the streets have been projected with a view to causing the least possible inconvenience to the property holders and enabling a proper system of drainage and sanitation to be carried out. Concrete pillars have been placed at the corners of each section, so that the Town Warden can see that a proper alignment is established.

181. A similar principle has been adopted in Lagos, but the congested state of the buildings has greatly hampered operations.

182. The important expropriations during the year were (a) at the Race Course for building purposes; (b) at Ebute Metta for railway buildings; and (c) at Victoria Street, for purposes of street improvement.

183. The total areas and amounts paid in each expropriation are given in the table below:—

Locality.	Area.	Total amount paid.
Race Course	2 acres 3 roods 27 poles	£ 4,279
Ebute Metta	about 3 acres	1,859
Victoria Street	„ ½ acre	437

XIV.—PUBLIC WORKS.

184. The principal works executed during the year are given below:—

WESTERN OR LAGOS PROVINCE.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
Lieut.-Governor's House	Completed.	918	Lagos share.
Force Road Quarters Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4	"	5,140	Total cost.
1st Class Rest House	In progress.	—	—
2nd Class Rest House	"	—	—
New Transit Shed, Customs	Completed.	1,036	Total cost.
Apapa Slipway and Workshops ...	Workshops nearly completed.	5,382	Spent.
New Government Offices	In progress.	2,000	" "
New Mohammedan School, Isalegangan	Completed.	610	Total cost.
New Offices and Stores for W.A.F.F.	"	2,214	" "
King's Cottage, Ibadan Rest House for the Governor.	"	1,950	" "
Offices and Quarters for Divisional Engineer I.B.	"	668	" "
Quarters and Offices for Inspector of Works at Aro.	"	419	" "
New Police Barracks, Epe	In progress.	590	Spent.
Additions to Hospital, Epe	Completed.	400	Total cost.
Erection of Engine House and Boiler, Government Printing Office.	In progress.	108	Spent.
Repairs, Prince Eleko's Palace ...	"	100	—
Investigation, Ilo Water Supply ...	Work to be undertaken.	92	—
Fence Yaba Asylum	Completed.	247	—
Additions to Club House	"	518	—

EASTERN PROVINCE.

Calabar and Cross River Divisions.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
Removal of Barracks	Completed.	7,493	Total cost.
Artizans' Quarters	"	1,211	" "
Engineer's Shop, Queen Beach ...	"	3,105	" "
Additional Verandah to Force House	"	676	" "
Verandah, P.W.D. House	"	300	" "
Drainage and Sanitation, Duke Town	"	1,936	" "

EASTERN PROVINCE—*cont.**Calabar and Cross River Divisions—cont.*

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	Total cost.
Extension of Printing Office	Completed.	270	Total cost.
Police Barracks Extensions	"	401	" "
Four Latrines, Duke Town	"	449	" "
Extension of Transport Store, Queen Beach.	In progress.	431	Spent.
Drainage, Government Hill to River...	"	184	"
Additional Quarters, Itu	"	1,058	"
New Offices, Eket	Completed.	146	Total cost.
Offices and Stores, Okunni	"	360	" "
Prison, Obubra	"	217	" "
BONNY.			
Light Iron Jetty	In progress.	311	Spent.
Removal of Tunnicliffe Jetty	"	195	"
Police Office and Store... ..	"	191	—
Hospital and Dispensary	"	195	—
EGWANGA.			
Light Iron Jetty	"	386	Spent.
District Store	"	96	"
District Stables... ..	"	77	"
DEGAMA.			
Hospital	"	182	"
Prison Staff Quarters	"	100	"
AKASSA.			
Refrigerating Plant	Completed.	234	Total cost.
Lighthouse	In progress.	426	Spent.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	Total cost.
Quarters for Provincial Commissioner	Completed.	2,600	Total cost.
Officers' Quarters and Rest House	"	1,631	" "
Billiard Room	"	624	" "
School Buildings	"	1,000	" "
Sanitary Station, Forcados	"	1,041	" "
Iron Pier, Warri Point	"	917	" "
Native Hospital, Forcados	"	329	" "
Clerk's Quarters, Forcados	"	656	" "
Rest House, Sapele	"	574	" "
European Ward Hospital, Sapele	"	542	" "

CENTRAL PROVINCE—*cont.*

Principal Works.	Completed and in Progress.	Total Cost or Amount Spent during the year.	
		£	
School Buildings, Sapele	Completed.	121	Total cost.
Extension to Verandahs of Bungalows, Sapele.	"	513	" "
Establishment of New Stations	"	200	" "
Quarters at New Stations	"	703	" "
Civil Police Barracks, Warri	"	128	" "
New Roofs to Bungalows, Forcados ...	"	277	" "
Brick Tank for Water Storage, Ifon	"	521	" "
Transport Store, Forcados	"	507	" "
Leper Settlement, Onitsha	"	804	" "
Haulage Gear, P.W.D. Yard to River Onitsha.	"	453	" "
Military Quarters, Onitsha	In progress.	157	Spent.
European Hospital and Dispensary ...	"	594	"
Civil Police Quarters	Completed.	240	Total cost.
New Prison, Aboh	"	448	" "
Coal Store, Idah	"	246	" "
Onitsha Bridge over N'Kissi	"	854	" "

WESTERN PROVINCE.

185. Public Buildings and Works were maintained in a satisfactory manner, and the condition of Government property is, generally speaking, satisfactory, but a few of the older buildings are still much in need of repair or reconstruction; as, however, the cost would in most cases be beyond the means of the vote for Works Annually Recurrent, they have received only superficial attention until such time as funds can be provided for special repairs.

186. The money available was distributed as evenly as the several cases permitted, but there was an unusually large proportion expended on buildings in Lagos town arising out of the necessity for altering, extending, or re-arranging quarters and offices for the increase of staff due to the amalgamation of the Colony with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

187. The re-forming and metalling of the principal streets of Lagos is the most important work of public improvement that has ever been undertaken in the town. No one who traverses the Marina or Victoria Road can fail to appreciate the change that two years have accomplished in these, the two most important thoroughfares of the town. The unsightly cross-drains which were an obstacle and a source of danger to traffic have all been converted into culverts and the roadway has been made continuous from end to end in each case.

188. The formation of the roadway from the terminus of the Marina at Kokomaiko was continued beyond Five Cowrie Creek bridge to a point near the firing range on the beach road in the direction of the signal station, and a branch road was made up Force Road past the Force quarters encircling the race course to rejoin the Marina by way of Prison Street near the hospital.

189. Besides the improvements to the road surface itself these alterations have involved the reconstruction of surface drains and the opening of new ones, which must have a beneficial effect upon the sanitation of the town. For the last three years there has been continuous activity in this direction to an extent never before attempted, and seldom fully realized or appreciated. Month by month the work goes on in an unobtrusive manner in the narrow lanes and alleys of the town, where it is so easy for the residents to escape the vigilance of sanitary inspectors, and where rubbish, which is now removed in the daily operation of sweeping down and cleansing the drains, was allowed to fester and pollute the atmosphere.

190. The filling in of swamps and the reclamation and protection of the foreshores has been carried on consistently and systematically for some years past; and the work done in the former direction within the limits of the town of Lagos, while it hardly represents one-half of the whole task undertaken, has greatly improved the localities affected, increasing their salubrity and enhancing the value of property situated in them.

191. It is reported that the past year has been marked by a degree of activity in the building trades never before attained in Lagos. Not only does this remark apply to Government Departments, but private firms have been equally active. The result has been a scarcity of skilled labour from time to time; but this has been met by the return of native artificers from other parts of the Coast whither they had gone in search of employment when work was scarce in their own town. The supply of labour has been, generally speaking, up to the demand, and quality and workmanship have steadily improved.

192. The Lagos artificers compare very favourably with those of other native races in their aptitude for carpentry, joinery, and bricklaying, but they do not show the same readiness or proficiency in the working of metals. This is not a little remarkable, because the first-named trades are, in their character, comparatively modern, never having been practised before the arrival of alien races, whereas the working of iron and brass has been a recognized trade, though followed perhaps only by isolated communities, for centuries. The mining, smelting, and subsequent treatment of iron was an art introduced into this country at a period so remote that it is now only matter for surmise; yet it is difficult to secure appren-

tices to the smith's trades, and when obtained they take much longer to become proficient than in the case of other crafts.

193. Eight new buildings destined for use as quarters were either commenced or completed in Lagos town during the year, a sum of over £11,000 being spent. In addition to these a portion of the west wing of the much needed public offices was commenced. The building has been designed with a view to utility rather than beauty, the ornate being usually superfluous in the case of buildings erected in the tropics, where by reason of climatic conditions it is difficult to combine utility with architectural merit. But the details have been skilfully worked out by the architect, and the building, when completed, should form a handsome addition to the public buildings of West Africa, as well as proving convenient and well lighted and ventilated.

194. The electric light service was efficiently maintained, and with the improvements which have been made in the generating station interruptions have been considerably fewer than formerly. Those interruptions which have occurred have been principally due to the effects of storms.

195. Among the miscellaneous services, probably the most important were those in connection with the exploration of the Ilo Valley for the purpose of securing a supply of water for the town of Lagos. The source examined is situated at a distance of about 20 miles from Lagos, a little to the south of the town of Otta, where a perennial stream of good water issues from a stratum of fine white sand, and constitutes the headwaters of the Ilo River. The investigations proved the supply to be abundant and the quality unusually good for West Africa.

EASTERN PROVINCE.

