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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

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No. 459.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

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REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, see No. 433.)

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.  
*September, 1905.*

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1905.

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No. 459

## SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

(For Report for 1903, see No. 433.)

MR. EGERTON to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,

Lagos,

July 16, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the report on the Protectorate for the year 1904, compiled, like the one for 1903, by Mr. H. Bedwell, Chief Assistant Secretary.

2. The Protectorate has no debt, and at the end of the financial year 1903-4, had a credit balance of over £145,000 which has been considerably increased, by nearly £40,000, during the financial year 1904-5.

3. The history of the Protectorate is, I believe, unique both for Africa and for other portions of the British Empire. Throughout the whole of the territory now under our control settled Government has only been established by means of a show of military force, and yet the whole cost of introducing and maintaining law and order—involving the maintenance of a large military establishment—has been defrayed from the local revenues without incurring any debt. As each year a larger area has been pacified, a proper system of justice established, free trade between town and town and with the coast rendered possible, the increasing revenue has enabled a further area to be similarly dealt with in the succeeding year. In addition to this, large sums have been annually contributed towards the cost of the administration of Northern Nigeria.

4. I have so recently assumed the administration that I cannot claim any credit of these excellent results which are

due to the efficient administration of my two predecessors and the loyal assistance rendered them by the civil and military officers of the Protectorate service; but it is nevertheless a pleasant duty to draw attention to the gratifying results attained.

5. The usual statistics of the trade of the Protectorate are given and a special report has already been published on this subject. The large increase in commercial imports and exports is very satisfactory, the figures being:—

—	1903.	1904.
Commercial Imports excluding specie.	£ 866,132	£ 1,088,563
Commercial Exports excluding specie.	1,431,984	1,718,717
Total... ..	2,298,116	2,807,280

6. The British Cotton Growing Association's experiment on the Sobo Plains proved a failure, but they have now undertaken smaller plantations, in the drier climate of the interior, in the Uromi country, and at Onitsha, where there are much better prospects of success than in the damp Niger delta. At the latter place the Government plantations of this product have yielded exceedingly good crops of cotton.

7. The chief points in the history of the Protectorate during the year 1904 to which I would invite attention are:—

- (a.) The continued increase in the trade and revenue which enabled a sum of no less than £93,000 to be devoted to extraordinary public works and also the payment of a largely increased contribution of £50,000 towards the cost of the administration of Northern Nigeria.
- (b.) The Forestry Department is now fully organised and capable of exercising an efficient control over timber cutting and, in a lesser degree, over the proper tapping of rubber-bearing plants.
- (c.) Many articles used in trade, building, education, transport, &c., have been placed on the free list and exempted from customs duties. Large permanent buildings have been erected for residential schools at Calabar and Bonny and more Government schools have been opened in the interior. The first Government schools for girls have been established at Warri and Sapele. The chief difficulty in extending educational work is the scarcity of teachers.

- (d.) The first land telegraph lines were opened during the year and have proved of very great use both to the Government and the public, although interruptions on some sections have been unduly frequent. The rate charged for messages is only one penny a word with the minimum charge of one shilling. This, of course, is not remunerative, but the low charge is expected to develop traffic, and the lines have been constructed more with a view to helping efficient administration and as a convenience for the commercial community than as revenue-producing factors.
- (e.) The construction of properly formed cart roads with no gradients exceeding 1 in 20, has been commenced and a road construction department organised.
- (f.) The civil police force has been largely increased and has replaced the military at many stations.
- (g.) The mineralogical survey of the Protectorate has been well started, and several valuable results obtained, but the interior portions as yet unexplored are more likely to yield remunerative results.
- (h.) Surveys for a more accurate map of the Protectorate have made satisfactory progress.
- (i.) Works designed to improve the sanitation of all the stations where Europeans reside have been continued with most satisfactory results.