196. The principal works carried out during the year under review comprised the continuation of the removal of the barracks to a site to the southward of Government Hill, where, so far as the work has proceeded, an excellent cantonment has been established. It still remains, however, to transfer the artillery from their old quarters on Government Hill to the new site and, upon the accomplishment of this, the removal will be complete.

197. An engineer's shop was erected on Queen Beach for the Marine Department—a substantial and conveniently arranged building, the lighting and ventilation being excellent. A considerable number of improvements and additions and other smaller works were carried out in connection with existing buildings in Calabar, the whole of which have been maintained in an efficient manner.

198. The drainage and sanitation of Duke Town is one of those undertakings which, although the progress must, by

reason of the character of the work, necessarily be slow, tends very surely towards the improvement of sanitary conditions. The reclamation of Duke Town Swamp was continued, and but little now remains to complete the work. The land so recovered must in time become a valuable building and trading site, and it is matter for satisfaction that the sums accruing from the sale of such lands usually more than cover the cost of the reclamation works.

199. The works undertaken in outstations of the Eastern Province, in what were formerly the Cross River and the Eastern Divisions respectively, were of great variety, but few were of any magnitude. The principal items were the extensions and additions to the Itu Rest House, rendering the building commodious and well arranged. The Rest House originally stood on the eastern bank of the river, on land inundated during the rainy season, but has now been transferred to the top of the hill on the opposite bank. The change may be readily understood to be beneficial in the highest degree. The removal of the old building was considerably simplified on account of its having been constructed of wood and iron; but the additions have been carried out in brickwork and other permanent materials.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

200. The establishment of Provincial Headquarters at Warri, and the consequent influx of officers from outstations, have naturally focussed the activity in that station. The programme of works included a residence for the Provincial Commissioner, which is among the most conveniently arranged and best appointed houses to be seen in Southern Nigeria. Quarters were also commenced, and nearly completed, for three officers. A Club House has also been built. All these buildings stand on slightly elevated ground abutting on the river in a situation as salubrious as it is picturesque.

201. Among the other buildings erected at this station were commodious and well arranged school buildings, with quarters for the headmaster and assistants and a dormitory, a police office and store, and a medical store and dispensary and native staff quarters. There was also constructed by the Public Works Department, at the cost of the local authorities, an excellent Native Court House, to which has been added a clock tower with a public clock. Warri has now emerged from the primitive condition of a "bush station," and is in a fair way to become a credit to the Province of which it is now the capital. The progress made of recent years is very striking in view of the fact that every foot of ground on which the station has been built has been won from the dense forest and mangrove swamps which still surround the town.

202. At Forcados there were a number of new buildings erected, including a transport store built in response to appeals

from the British Cotton Growing Association for improved facilities of this nature in connection with transport on the Niger, a Native Hospital, and two blocks of clerks' quarters erected in substitution for those now standing on Pigeon Beach at an inconvenient distance from the offices. A quarantine station was built on a clearing on the creek above Warri Point, and a commencement was made in the construction of an iron pier for the accommodation of ocean steamers at Forcados.

203. The reclamation of land and the construction of roads across the swamps was also proceeded with. Satisfactory results have been achieved as far as the work has gone, and it is not now necessary, as it was but a year or two ago, for the district officials to attire themselves in sea boots in order to walk from their quarters to their offices.

204. There was general activity in building operations in outstations of the Province, the principal items being:—

Sapele:—

A new Rest House.

A new European Hospital and Dispensary, Stables, &c.

Benin City:—

Quarters for Clerical Staff.

Brick Tanks.

Sanitation and Drainage work around European quarters, &c.

A number of smaller works were undertaken at Ifon, Agbor, Kwale, and Ishan; and a new customs station was opened at Koko Town, a jetty being built there.

205. The development of Onitsha as the principal station on the Niger under the Southern Nigeria Government has been proceeded with—a task which is facilitated by the many natural advantages which the town possesses. A commencement was made on the new European hospital and military quarters; and the native hospital, dispensary, &c., and barracks for the Civil Police, were completed.

A leper settlement was commenced on the banks of the Anambra River, but the progress was slow and the work remained uncompleted at the close of the year.

206. Throughout the Province the public buildings and works were maintained, generally speaking, in a satisfactory manner. There has been from time to time in the past a dearth of labour, both skilled and unskilled, and the quality of the former is not usually of a high order. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in procuring good artificers for work in the Niger valley owing to its unhealthiness, the scarcity of supplies, and the savage character of the tribes inhabiting it. Its evil reputation in these respects has no doubt operated in the past as a deterrent upon the more peaceable and civilized races of Lagos, the Gold Coast, and

Sierra Leone, who might otherwise have emigrated to it; but, since the amalgamation, it is noticed that the Yoruba traders move more freely and confidently about this part of the country.

XV.—ROADS.

207. The scheme of road construction has made considerable progress during the year; and the work has been vigorously carried on, gradually opening up and bringing remote districts under complete control; and while trade has benefited the native has been brought more under the influence of civilization.

WESTERN PROVINCE.

208. The Roads Department was actively employed chiefly upon the construction of roads to serve the purpose of feeders to the railway along the extension from Ibadan to Oshogbo.

The principal works done were:—

- i. Road to connect the old parade ground, Ibadan, with the Residency road so as to accommodate the traffic from Railway Station to the Iwo and Ife Roads.
- ii. Ibadan-Oyo Road repaired where necessary.
- iii. New road from Iwo to the Station (part).
- iv. Ibadan-Iwo Road diverted to side of railway from Olodo Market for about 2 miles so as to avoid crossing the railway at several points.
- v. Cart track from Railway Station through town of Ibadan to connect with Residency.
Iwo and Ife Roads--in progress.
- vi. Maintenance and repairs of all roads.
- vii. New road from Oyo Road Station to Ibadan Residency and town completed.
- viii. New road from Lalupon Station to Lalupon.
- ix. Road from Oyo Gate to junction of Oyo Road Station and Residency Road, Ibadan.
- x. Aro-Meko Road in progress.
- xi. Road from Erunmu towards Ife.

EASTERN PROVINCE.

209. The following table shows the roads the Road Department was engaged in constructing during the year:—

Return of Roads under Construction in Eastern Province, year ending December 31st, 1906.

Name of Road.	Total Distance.	Distance under construction or constructed.	Description of Road.	By whom constructed.	Approximate cost to date.	Remarks.
1. Calabar to Nsan.	About 45 miles	14 miles completed	15-foot cart road, unmetalled.	Surveyed and set out by Roads Department; constructed by P. W. D.	2,327	This road will eventually run through to Okuni on Cross River, about 105 miles distance; at present no survey has been made of Odukpani, 14 miles out.
2. Calabar to Ikang.	About 21 miles	21 miles under construction.	10-foot earth road, unmetalled.	Surveyed by P. W. D. Work in charge of District Commissioner.	200	This road runs through low swampy country to Ikang Customs station; clearing has been completed.
3. Improvement of Oron-Eket road.	Not measured	Work proceeding locally.	10-foot earth road, unmetalled.	Works under the care of District Commissioner.	200	A rough survey was made by P. W. D., and work has been carried out in various localities along route.
4. Odukpani to Uwet.	About 20 miles	Not commenced ..	To be a 15-foot graded cart road, at present unmetalled.	A flying survey has been made and line of road located.	140	The survey for this road will be carried out in 1907. The country is very broken and hilly, with large swamps in the valleys.
5. Improvement of path, Ikpa to Aka.	About 12 miles	12 miles under construction.	A 10-foot bridle path ..	Under charge of District Commissioner.	200	Bridle path from Ikpa Creek to Aka station being constructed by District Commissioner; requires setting out in many places.
6. Itu to Ikot-Ekpene.	23 miles ..	5 miles completed	15-foot graded cart road, at present unmetalled.	Survey completed by Roads Department; construction by Roads Department.	3,660	The 5 miles completed have entailed very heavy earth works; a 6-ft. path is being formed over surveyed line; construction of 15-ft. road to continue in 1907.
7. Flood level embankment, Itu to Okopedi.	1 mile 3 chains	1 mile under construction.	15-foot cart road, unmetalled.	Construction now under Roads Department.	500	This portion of road is along the river bank, and consists of a high earth bank 13 to 15 feet above the surface. Work can only be carried on in the dry season.
8. Aro-Chuku to Iku-Iku.	4 miles ..	4 miles completed	10-foot road, unmetalled.	Survey by Roads Department; construction by District Commissioner.	75	The deviations are now completed, and there is a good road from Aro-Chuku station to Esu-Itu water side.
9. Afikpo to Bende.	Not measured	Work proceeding locally.	10-foot earth road, unmetalled.	Under charge of District Commissioner.	100	The work has been in charge of District Commissioner. No information to hand as to what has been done.
10. Aro-Chuku to Bende.	36 miles ..	Work proceeding locally.	10-foot earth road, unmetalled graded.	Roads Department are setting out deviations; District Commissioner doing work.	200	8 miles from Aro-Chuku have been set out and regarded. Work is also proceeding in Bende District. Lack of staff has caused delay in this work.
11. Obubra Hill to Okuni.	Unmeasured ..	Work proceeding locally.	10-foot earth road, unmetalled.	Roads Department setting out; construction by District Commissioner.	50	From Obubra about 5 miles have been constructed by District Commissioner; from Okuni about 9 miles.
12. Okuni to interior.	Unmeasured ..	Work proceeding locally.	10-foot earth road, unmetalled.	Roads Department setting out, construction by District Commissioner.	20	A new road from Okuni to Ikoni is in progress, also a road from Cross River up to Ikoni new station.