I have, &c.,

W. EGERTON,

*High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria.*

## REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1904.

### FINANCIAL.

1. The revenue for the financial year 1903-4 ending on the 31st March, 1904, received from all sources, amounted to £470,606 1s. 3d., while the total expenditure for the same period amounted to £477,755 14s. In addition to the revenue collected during the year a cash balance of £30,832 5s. 2d. was brought forward from the previous year, giving a total amount of £501,438 6s. 5d. available for expenditure.

### REVENUE.

2. The following comparative statement shows the heads under which revenue was collected in the years 1900-1, 1901-2, 1902-3, and 1903-4:—

Head.	1900-1.	1901-2.	1902-3.	1903-4.
	£	£	£	£
Customs ... ..	362,472	335,930	410,041	439,811*
Licences ... ..	2,055	5,407	4,789	4,707
Fees, &c. ... ..	6,513	9,327	10,028	8,662
Postal Revenue ...	2,366	4,341	5,944	3,006
Miscellaneous ...	7,488	6,810	11,007	14,420
Totals ... ..	380,894	361,815	440,809	470,606

\* Specific duty, £381,728. *Ad valorem* duty £58,083.

The revenue for the year 1903-4, which was £70,296 1s. 3d. more than the estimated amount, exceeded that of the previous financial year by £29,796 15s. 2d. This increase is small when compared with that of 1902-3, which was £78,994 more than the total for 1901-2, when the revenue was abnormally large, following as it did the pacification of a large tract of country by the Aro Expedition. When, however, it is considered that the revenue of the year under review was derived from trade which extended over practically the same area only, the result is satisfactory as indicating the healthy condition and steady improvement of the commerce of the Protectorate.

3. It may be observed that practically the whole of the increase of £29,796 15s. 2d. over the revenue of the previous year was derived from customs duties. The duty collected upon specific goods amounted to £381,728, an increase of £26,478 upon the specific duties received in 1902-3; while under *ad valorem* the total amount collected was £58,043, being £3,252 more than in 1902-3. The proportionate increase of

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specific duties was slightly larger than ad valorem, being about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. as against 6 per cent.

4. The decrease of £82 15s. 9d. under "Licences, &c.," is attributable to a falling off in "Royalties." Very few new timber concessions were taken up, the attention of concessionaires being devoted to the development of concessions acquired in the previous financial year.

5. Under the head "Fees, &c.," a decrease of £1,365 11s. 11d. is shown, although the total receipts were £101 18s. 9d. in excess of the estimated amount. This is due to the fact that the work executed by the Marine Department for firms and private individuals was much less than in the previous financial year, a contingency which it was impossible to foresee.

6. The falling off in "Postal Revenue" to the extent of £1,937 8s. 11d. was caused not by any diminution of ordinary postal business but by the fact that in 1902-3 large purchases of postage stamps were made by collectors in anticipation of withdrawal from sale of the Victorian issue.

7. Under "Miscellaneous" the revenue received exceeded the estimated amount by £9,914 8s. 10d., due chiefly to the export duty on timber credited to the sub-head "Other Services unspecified," and amounting to over £7,000. The other principal increases were "Interest," £1,644; "Sale of Presents," £223; "Receipts from Akassa Canteen," £178; "Refund of messing S.W. 'Valiant,'" £141; and "S.Y. 'Ivy,'" £163; "Sale of Presents," £103.

8. The details given herein refer to the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1904, covering a period of the first three months only of 1904, and, therefore, afford scanty information as to the actual revenue received during that calendar year. This, however, has been obtained from the accounts of the succeeding financial year. The total revenue received from all sources in the calendar year 1904 amounted to £550,013, which was brought to account under the heads shown in the following statement:—

Head.	1st January to 31st December.
	£
Customs duties ... ..	519,676
Licences ... ..	5,670
Fees, &c. ... ..	9,826
Postal Revenue ... ..	3,956
Miscellaneous ... ..	10,886
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>550,013</b>

Digitized by The revenue of the Calendar Year 1903 amounted to £429,238, signal from

The amount of "Customs Duties" shown will probably not agree with the figures given in the report upon the Customs department, but the difference is one of accounting only and not in actual receipts, for the reason that export duty collected upon timber from January 1st to March 31st, 1904 (the last quarter of the financial year 1903-4) was brought to account in the Treasury books under the head "Miscellaneous" as "Other Services unspecified," whilst in the Customs department it was included in "General Customs Revenue." (See paragraph 7.)

## LEGISLATION AFFECTING REVENUE.

9. No legislation affecting revenue was introduced in the financial year 1903-4.

## EXPENDITURE.

10. The following statement shows the expenditure for 1903-4 in comparison with that of 1901-2 and 1902-3:—

Head.	1901-2.	1902-3.	1903-4.
	£	£	£
1. Pensions, &c. ... ..	981	1,163	3,331
2. High Commissioner ... ..	4,744	4,450	3,704
3. Secretary ... ..	2,276	3,579	3,646
4. Political, &c. ... ..	25,005	29,248	31,684
5. Judicial ... ..	3,034	2,966	3,349
6. Legal, &c. ... ..	748	1,158	1,100
7. Survey Department ... ..	1,718	2,070	1,816
8. Treasury ... ..	3,275	4,137	4,756
9. Customs ... ..	8,239	9,019	9,786
10. Postal and Telegraphs ... ..	3,669	4,534	4,960
11. Printing ... ..	1,964	2,480	2,724
12. Audit ... ..	741	1,165	1,294
13. Force ... ..	53,044	69,508	68,891
14. Marine... ..	46,234	75,406	57,527
15. Prisons ... ..	10,576	6,932	11,394
16. Civil Police ... ..	—	5,172	8,049
17. Forestry, &c. ... ..	2,757	3,646	4,895
18. Medical ... ..	13,278	16,969	18,513
19. Sanitary ... ..	1,175	1,384	1,899
20. Transport ... ..	15,607	19,440	21,024
21. Aborigines ... ..	9,204	11,012	13,695
22. Education ... ..	1,070	1,919	2,513
23. Miscellaneous ... ..	37,205	58,200	30,311
24. Contribution to Northern Nigeria ... ..	33,786	34,215	50,000
25. Public Works Department ... ..	5,744	8,245	10,044
26. Public Works Recurrent ... ..	5,964	8,018	13,015
27. Public Works and Services Extraordinary	39,349	69,309	93,836
Total ... ..	331,397	455,294	477,756

11. The expenditure for the year amounted to £477,755 14s., exceeding the original estimate of £442,478 12s. 4d. by £35,277 1s. 8d., and, when compared with the expenditure on 1902-3, an increase of £22,462 3s. 1d. is shown. Supplementary expenditure, amounting to £60,489 1s. 1d., was sanctioned during the year, and this, when added to the expenditure originally estimated and sanctioned by the Secretary of State (£442,478 12s. 4d.) gives a total of £502,967 13s. 5d. sanctioned against £477,755 14s. actually expended.

12. There were excesses in expenditure under eight heads of the estimates, and savings under the remaining eighteen heads, resulting in net excess expenditure of £35,277 1s. 8d. over the original estimated expenditure as stated in the preceding paragraph. The approved supplemental expenditure, however, appears under five heads only, viz., "Audit," "Prison," "Transport," "Aborigines," and "Miscellaneous."

13. The increase of £2,168 9s. 5d. under the head "Pensions" shown, when compared with the year 1902-3, was due to a considerable addition to the pension list on the retirement of five officers.

14. Under the head "High Commissioner" there was a decrease of £746 15s. 2d., owing to the retirement of the High Commissioner and the period which elapsed before a successor was appointed.

15. An increase of £66 16s. 11d. in the Secretary's Department was caused by the large increase of work necessitating augmentation of the clerical staff.