211. In connection with the roads of this part of the country the Provincial Commissioner has reported as follows:—

“Native paths throughout all the District have been straightened, cleared, and the stumps of trees removed, so that practically all over the Province, except in the hilly country north of Ifon and Idah, a bicycle can be used. As I write this a policeman has just handed me a special mail, having left Warri at 5.30 p.m. on the 27th and arrived at Benin City at 8.30 a.m. on the 28th—a total distance of 62 miles, done mostly by moonlight, with two rivers to cross by boat.

“The paths—they can almost be called roads—in the Kwale District are very good indeed, and the same can be said for those in the Ishan District.

“A straight road connecting Kwale District with Sapele and Warri is now being cheerfully cut by the natives, who appreciate being able to get down to the trading centres, where they may either trade or obtain employment, rather than have to depend on a middleman's canoe.

“The path between Siluko and Benin City has been much improved—a distance of 45 miles. A path has also been made from the former place to Lakaluko, at which place it is proposed in 1907 to erect a bridge across the river to Akossa.

“All newly constructed roads have been made under the superintendence of the Road Department—costing the Government large sums of money, the labour being paid at the rate of one shilling or ninepence *per diem*, a high wage indeed considering the quality of the labour.

“The natives have the task of keeping the existing roads in proper condition. They pay no taxes—and even for this work they are invariably rewarded by presents made to the Chiefs and towns in question, if the work is properly done.”

XVI.—RAILWAY.

212. The Iddo Wharf Extension, opposite the island of Lagos and the sea terminus of the Railway, was opened to the public on the 20th of March, 1906. The work at that date was practically completed. During the year 9,873 tons of railway stores, chiefly construction material, were landed at the wharf. For the 10 months during which the wharf was used for public traffic 9,051 tons of merchandise were received and 20,355 tons despatched. To cover interest on the capital outlay and the cost of maintenance a terminal charge of 2s. 6d. a ton is levied at Iddo.

213. The extension of the Railway to Oshogbo (186-mile point) was in course of construction during the year; and satisfactory progress was made. The section Ibadan to Iwo

(30 miles) was sufficiently advanced to permit of its being opened to public traffic in October. The length, however, remained in the hands of the Construction Department for completion. Much ballasting was still required, and the permanent watering arrangements and station facilities remained to be provided.

214. Towards the end of the year sanction was accorded to the commencement of the extension to Ilorin, and to further investigation being undertaken to ascertain the feasibility of bridging the Niger at Jebba. A reconnaissance survey to Zungeru was also in progress. From survey information available, it would appear that the standard gradient of 1 in 80 and minimum curve of 10 chains radius adopted above Ibadan can be obtained to Zungeru.

215. The general results of working compare as under with the previous year:—

—	1905.	1906.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Gross earnings	72,649	84,663	12,014
Working expenses... ..	56,776	60,295	3,520
Net earnings	15,874	24,368	8,494

(Of the increase of £12,014, a sum of £1,457 was due to additional receipts consequent on the opening of the Ibadan-Iwo section on the 23rd October, 1906. The receipts per open mile have increased from £578 to £645, or 12 per cent., while the expenses increased by about 1½ per cent. only. On the train mileage basis, results were equally satisfactory, receipts rising from 9s. 7d. to 11s. 7d. per train mile, or 21 per cent., while expenses increased by 10 per cent. only. The net earnings per train mile were 3s. 4d. as compared with 2s. 1d. in the previous year, an increase of 60 per cent.

216. The additional revenue derived from coaching traffic was £2,750, and that from goods £9,487. The rise in coaching revenue is satisfactory, as receipts from this source had been practically stationary in the previous two years. First-class passengers decreased slightly in number, but this was due to the introduction of concessions, consignors of merchandise contributing £5,000 per annum in railway freight being allowed free trader's tickets for their principal representatives. It is hoped that this system, by affording facilities for the establishment and extension of trading centres in the hinterland, will result in additional rail-borne traffic. There was a slight increase in second-class traffic, but the rise in coaching earnings is practically all due to third-class traffic, in which division the number of passengers increased by 13,704, and the fares by £2,209.

217. As regards goods traffic, public merchandise carried increased by 7,725 tons, representing £10,892 in freight. An inconsiderable portion of this was due to the newly-opened section; but merchants had not time to do more than make a commencement in opening business agencies at the new stations. The increase, therefore, might properly be attributed to the recovery in trade and the larger demand for export produce. The principal railway-borne commodities were:—

IDDO-IBADAN SECTION.

To Iddo.					From Iddo.				
Commodity.	1906.	1905.	In-crease.	De-crease.	Commodity.	1906	1905	In-crease.	De-crease.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Ashes	181	230	—	49	Agricultural Im- plements.	6	4	2	—
Beans	30	90	—	54	Arms and Ammu- nition.	75	58	—	3
Cotton, Raw ..	3,530	784	2,755	—	Beer	27	20	7	—
Cotton, Seed ..	2,607.	1,288	1,319	—	Cement and Limo	574	253	321	—
Cocoa	143	82	61	—	Crockery	99	96	3	—
Corn.. .. .	2,551	2,207	344	—	Cotton Goods ..	965	784	181	—
Empty Pots ..	6	18	—	13	Corrugated Iron	502	704	—	112
Palm Kernels ..	17,571	15,266	2,305	—	Enamelware ..	41	32	12	—
Palm Oil	1,921	867	454	—	Empty Bags ..	369	228	141	—
Rubber	148	8	140	—	Empty Casks and Cases.	301	184	117	—
Shea Butter ..	92	131	—	39	Flour imported ..	36	28	8	—
Yams	178	70	108	—	Hardware	65	59	6	—
Yam Flour ..	6	56	—	50	Kerosene Oil ..	113	108	5	—
Other Articles of Merchandise.	20	15	5	—	Machinery	82	42	40	—
					Matches	85	51	34	—
					Provisions	80	83	3	—
					Rat Traps.. ..	27	29	—	2
					Spirit, Gin	3,923	3,300	617	—
					Spirit, Rum	440	522	—	82
					Spirit, Other ..	30	42	—	12
					Sugar	34	24	10	—
					Salt	4,238	4,146	92	—
					Soap	155	80	69	—
					Timber imported	20	21	—	1
					Tobacco	124	120	4	—
					Wearing Apparel	16	12	4	—
					Other Articles of Merchandise.	10	11	—	1
Tons.. ..					Tons				

IWO-IBADAN SECTION.

To Iddo.		From Iddo.	
Commodity.	November and December 1906.	Commodities.	November and December 1906.
	Tons.		Tons
Palm Kernels ...	189	Corrugated Iron ...	3
		Empty bags ...	2
		Hardware ...	1
		Machinery ...	1
		Salt ...	80
		Spirit, Gin ...	2
		Spirit, Rum ...	1
		Sundries ...	3
Tons ...	189	Tons ...	93

218. The tonnage of cotton and cotton-seed was 6,146 tons, as compared with 2,072 tons in 1905, 1,296 in 1904, and 268 in 1903. It will be seen that the increase in the current year has been substantial. The free carriage of lint cotton was continued during the year, the railway receiving a book credit from general revenue at a rate based on an approximation to the actual cost of haulage.

219. The working expenses for the year amounted to £60,295, as compared with £56,775 in 1905, an increase of £3,520 against an increase of £12,014 in receipts, which may be considered satisfactory, as the average cost of working per 1,000 gross ton miles hauled was reduced from 623 pence to 565 pence. The principal factor of this economy has been the increase in the number of more powerful locomotives, four having been added to the stock in the early months of the year; their use has enabled heavier train loads to be hauled and train mileage to be correspondingly reduced. Something is also due to increased attention to the curtailment of unprofitable mileage, for with greater flow of traffic in one direction at certain seasons of the year, the light haulage in the opposite direction has to be carefully balanced. A general improvement has been the result, the average number of tons in a wagon having been increased from 4.62 to 5.11.

220. Closer attention has been given to train movement and other traffic operations, with satisfactory results. Attention has also been paid to the work of collecting statistics of population and trade in the northern districts towards Jebba and Zungeru, which will be of distinct value in connection with the extension of the Railway.

221. The year has been particularly free from accidents. There was only one case of injury to persons, that of an employé, who was inattentive to his duties. Of accidents to rolling stock there was only one of any importance, which was due to a heavy timber train being turned by mistake into a siding at Aro. Damage to the extent of £700 was thereby caused to rolling stock and permanent way.

222. The work done by the Railway as compared with the previous year, is analysed in the following statement:—

	Year ended 31st December, 1905.	Year ended 31st December, 1906.
Train miles	151,401	146,368
Vehicle miles	1,181,111	1,290,337
Total number of passengers	106,972	125,584
Total tonnage of goods	58,263	55,784
Unit mileage	4,047,466	5,090,717
Ton mileage of goods	4,182,222	4,713,088
*Gross ton mileage	21,872,262	25,583,407
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average receipts per open mile	579 17 6·6	645 5 11·6
Average receipts per train mile	0 9 7·2	0 11 6·8
Average receipts per passenger	0 2 6·6	0 2 6·3
Average receipts per ton of public traffic...	1 2 10·1	1 3 3·8

* Freight and dead weight.

XVII.—MARINE DEPARTMENT.

223. The fleet during 1906 consisted of 39 steam and motor craft, of which five were new vessels. Other river craft numbered 137, eight of these being new. The running expenses of this fleet, excluding the S.Y. "Ivy" and the S.S. "Trojan," amounted to £31,000 14s. 2d., and the same vessels covered a total distance of 137,598 miles. In the regular services during the year 15,937 passengers travelled on 10 steam vessels, and 5,081 tons of cargo were carried by three steam and one motor craft.