16. In the Political and Administrative Department an increase of £2,435 9s. 11d. appears. Under "Judicial," £382 17s.; "Treasury," £618 12s. 5d.; "Customs," £767 4s. 1d.; "Postal and Telegraphs," £425 19s.; "Printing," £294 7s. 11d.; "Audit," £129 2s. 2d.; "Prisons," £4,462 9s. 11d.; "Civil Police," £2,876 17s. 2d.; "Forestry and Botanical," £1,248 11s. 9d.; "Medical," £1,543 12s. 3d.; "Sanitary," £515 16s. 5d.; "Transport," £1,584 1s. 8d.; "Aborigines," £2,683 2s. 9d.; and "Public Works Department," £1,799 10s. 4d.

The increased expenditure under all these heads was caused by the necessary additions to staff, both European and native, to enable the Government to provide for the administration of the large area now under control, the development of the Forestry Department, and urgent requirements in the way of Public Works generally.

17. The decrease of £17,879 10s. 2d. under "Marine" does not indicate any reduction either in the staff or work of the Department, but is accounted for by the transfer to the head "Public Works and Services Extraordinary" of the cost of

building new craft which had hitherto been brought to account under "Other Charges" of the Marine Department. A corresponding increase is thus shown under the head "Public Works and Services Extraordinary" with a total increase of £24,527 3s. 9d. Under the head "Public Works Recurrent" the introduction of the new sub-heads to provide a standard stock of materials and stores caused an increase of £4,996 10s. 5d. In the Education Department additions to the staff and the establishment of a depôt for the supply of books to schools resulted in an increase of £594 9s. 1d.

18. The financial assistance rendered to the Government of Northern Nigeria was considerably greater than in 1902-3—the annual contribution from Southern Nigeria funds being fixed at £50,000, an increase of £15,785 10s.

19. The decrease of £27,889 13s. 7d. under "Miscellaneous" does not indicate a reduction in the ordinary expenditure under that head. A considerable proportion of the cost of the Aro Expedition was brought to account in the previous financial year, the figures for which were thereby rendered abnormally high.

#### ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

20. The balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1904, amounted to £145,043 0s. 10d., which is somewhat less than that of the immediately preceding year when the amount was £152,192 13s. 7d.

The reduction was caused by the expenditure for the year (including £50,000 transferred to Northern Nigeria) exceeding the Revenue by £7,000.

21. Of the £145,043 0s. 10d., excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st March, 1904, £116,670 8s. 6d. is represented by investments, by cash in transit to, or in the hands of the Crown Agents, and the balance by cash and imprest balances in Local Chests as follows:—

#### *Crown Agents' Account.*

	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Cash balance... ..	4,182	18	5
Remittances in transit or not collected ...	25,487	10	1
Surplus funds invested ... ..	87,000	0	0
<b>Cash Assets with Crown Agents ...</b>	<b>116,670</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>

*Local Accounts.*

			Total Assets.			
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Cash balance ... ..	37,825	6 2				
Imprest balance ... ..	5,025	7 0				
			42,850	13 2		
Remittances between Chests	—		6,060	7 5		
					48,911	0 7
Total Cash Assets ...	—		—		165,581	9 1
Add advances due to Protectorate.	—		—		19,845	11 6
					185,427	0 7
Deduct deposits due by Protectorate.	—		—		40,383	19 9
Excess of Assets over Liabilities.	—		—		145,043	0 10

*Deposits.*

22. The total balance of deposit accounts (£40,383 19s. 9d.) due by the Protectorate at the close of the last financial year shows a considerable increase when compared with the previous year (£21,377 8s. 1d.), and is caused (a) by the development of the money order business of the Protectorate, and (b) by the increased number of transactions generally.

The following are the principal accounts included in the total balances of £40,383 19s. 9d. in deposit accounts:—

	£	s. d.
Postal and Money Order Services... ..	23,643	9 10
School Funds ... ..	2,913	16 8
Native Court Funds ... ..	2,537	13 6
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund ... ..	744	16 4
Workmen's Deposit Accounts (Savings Bank Accounts) ... ..	2,567	9 3

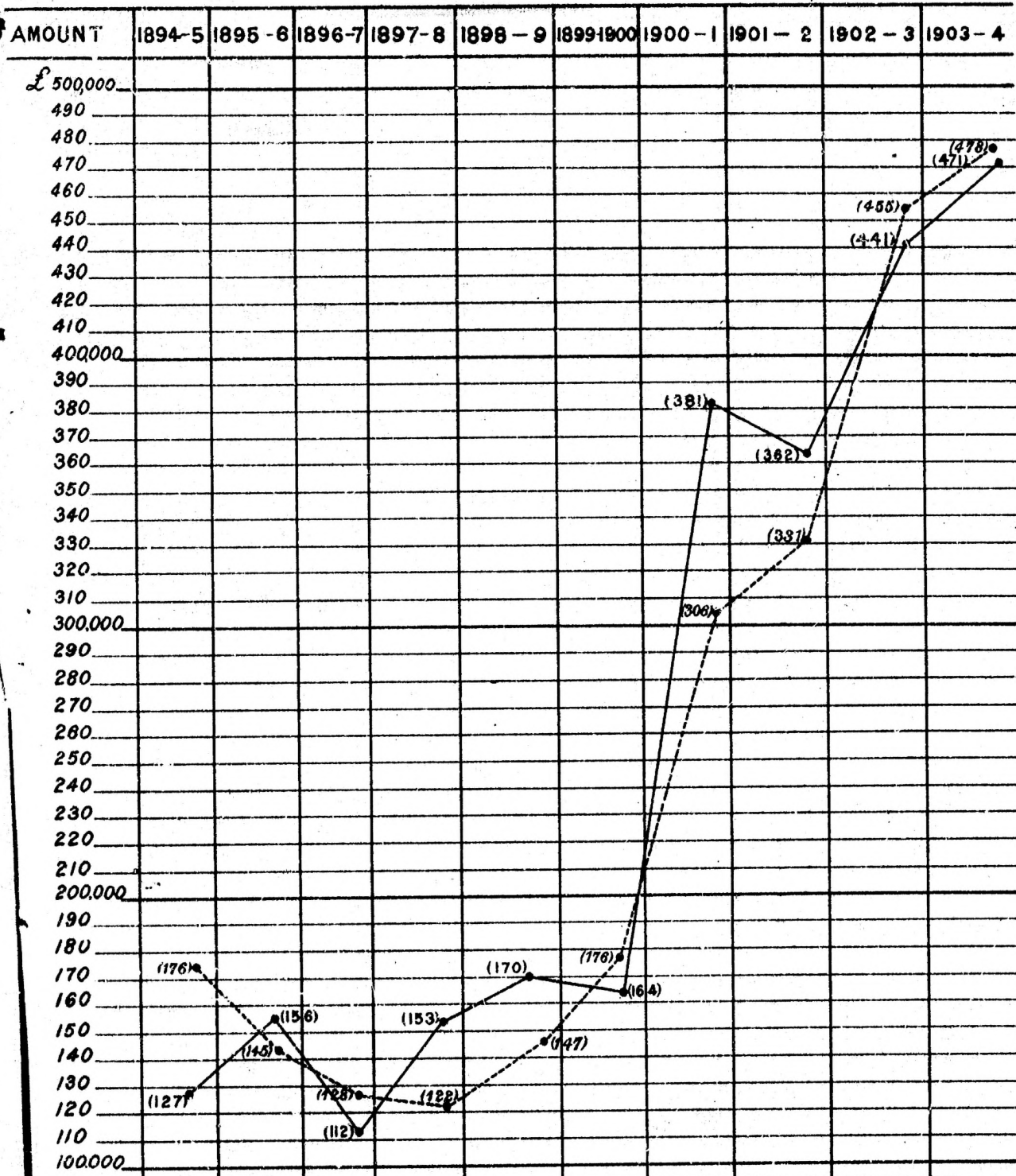
The balance is made up of sundry other deposits not calling for special mention.