224. Two launches, the "Evelyn" and the "Constance," were condemned and written off the books as unfit for further service. One pinnace, the "Parrot," sank and had to be regarded as a total loss. The S.Y. "Maud" was out of commission during the year, and was used as residential quarters for Government Officers.

225. The passenger and transport services carried on by the Department were efficiently maintained during the year. In one or two instances they met with so marked an increase of popularity that the systems, which had been prepared in view of small services only, became quite inadequate to deal with the whole of the traffic, and had to be re-organized in a much shorter period than had been anticipated. A special feature in this connection has been the introduction of shallow-draught motor-driven vessels of various types upon the Cross River. The general results of working them, experimental though it has been, tend to show that these vessels are destined to play an important part in the future navigation of the inland waterways of the country.

226. As regards sea-going transport, the S.Y. "Ivy" and the S.S. "Trojan," the latter newly purchased at a cost of £5,372, have been fully employed during the year. The "Trojan" especially conducted an important coastwise traffic, and was in ever-increasing demand in carrying cargo and for other miscellaneous duties, chief among which may be mentioned the assistance which has been rendered to the Government telegraph service.

227. The port of Lagos has been kept in a satisfactory and navigable condition. The possession of the steam lifeboat "Moseley" has enabled close observation to be made of all changes on the bar, the draught on which has remained at 9 feet 9 inches for steamers and 8 feet 9 inches for sailing vessels. The buoys and beacons have received constant supervision, and a large beacon has been erected inside Beecroft Point towards the lighthouse, where it furnishes an excellent leading mark. A new signal station has been erected in place of the old one, which was unfit for further use. The Lighthouse has performed its work satisfactorily and no complaints have been received from passing vessels. The establishment of the new dockyard at Apapa has been steadily carried on.

228. In the construction branch of the Lagos Dockyard one steam launch was built; one laid down the previous year was finished; and a third was commenced. A steel houseboat, with a pitch-pine-deck-house was also constructed to provide quarters for the customs staff at Ajara, on the boundary. Besides these there were built one rowing cutter, a 25 ft. ferry boat, one Accra canoe, and two 15 ft. dinghies.

229. Although Akassa, under the new *régime*, became a subsidiary station to Calabar, it still continued to be the principal repairing depôt for the Central and Eastern Provinces. As time goes on, however, its importance will diminish before that of Forcados, and in consequence no expense has been incurred on improvements in the yard. The work here for the Marine and other Government Departments during the year proceeded at very high pressure. No work was undertaken for trading firms, with the exception of repairs to

one steam barge. Fortunately no other outside work was required, as it could not have been undertaken. One launch was completely rebuilt and extensive repairs were done on the large S.L. "Vampire." Considerable structural alterations and additions were made to the S.S. "Trojan" to fit her for the navigation of tropical waters. In June a small refrigerating plant was erected, and was subsequently run successfully from the existing power supply of the shops. This has undoubtedly assisted to maintain in good health the European personnel of the dockyard. Great improvements were effected in the southern portion of the station, swamps being filled up and land reclaimed whenever labour was available. The technical training of skilled artificers in the school established at this station went on with satisfactory results. The average attendance of apprentices showed an increase, in consequence of the utmost legitimate pressure and inducement being brought to bear to secure the attendance of every individual, their former reluctance being thus in some measure overcome. The training of natives in seamanship also gave good results, and, for the first time since the classes for this purpose were instituted, the supply of the requisite ratings was found equal to the demand.

230. At Calabar work has been carried on throughout the year at considerable disadvantage, owing to the erection of the new shops and offices outside the site of the old ones. The new buildings were practically completed at the end of the year, and the new power engine, machinery, and general internal equipment have been successfully running for some time. Additional store-room accommodation has been provided; and this and the new shops together constitute a thoroughly efficient and up-to-date establishment. No stoppage of work was entailed by the building operations, and amongst the principal works executed during the year were the rebuilding of a steam barge, and the erection of three motor craft which were received from England in sections. Besides this, all the usual necessary repairs were executed on existing craft, resulting in their being maintained in good working order.

231. Seven inland waterways were dealt with by clearing parties, and were either newly opened up, or greatly improved, for navigation. Eleven new or corrected charts were issued as a result of the surveying operations undertaken by the Department. The clearing and keeping open of sudd-obstructed routes was steadily pursued, and greatly facilitated the trade of the Western and Central Provinces.

232. In the Western Province the Gbokebo Creek was thoroughly cleared of snags, and the trees cut away in the narrow parts as far back as possible. The whole creek route from Benin River to Lagos was properly cleared so as to enable a small stern-wheeler to pass. A rise in the rivers between

Lagos and Benin River caused a series of formidable sudd blocks in the launch routes to Ayede and Siloko. An alternative route was opened in the lower Siloko Creek by which launches and rafts of timber could proceed to Benin River, avoiding the enormous sudd blocks; the other blocks in the Oluwa and Arogbo Creeks were removed at the same time, and the channels in the creeks were also widened throughout.

233. In the Eastern Province the Awoyon and Itenna Rivers were cleared, and the Calabar River was made passable for launches as far as Uwet. The Cross River was cleared from snags impeding steam navigation, and experiments were made (though they have not met with much success) in deepening the channel on the Itu flats in the dry season. The clearing of the Sombreiro River, opening up launch traffic to the new district headquarters at Ahoada, is important to the trade of that part of the country.

234. In the Central Province the work of clearing waterways both by explosive parties under a Marine Officer and by native working parties continued during the year. The River Niger, on which a mail and transport service is regularly run, was successfully cleared of the worst snags from Idah to Abekabo, at the junction of the Niger and the Edule Creek by the late Lieutenant Pierson, R.N.R. This officer and several natives were, unfortunately, killed by an explosion in July, 1906, a heavy snag having fallen across the canoe, which was full of explosives. During the year the Orashi River, connecting the Ndoni with Oguta Lake, was also cleared. Good work has also been done by natives in clearing the Ethiope River between Abraka and Obiariku, thus enabling large canoes easily to reach the headquarters of the new district of Kwale, which lies about midway between Abraka and Obiariku.

XVIII.—MINERAL SURVEY.

235. An examination has been made of the lead workings situated near the Aboyni River, in the Eastern Province, and some information obtained regarding the nature and extent of the deposits. From the results of analyses of typical samples of the ore made at the Imperial Institute, it appears that it is fairly rich in lead but contains only a little silver.

236. About two miles north of Afikpo on the road to Aba a sandstone most suitable for building purposes has been discovered, but at present it cannot be utilized owing to the cost of transport.

237. In the Western Province an examination has been made of the bituminous deposits at Ijebu Errimu Hill, Mafaoku, and the Errigu Valley. Apart from occasional out-

crops of nearly pure bitumen, these deposits consist essentially of sand, more or less impregnated with bitumen. From the results of the examinations of samples of these materials made at the Imperial Institute, it appears that the fairly pure bitumen is a product of considerable value, but it is improbable that the bituminous sands will be found to be worth exporting, although it may be possible to use them locally for road-making.

238. A survey of the Central Province was initiated during the year 1906-07, and a number of interesting results have been obtained.

XIX.—THE SOUTHERN NIGERIA REGIMENT.

239. The Southern Nigeria Regiment and the Lagos Battalion of the West African Frontier Force were amalgamated in May, 1906. The new regiment is organised as follows:—A Staff, a Regimental Depot, one Battery of Artillery, and two Infantry Battalions of six Companies each. The Headquarters of the Staff, Regimental Depot, and the 2nd Battalion is Lagos, and that of the Artillery and the 1st Battalion, Calabar. In addition to these two places, garrisons for 15 outstations are found between the two battalions.

240. Garrisons for two new stations, Omoduru and Ikom, have been found, a company being stationed at the former and a section at the latter place.

241. The Native Officers of the 2nd Battalion (the old Lagos Battalion) have been replaced by British Non-Commissioned Officers, Maxim gun carriers enlisted, and a Regimental Depot for the supply recruits to both battalions established.

242. The establishment consists of:—

European—

Staff.—1 Commandant, 1 Regimental Adjutant, 1 Intelligence Officer, 1 Civilian Pay and Quartermaster, 1 Regimental Sergt.-Major, and 1 Quartermaster-Sergt.

Regimental Depot.—1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Instructor of Musketry, and 2 British Non-Commissioned Officers.

Artillery.—1 Captain, 4 Lieutenants, 1 Sergt.-Major, and 1 Sergeant.

Infantry.—2 Majors (Battalion Commanders), 12 Captains, 36 Lieutenants (including 2 Battalion Adjutants), 2 Bandmasters, 2 Armourer-Sergeants, and 24 British Non-Commissioned Officers.

Native ranks.—1,883.

243. The armament of the Artillery consists of 2.95-inch B.L. Mountain Guns, and the Infantry are armed with M.E.

carbines, but directions have been received for re-arming the Regiment with the magazine rifle. The 7-pounder M.L. guns on charge of the old Lagos Battalion have been condemned.

244. The Regiment took part in the following operations during the year:—

Bende-Onitsha hinterland patrol.—In November, 1905, the lamented murder of Dr. Stewart necessitated the despatch of a strong column to the Bende-Onitsha hinterland to deal with the natives concerned; strong opposition was met with, and the column under Major Trenchard was still in the field at the beginning of the year. The operations were brought to a successful conclusion by the 15th of April. Strength of Column: 24 Officers, 8 British Non-Commissioned Officers, 711 rank and file, two 2·95-inch guns, and 6 Maxims.