*Advances.*

23. The total balance of advance accounts due to the Protectorate amounted to £19,845 11s. 6d. which is less than that at the close of the previous year when the balances outstanding amounted to £21,702 5s. 2d. Of the total advances (£19,845 14s. 6d.), £13,713 14s. 10d. was due from the United Kingdom and West African Colonies in respect of postal and money order



# CHART SHOWING ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE TEN YEARS 1894-5 TO 1903-4.



**NOTES.**

Revenue ———●—————

Expenditure - - - - -●- - - - -

(Figures to nearest £1,000.)

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circulation copper wires known as "citims," the rate of exchange being 20 to 3*d.* (one brass rod), or 80 to 1*s.* Cowries are still used as currency in some parts of the Protectorate.

Specie amounting to £222,892 3*s.* 2*d.* was imported during the financial year, an increase of £40,498 4*s.* on the imports for 1902-3 which amounted to £182,393 19*s.* 2*d.* Of the £222,892 3*s.* 2*d.* only £26,892 3*s.* 2*d.* was imported by mercantile firms, the balance of £196,000 being required by the Government of Northern Nigeria. A large proportion of the specie imported for Northern Nigeria filters into the hands of the firms trading on the Niger, and eventually into circulation in Southern Nigeria. The Anglo-African Bank has branches at Calabar and Burutu.

The system of currency in the Protectorate is in fact in a stage of transition. The use of wires, manillas and such media of exchange is being gradually checked by the embargo placed on their import. Silver is beginning to circulate, but copper is difficult to bring into general use, the silver threepenny piece being still looked on as the unit of currency.

## TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND SHIPPING.

### IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

#### *Imports.\**

The comparative statement of the value of imports for 1903 and 1904 which is given below, shows gratifying progress.

	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Free Imports (Commercial) Goods ... ..	212,278	305,979
"    Specie ... ..	26,079	42,239
"    (Government of Northern and Southern Nigeria) Goods.	112,473	94,412
Free Imports (Government of Northern and Southern Nigeria) Specie.	202,000	195,500
Specific Imports (Commercial) ... ..	301,692	392,466
"    "    (by the two Governments) ...	14,344	7,894
<i>Ad valorem</i> Imports (Commercial) ... ..	564,440	696,107
"    "    (by the two Governments) ...	59,438	57,881
Total Imports on which duties were paid ... ..	866,132	1,088,563
Total Imports ... ..	1,492,747	1,792,468

\* See Appendix A.

The aggregate value of imports has risen by £299,721 and the value of the imports on which duties were actually levied has increased by £222,431. While in 1903 there was a decline in the value of goods paying specific duties there is a very considerable advance under that heading in 1904.

The value of the total imports after deducting freight, insurance and other charges was £1,608,590 as compared with £1,387,954 in the preceding year, showing an increase of £220,636.

Dealing with goods charged at specific rates it is found that the items which contributed most materially to the enhanced figures are ale, beer, porter and cider, (£1,174); gunpowder, (9,356); kerosene, (£3,986); salt, (£6,142); gin and geneva, (£41,881); rum, (£41,881); sugar, (£2,943); tobacco, (£14,771). Of goods yielding an *ad valorem* duty the following contributed to the increased value: beads, (£2,885); beef and pork, (£1,498); brass and copper wires, (£1,787); bread and biscuits, (£1,434); chemicals and drugs, (£2,824); cotton goods, (£61,494); earthenware, (£1,970); hardware, (£11,190); leather goods, (£2,516); perfumery, (£1,237); provisions, (£6,701); rice, (£10,888); silk goods, (£8,279); soap, (£2,660); stationery, (£1,011); umbrellas, (£5,113); wearing apparel, (£13,521); woollen goods, (£3,238).

It is noticeable that the value of umbrellas imported has doubled in the year.