Kwale and Ishan Patrol.—Strength: 6 Officers, 2 British Non-commissioned Officers, 212 rank and file, one 2·95-inch gun, and 2 Maxims, under Captain Margesson, from 31st of October, 1905, to 27th January, 1906.

Ezza Ezhi Patrol.—Strength: 3 Officers, 1 British Non-Commissioned Officer, 220 rank and file, 2 Maxims, under the command of Captain E. de H. Smith, from 23rd April to 19th May, 1906.

Owa Operations.—On June the 9th news of the murder of Mr. O. S. Crewe-Read, Assistant District Commissioner, by the Owa people reached Asaba; and Captain Rudkin left the same afternoon with 3 Officers, 1 Medical Officer, 1 Political Officer, 194 rank and file, and a Maxim, and reached Umonede (40 miles) at 1 p.m. on the following day, where he received information that the enemy were in great force about five miles off. On June the 11th he met with most determined resistance the whole day and eventually reached the river three miles from Agbor having had Lieutenant Walmisley-Dresser and Mr. Chichester dangerously wounded, two rank and file killed, and twenty-five wounded. Reinforcements of three Officers, one 2·95-inch gun and 110 rank and file reached Captain Rudkin by June 19th, and he continued to have severe fighting S.S.E. of Agbor until July 2nd, when further reinforcements of three Officers, 130 rank and file arrived. With this force he attacked Owa, the scene of Mr. Crewe-Read's murder. This attack broke the back of the rising, and, though some outlying towns did not submit without further fighting, they had all come in by August 3rd, when the column broke up.

Troops were sent also to Benin City in October, but their presence there was found to be quite unnecessary.

245. The following casualties, amounting to just over 10 per cent. of the troops engaged, occurred during these operations: killed, rank and file, 12; wounded officers, Lieutenant H. C. Fox, Lieutenant M. C. Miers (slightly), Lieutenant Walmisley-Dresser (severely); rank and file, five dangerously, 58 severely, and 78 slightly.

246. The following deaths, discharges, desertions, and enlistments took place during the year:—

Deaths.			
Natural causes	...	...	19
Suicide	...	..	2
			—
		Total	21
			—
Discharges	..	...	214
Desertions	...	...	29
Enlistments	...	...	325

XX.—INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT.

247. Most useful work has been carried on in this department during the year in compiling maps and sketches of new country and in reproducing and distributing maps and written information regarding the resources and topography of the Colony and Protectorate and the means of communication throughout the country.

248. During the year seventeen civilian officials passed through a course of instruction in route sketching, and four apprentice draftsmen received instruction in draftsmanship. Two books were published of an educational nature, "Notes on Bush Sketching" and "The Elements of Lithographic and Sun Printing," and a free issue of these books was made.

XXI.—CIVIL POLICE.

249. The whole Force is under the control of an Inspector-General of Police; and senior officers are placed in charge of the three Provinces, each of which forms a separate command.

250. The authorised establishment of the whole Force on the 31st of December was 1,084, and the actual strength was 1,052, which was distributed as follows:—

Western Province.	Eastern Province.	Central Province.	Total.
496	354	234	1,084
490	382	230	1,052

The deficiency was due to 21 River Police not being enrolled in the Eastern Province, as there was some difficulty in obtaining suitable craft for their work, and to the existence of 11 vacancies for ordinary constables.

251. The Force was distributed over 33 districts, 10 in the Western (including the railway area), 20 in the Eastern, and 13 in the Central Province.

In the Western Province constables are stationed in nearly all the important villages, but in the Eastern and Central Provinces the detachments are kept at the District Headquarters only.

252. In the Western Province, Meko and Jebu (Ode) were policed on the 16th July and the 18th of August respectively, the military detachment at Jebu Ode being relieved.

253. In the Western Province 29 cases of drunkenness were recorded, an increase of seven on the previous year. Twenty-one men were dismissed for misconduct, 22 reduced to lower grades, and 28 discharged. The total amount of fines inflicted was £71 14s. 9d., against £66 6s. 6d. in the previous year.

In the Eastern Province, the discipline has improved. Fifteen men were dismissed for misconduct, 23 were flogged, and two deserted.

254. In the Central Province discipline on the whole was satisfactory. The total number of punishments inflicted was 130. Six cases of drunkenness were recorded. Twenty-one men were dismissed for misconduct, three reduced, eleven flogged for various offences, and five committed for trial.

255. During the year 240 constables were enrolled, 68 in the Western Province, 117 in the Eastern, and 55 in the Central, the period of preliminary training, undergone at the Provincial Headquarters, lasting from three to six months.

256. Owing to the great variety of dialects spoken, especially in the Eastern and Central Provinces, many tribes have to be enlisted; in the former there are no less than 21 tribes, the majority being Ibos, Efiks, Yorubas, and Ibibios; in the latter the number is 15, chiefly Ibos, Yorubas, Binis, Jekris, and Sobos. In the Western Province nearly the whole Force is composed of Yorubas, their language being universally spoken.

257. The whole Force is armed with the Martini-Enfield carbine, a sufficient number of weapons having been taken over from the Southern Nigeria Regiment. The prescribed annual course consists of 28 rounds per man, 7 rounds each at 50, 100, 200, and 300 yards.

In the Western Province 425 were exercised and the average score attained was 51.2.

Nil returns were received from the Eastern and Central Provinces, the explanation being given that rifle ranges were

not always available, and that difficulty was experienced in relieving men from their district duties. A great many men were, however, exercised in target practice at short range wherever it was possible.

258. Drills were carried out as frequently as possible. At the respective Provincial Headquarters drills were carried out daily for all available men, and lectures on police duties were delivered at least twice a week.

259. The detective staff in the Western Province, consisting of one superintendent and 14 detectives, all plain clothes officers, is not included in the Civil Police Staff. The Detective Branch investigated 52 cases and arrested 82 persons, 59 of whom were convicted and 23 discharged; 31 cases were also reported in which no arrest was made. The total value of property stolen was estimated at £642 1s., of which £416 was actual cash. The amount recovered was £202 11s. 6d., £180 14s. of it being cash.

260. A Detective Branch was also started in the Eastern Province with satisfactory results.

XXII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

261. The Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, comprising an area estimated at 77,000 square miles, has been formed by the amalgamation of the two Administrations of Lagos and Southern Nigeria, and Sir Walter Egerton, K.O.M.G., Governor of Lagos and High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria, assumed the Governorship of the combined territories on 1st May, 1906, when the Letters Patent and Royal Instructions replacing those previously in operation were proclaimed with due ceremony in Lagos and other parts of the country and duly gazetted.

262. The Government is administered by a Governor assisted by a Lieutenant-Governor, who is also Colonial Secretary, and an Executive Council. There is a Legislative Council comprising both official and un-official members. The territory for purposes of administration has been divided into three Provinces: (1) the Western or Lagos Province, comprising the former Colony and Protectorate of Lagos with Headquarters at Lagos; (2) the Central or Niger Province, with headquarters at Warri; (3) the Eastern or Calabar Province with headquarters at Calabar. Each of these Provinces is administered by a Provincial Commissioner under the direction of the Governor.

263. The Headquarters of the whole administration has been established at Lagos, the capital of the newly constituted

Colony and Protectorate, and the heads of the various departments have offices in Lagos.

In the Provinces each Provincial Commissioner is assisted by a Provincial Secretary and a staff of District Commissioners and Assistant District Commissioners, as well as by a representative of each Department, who is responsible to the Provincial Commissioner for properly conducting the work of each Department in the Province.

264. The anti-malarial work which has been going on steadily throughout the country during the last six years continued to be vigorously prosecuted. Quinine is issued free of charge to all Government officials, and the native population has been encouraged to take the drug and to use it in the treatment of infants and children. The reclamation of swamp land in the neighbourhood of the various stations, especially at Lagos, Forcados, Sapele, Warri, and Bonny, and the clearing of bush and rubbish from around the settlements are being steadily carried out; and every effort is being made to destroy mosquito breeding-places and to maintain the stations in a sanitary condition. Special provision is now made in the Estimates for the supply of mosquito proofing to officers' quarters.

265. The Lagos Agriculture Show has already been mentioned in connection with its probable good effect on the agriculture of the country. The show was held in November last and under the energetic management of the Commercial Intelligence Officer it proved an unqualified success. Visitors assembled from Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, and the neighbouring Provinces. The principal Western Province chiefs who visited the show were the Aremo of Oyo, representing the Alafin of Oyo (who like many other African rulers is supposed never to leave the royal compound), the Alake of Abeokuta, Eleko of Lagos, the Otun Bale of Ibadan, and numerous other chiefs from Ilorin, Ekiti, Ijebu-Ode, Epe, Ikorodu, and Badagry. The Central Province was represented by chiefs from Warri, Sapele, Benin City, Ifon, Agbede, Idah, Asaba, Onitsha, and Aboh, the Eastern Province being also represented by the Calabar chiefs and chiefs from Oron, Eket, Opobo, Bonny. These chiefs with their followers together with numerous people from all parts of the country formed one of the largest gatherings witnessed in Lagos. There were over 2,500 exhibits arranged in sections, consisting of specimens of forest, agricultural, and industrial produce, and there was also a section for animals and birds. It is confidently expected that this Show will assist materially in the development of the country.

PUBLIC SERVICE.

266. The year under review forms part of the third year of the administration of Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., and his second tour of service in residence on the West Coast of Africa.

267. Mr. J. J. Thorburn, C.M.G., administered the Government from 1st January to 11th February, when Sir Walter Egerton returned from leave, and Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, C.M.G., carried on the administration from 10th June to 5th August while Sir Walter Egerton was absent in England to consult with the Secretary of State on railway and other important administrative matters.