The value of almost every item of import has advanced. There are very few instances of decrease, and the only one of any importance is £2,757 under guns other than "Danes." These import figures are in every way satisfactory, and the following table indicates the steady expansion and development of the import trade:—

Year.			Value of Imports
			£
1901	...	...	1,297,116
1902	...	...	1,246,481
1903	...	...	1,492,747
1904	...	...	1,792,468

Turning to the amount of duty encashed it will be found that specific duties yielded £443,335 while *ad valorem* duties contributed £69,548 to the exchequer. In all £512,883 was netted against £400,146 in 1903 or an advance of £112,737.

The total refunds amounted to £1,492.

*Exports.\**

The gross value of exports was £1,718,717 comprising £1,585,706, indigenous products, and £133,010 foreign manufactures, which discloses an advance of £275,557 under indigenous products.

All the staple products show an increase in volume and value of export, the chief contributors to this pleasing result being rubber, (£97,175); palm oil, (£80,347); palm kernels, (£71,215); ground-nuts, (£2,267); cocoa, (£1,329).

Ebony and ivory declined by some £2,000 each and gums showed a fall of £1,000. The shrinkage in ebony and ivory is explained by the native rising in N'sanakang District which led to the closing of the local German factories. The decrease under ivory is accounted for by the abolition of slave centres in Northern Nigeria where this commodity was used as a medium of purchase. The decline in gums may be attributed to the fact that the natives are now devoting their energies to the collection of more profitable produce.

That the advance in prosperity disclosed by the export figures is no sudden one, but a steady progress accounted for by the opening up of new country and the exploiting of fresh markets is clear from the annexed figures:—

*Value of Exports.*

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£ 1,253,706	£ 1,254,696	£ 1,431,984	£ 1,718,717

**DIRECTION OF TRADE.**

The sources of origin of the imports are given below:—

1901.

*United Kingdom.*

Year.	Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901	1,072,962	205,222	867,740
1902	1,004,958	157,775	847,183
1903	1,228,959	216,120	1,012,839
1904	1,416,554	201,784	1,214,820

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\* See Appendix B.

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*British Colonies.*

Year.				Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
				£	£	£
1901	...	...	...	4,708	2,700	2,008
1902	...	...	...	3,032	900	2,132
1903	...	...	...	14,989	10,227	4,712
1904	...	...	...	45,653	35,930	9,723

*Foreign Countries.*

Year.				Imports.	Specie.	Imports less Specie.
				£	£	£
1901	...	...	...	219,445	1,900	217,545
1902	...	...	...	238,490	5,413	233,077
1903	...	...	...	248,850	1,732	247,118
1904	...	...	...	330,262	75	330,187

*Origin of Imports from Foreign Countries (less Specie).*

Countries.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
African Ports ... ..	7,488	8,344	4,258	865
America, United States ...	4,663	3,986	4,903	8,104
Belgium ... ..	—	—	—	—
France ... ..	2,531	—	2	261
Germany ... ..	102,108	111,798	122,284	168,056
Holland ... ..	97,565	105,239	111,788	147,245
Portuguese (Col.) ... ..	163	106	199	71
Spanish (Col.) ... ..	3,027	3,604	3,684	5,585
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>217,545</b>	<b>233,077</b>	<b>247,118</b>	<b>330,187</b>

This shows that the imports from the United Kingdom are in value above four times as great as those from foreign countries, and that imports from the Colonies while they do not as yet bulk largely in the returns are rapidly increasing in volume.

Germany and Holland are the chief foreign customers sending the Protectorate goods to the value of £168,056 and £147,245 respectively. The chief import from Germany is rum and from Holland gin.