268. A Royal Commission was issued to Mr. J. J. Thorburn appointing him to the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Southern Nigeria.

269. For purposes of administration, as has been mentioned above, the Colony and Protectorate have been divided into three Provinces. Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, C.M.G., Mr. F. S. James, C.M.G., and Mr. H. Bedwell have been appointed Provincial Commissioners to administer these Provinces under the Governor's direction.

270. The Treasury and Customs have been placed under the control of one officer, who is styled the Financial Commissioner; Mr. C. E. Dale, who formerly held the Office of Treasurer under the Protectorate Government at Calabar, having been appointed to fill this office.

271. During the year Chief Justice H. G. Kelly of the Supreme Court of the Eastern and Central Provinces and Chief Justice William Nicoll of the Supreme Court of Lagos received the honour of knighthood as Knights Bachelor.

272. Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. Moorhouse and Captain G. T. Muir were created Companions of the Distinguished Service Order. The Distinguished Conduct Medal was awarded to Sergeant-Major A. E. Klee.

POLITICAL.

Western Province.

273. Throughout the year the country has been peaceful and there is small likelihood of any important disturbance in the future. In Egbaland there has been some trouble between the Alake of Abeokuta and his people which might have assumed grave proportions, but this was averted.

274. A District Commissioner has been stationed at Oyo, who deals with administrative matters in connection with Oyo and Saki, which were formerly dealt with by the District Commissioner at Ibadan. This part of the country is thickly populated and commercially rich, and the presence of a government representative at Oyo, the capital of Yorubaland, will tend to increase the influence of Government and assist in exploiting the country, and the Alafin of Oyo will have the benefit of this officer's advice and support.

275. An Assistant District Commissioner has been stationed at Idiroko to assist the Officer at Meko in establishing more

complete control on the frontier with a view to stopping contraband trade.

Eastern Province.

276. The country on the whole was peaceful and quiet during the year. The Bende-Owerri Hinterland Expedition which had to be undertaken in connection with the murder of the late Doctor Stewart was completed early in the year. A patrol operated in the Abakaliki District during April and May. This part of the country is now being brought under control. The Enen patrol operated in the Aka District during October and November.

277. In April of the year under review a military station was established at Omoduru in the country forming the northern portion of the Owerri District, and the pacification of the country was commenced. A District Commissioner proceeded at the end of the year to Omoduru, but the establishment of civil authority was not actually effected within the year.

278. In the Abakaliki District the work of pacific penetration has not made much progress. The various tribes are wild, and influenced against European Government by the middlemen, whose profits dwindle as the country is opened up and the people gain sufficient confidence to trade with Europeans.

Central Province.

279. The attitude of the natives has been friendly, with the exception of the unfortunate rising at Owa, in the Agbor District. The Owa people, a portion of the Ika people, who are again an offshoot of the Ibos, have always been famed for their lawlessness and truculent conduct, and have an intense dislike to any control or Government whatever shape it may take. The country was quieted by the end of August.

280. The Ishan country was visited by a patrol in June; and in September, on account of the defiant attitude of the people of Awgulu in the Oka District in seizing people and blocking trade roads, troops visited that district and Awgulu was occupied. A Native Court has since been established at this place.

281. The Benin scare—for inquiry proved that a rising was never contemplated—has already been alluded to. The Provincial Commissioner in dealing with the matter reports:—

“One thing of which I am absolutely certain, is that the Binis, as a whole, have no wish by ending the European influence to fall back once more under the barbarous rule of the Kings of Benin. This is amply proved, I always consider, when it is a common sight to see the mothers, as a white man passes, bringing their babies from the houses to look upon the face of the white man, the type of the race which has made

life and property—especially the former—safe in what was a land of terror; contrast this with the woman of any Ibo town newly visited, who hide their children behind them in case the sight of the white man may prove baleful to their young."

282. The progress of civilisation in the Province has been most marked, and the natives themselves show on all sides their appreciation of what the Government has done for them during the past few years in establishing the law and order which have opened up their roads to trade and rendered their lives and property safe.

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY AND PROTECTORATE.

283. The year under report has been one of rapid progress and expansion in every direction. The opening up of the country has been continued and the remote districts have been brought into closer touch with the civilising European influence. Several new districts have been brought under more complete administrative control. The traders have pushed their way further up country, and the Cross River for the first time is being properly developed. The means of communication have been considerably improved, making the work of the administration more effective and giving greater security to life and property.

284. The progress made in education has been most satisfactory, but the parents have yet to be taught that their children should not be kept from school during the farming season; and the want of proper teachers renders progress less rapid than it might be. Trade showed unusual expansion; and the prices paid for West African produce in the local markets were higher than they have ever been, while European prices reached a mark which had never been attained since the early nineties. There have been large increases in revenue and corresponding increases in expenditure. Railway, Marine, and Post Office in the annual returns bear eloquent testimony to the progress of the country. Lagos, the capital of the newly formed Colony and Protectorate, is rapidly changing for the better in every direction; and the improvement is not confined to Lagos, but the spirit of energy has been inspired into all sections of the community, and throughout the Colony and Protectorate the same marked improvement is displayed. Lagos harbour is being improved; the streets are being gradually and properly laid out and metalled; the public buildings are being repaired, and new buildings are being erected. Sanitary arrangements have received special attention, and it is pleasant to see that the desire for improvement in this direction is by no means confined to one section of the community. Government, merchants, and natives all benefit by the work which is being done, and Lagos promises to be in a very few years a well laid-out healthy tropical town. Cotton and rubber are now

being scientifically cultivated, and perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the year is the rapid progress in agricultural pursuits. At present the country is practically dependent for its wealth on forest produce, but the establishment of such industries as cocoa, rubber, and cotton will assure the future welfare of the people. There is clear evidence to show that marked improvement has taken place in the social, political, and industrial condition of the country and people, during the year under review, and that a very appreciable advance has been made in every direction.

F. S. JAMES,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Secretariat, Lagos,
21st October, 1907.

APPENDIX.

A.

Return showing the amount of Shipping in the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria during the year 1906.

Flag.	Entered.		Cleared.		Remarks.
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	
Steam—					
British	298	504,865	261	443,993	
Foreign	177	209,932	181	213,762	
Sailing—					
British	3	1,341	3	1,272	
Foreign	1	6	—	—	

B.

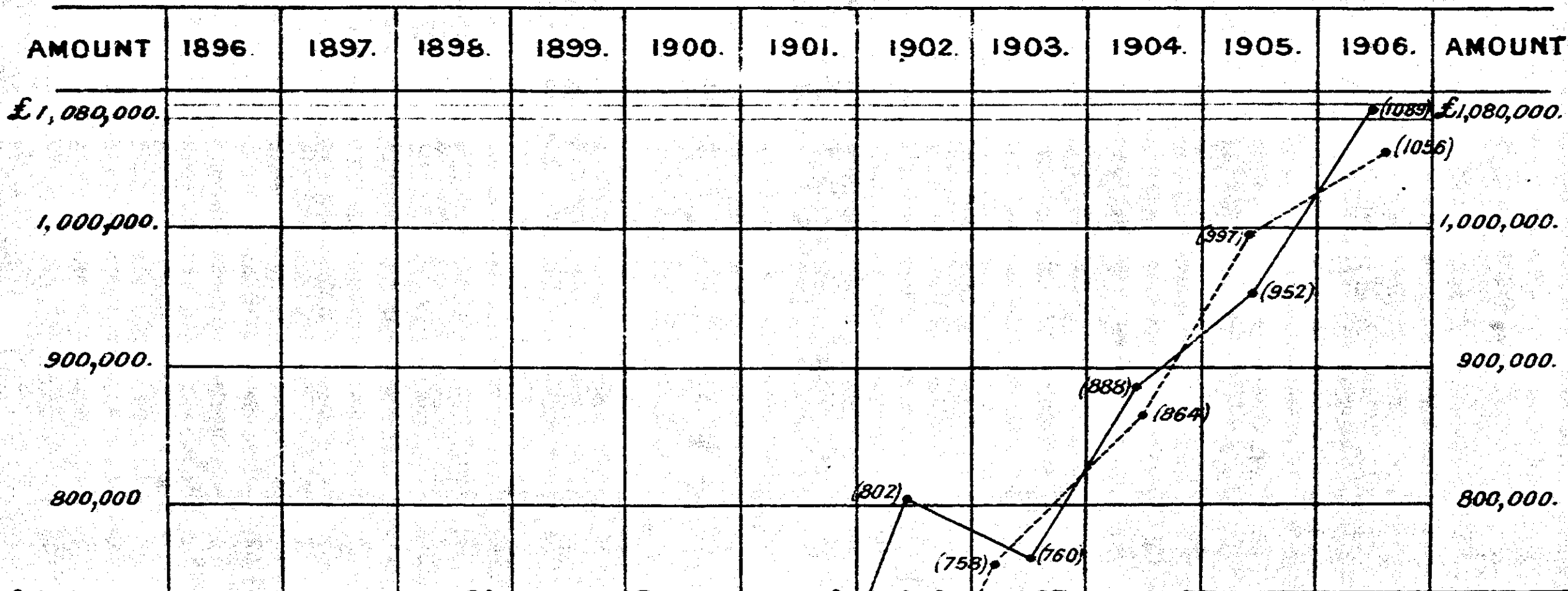
Diagram I.—Chart of Revenue and Expenditure for eleven years.

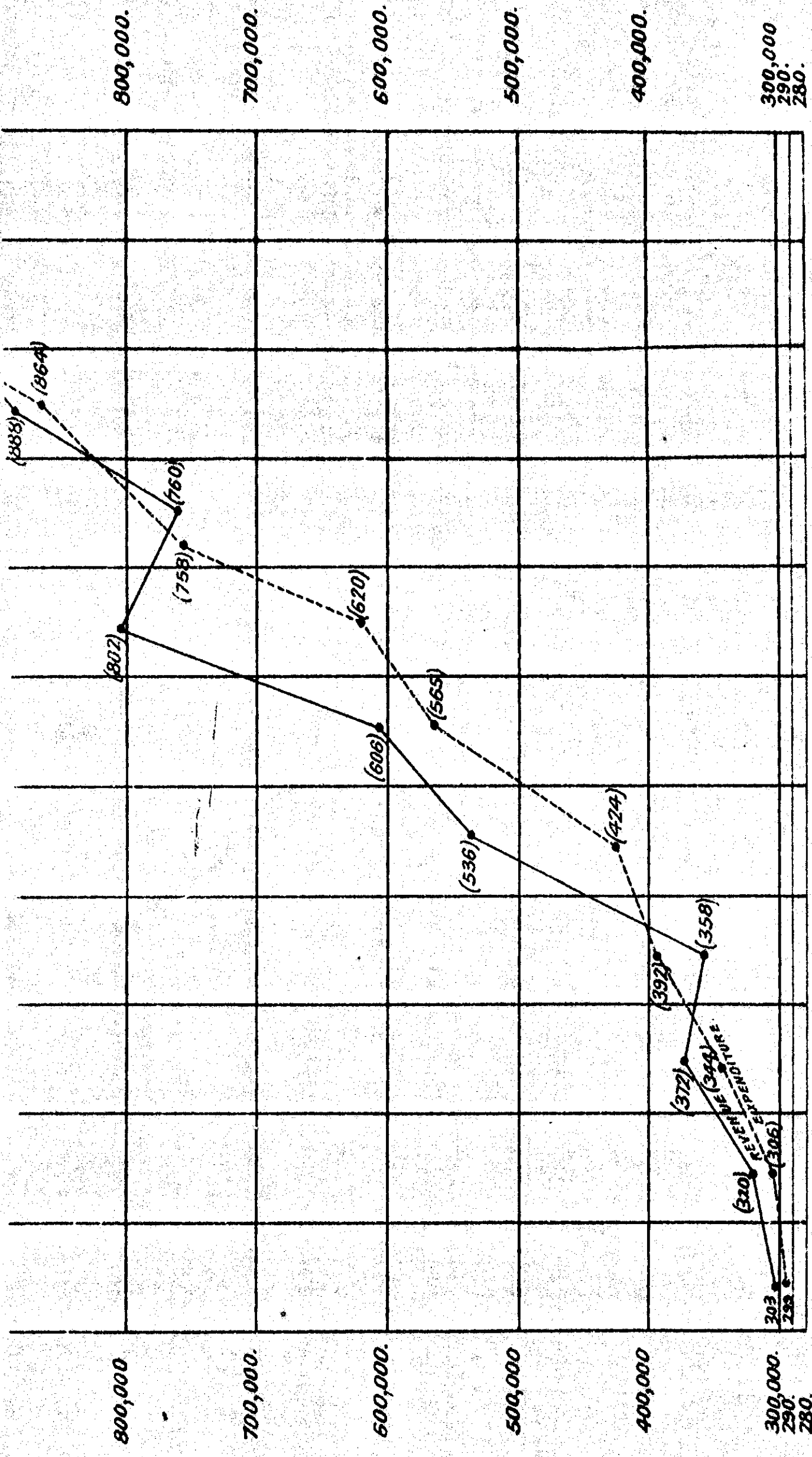
Diagram II.—Import Trade, United Kingdom and other Countries for ten years.

Diagram III.—Export Trade, United Kingdom and other Countries for ten years.

COLONY AND PROTECTORATE
OF
SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

CHART SHEWING ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE ELEVEN YEARS, 1896 TO 1906.





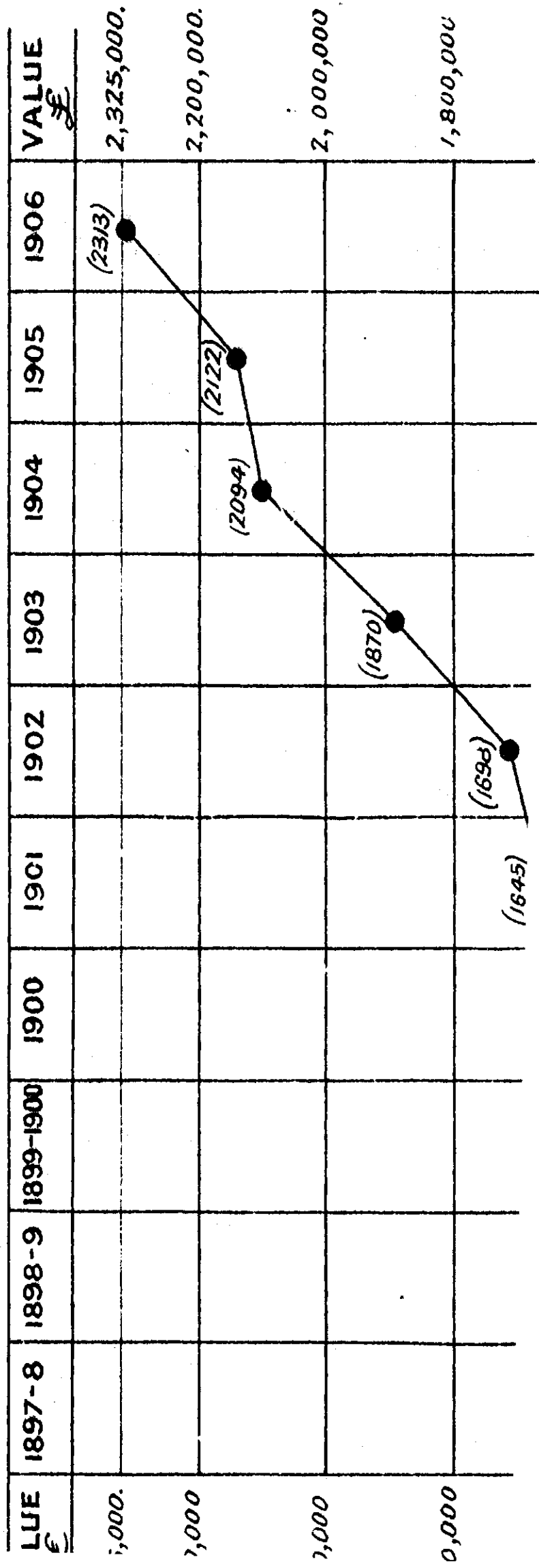
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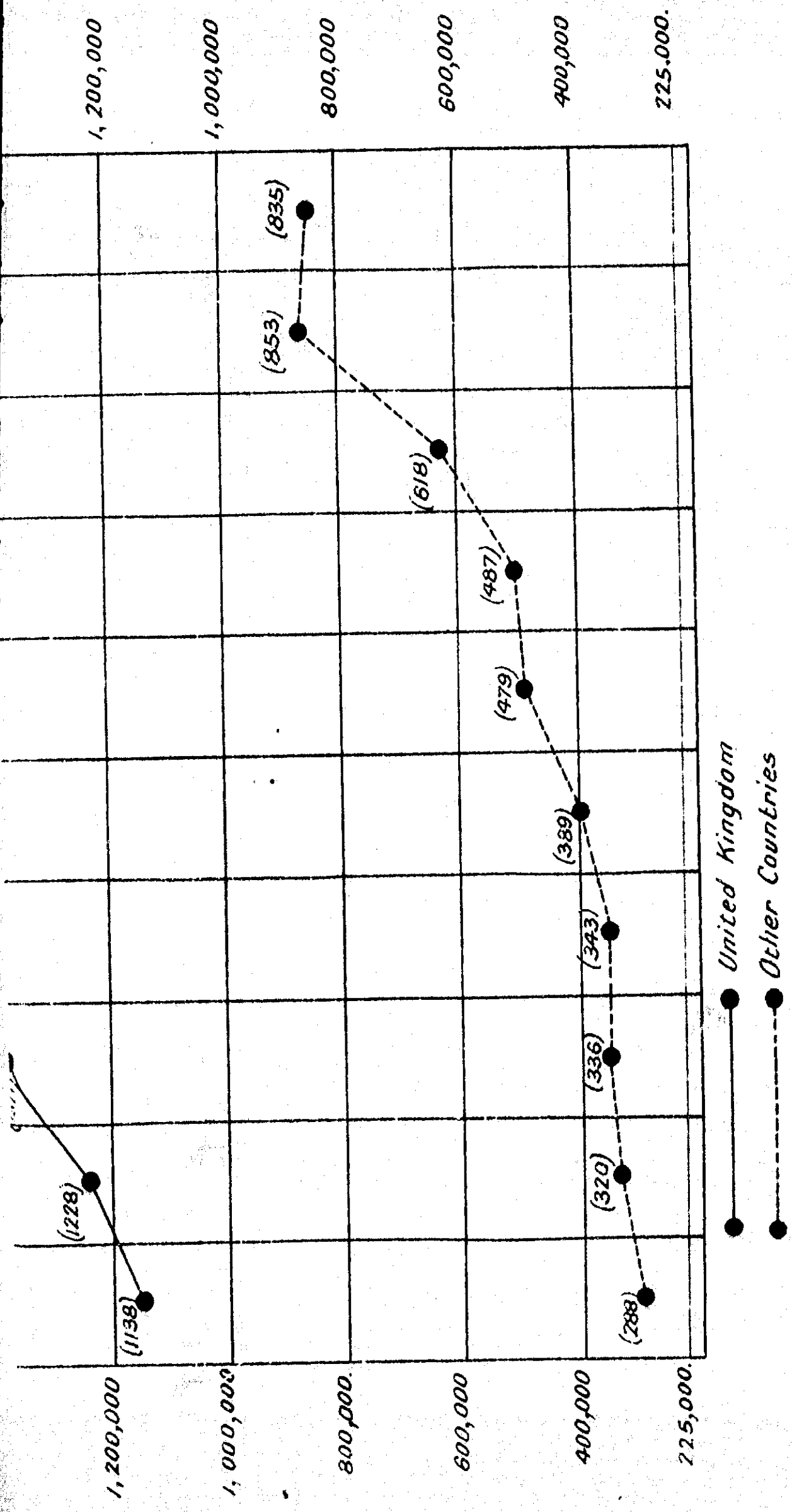
Wells & Graham Ltd Litho London

Appendix B.

Diagram II.

**PORT SHEWING THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AND
OTHER COUNTRIES INTO THE COLONY OF LAGOS AND THE PROTECTORATE
SOUTHERN NIGERIA (COMBINED) FROM 1897 TO 1906.**





All Figures to the nearest Thousand.

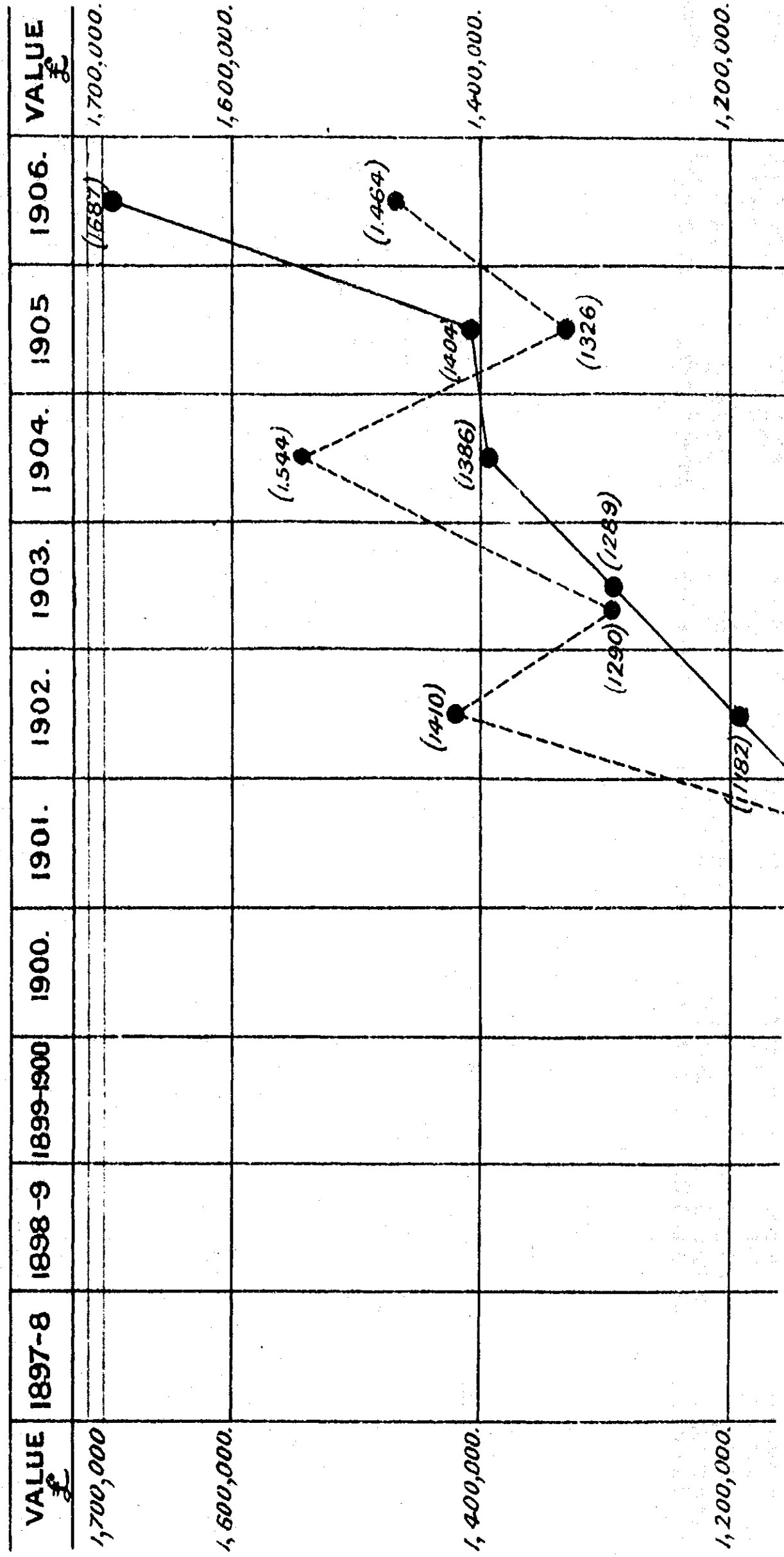
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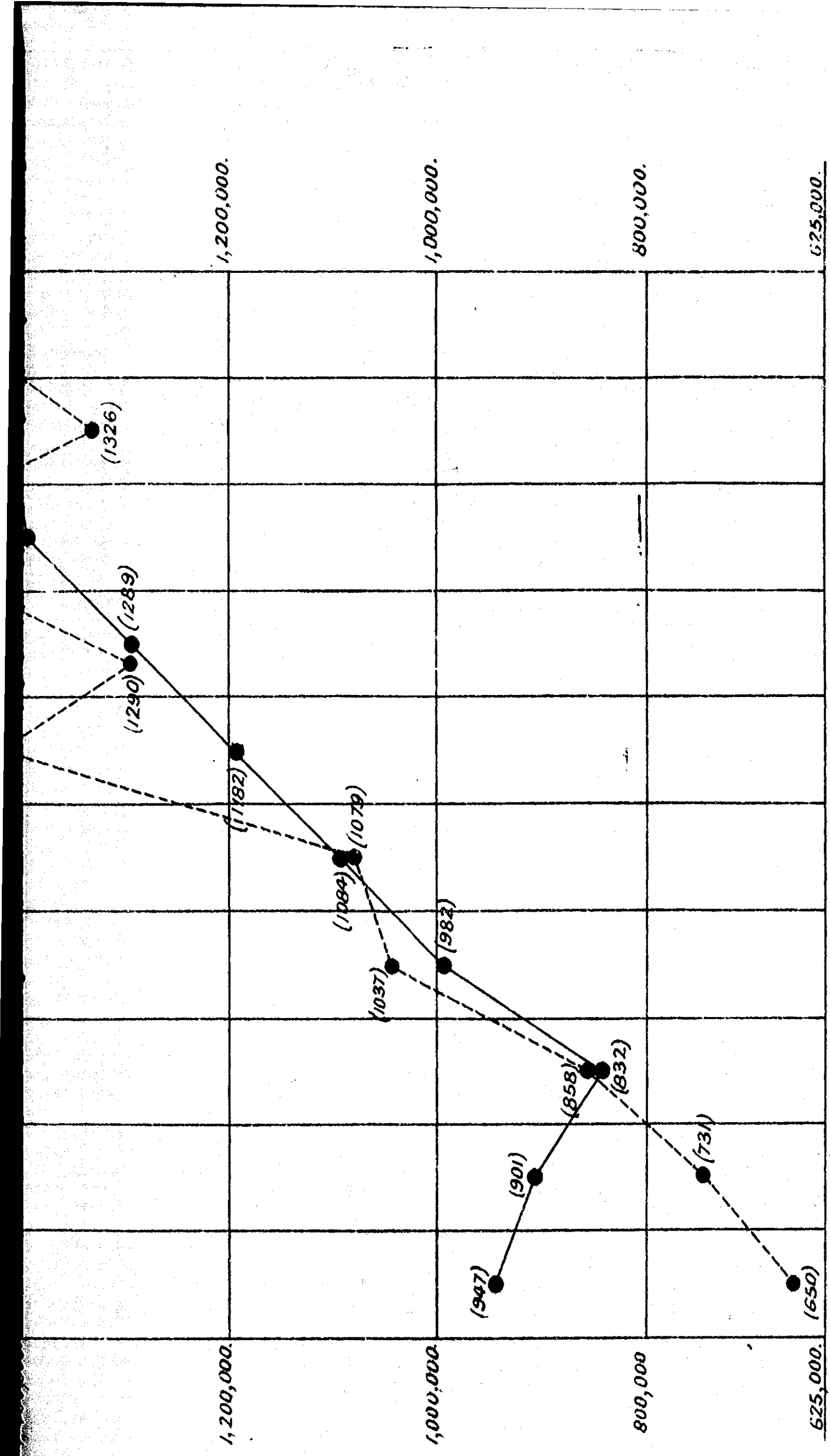
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Appendix B.

Diagram III.

CHART SHEWING THE VALUE OF EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND OTHER COUNTRIES FROM THE COLONY OF LAGOS AND THE PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA (COMBINED) FROM 1897 TO 1906.





● — United Kingdom.

● - - - Other Countries.

All figures to the nearest thousand

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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.
521	Hong Kong	1906
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda... ..	"
529	Gibraltar... ..	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados... ..	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia... ..	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do.	Geology.