In this connection the following figures are of interest:—

*Return showing Quantity (in Hectolitres) and strength (in Centesimal Degrees) of Spirits Imported into the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria during the year ended 31st December, 1904.*

Description of Spirits.	Strength in Centesimal Degrees									Total	
	15 to 25 degrees.	25 to 35 degrees.	35 to 45 degrees.	45 to 55 degrees.	55 to 65 degrees.	65 to 75 degrees.	75 to 85 degrees.	85 to 95 degrees.	95 degrees and above.		
Brandy ..	—	—	6.45	25.95	—	—	—	—	—	15.59	47.99
Gin ..	—	69.45	60,106.58	23,322.62	1,290.08	—	—	—	—	83.23	84,851.96
Rum ..	—	—	390.89	10,938.408	402.35	190.18	10.93	5	—	108	12,041.288
Whisky ..	—	—	59.31	798.31	1.9	—	—	—	—	59.77	819.29
Other Spirits	—	—	.909	.27	—	—	—	.04	11.12	143.464	154.808
<b>Total ..</b>	—	69.45	60,561.139	35,085.558	1,694.33	190.18	10.96	5.4	11.12	389.011	98,015.321

The markets for exports are shown below:—

*United Kingdom.*

Year.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901 ...	798,693	25,601	773,092
1902 ...	820,057	2,000	818,057
1903 ...	922,658	—	922,658
1904 ...	1,079,544	—	1,079,544

*British Colonies.*

Year.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901 ...	7,488	7,360	128
1902 ...	146	—	146
1903 ...	263	160	103
1904 ...	3,734	180	3,554

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*Foreign Countries.*

Year.	Exports.	Specie.	Exports less Specie.
	£	£	£
1901 ... ..	447,525	—	447,525
1902 ... ..	434,492	—	434,492
1903 ... ..	509,063	9	509,054
1904 ... ..	635,439	—	635,439

*Comparative Export Trade with Principal Countries.*

Countries.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom ... ..	820,057	922,657	1,079,544
Germany ... ..	404,637	456,907	530,067
France ... ..	22,556	36,103	66,531
Holland ... ..	4,172	10,034	37,849
Other Countries ... ..	3,275	6,283	4,725
Total ... ..	1,254,697	1,481,984	1,718,716

*Exports (less Specie).*

Countries.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£
African Ports ... ..	3,126	1,826	987
America, United States ... ..	—	4,180	—
Belgium ... ..	—	—	—
France ... ..	22,556	36,103	66,531
Holland ... ..	4,172	10,035	37,849
Germany ... ..	404,637	456,907	530,067
Portuguese (Col.)... ..	—	—	—
Spanish ... ..	—	2	4
Total ... ..	434,491	509,053	635,438

*Return showing Quantity and Value of Exports from the German Territories of Kamerun, passing through Cross River, for the year 1904.*

Articles.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.
Ebony ... ..	—	—
Ivory ... ..	73½ lbs.	11 2 2
Palm kernels ... ..	—	—
Palm oil ... ..	—	—
Rubber ... ..	544 lbs.	20 13 1
Native curios ... ..	—	—

*Note.*—No trade was carried on for the greater part of the year, as the factory was closed owing to the late rising.

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Germany took exports to the value of £530,067, France £66,531 and Holland £37,849.

It is to be noted that exports to the United Kingdom and the British Colonies are rather more than one and half times as valuable as those to foreign countries.

The export duty on timber brought in £11,300 and the lumber trade promises to develop into an important and lucrative industry.

The exports of the chief staples were as follows:—

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Palm oil (gallons) ...	12,590,349	12,726,720	12,018,075	13,028,733
Palm kernels (tons) ...	56,871	57,140	68,330	70,500
Rubber (lbs.) ...	1,740,156	865,834	1,177,803	2,408,926

In view of the boom in the rubber market which is yielding such a golden harvest to Eastern producers the development of the rubber trade is gratifying. It will be long before prices can be obtained in any way approaching those realised by the produce of the Straits and Ceylon, but as the cultivation is extended improved methods of preparation will undoubtedly be introduced with beneficial results.

While on the subject of Customs duties reference may be made to a proposal to introduce the Lagos system of stationing a produce inspector at each factory to put a stop to the adulteration and soaking of palm oil kernels. The local merchants requested the adoption of the scheme and have consented to pay an inspection fee of 6*d.* a ton on kernels exported to cover the cost of the necessary inspecting staff.

There is reason to fear that large quantities of percussion caps are surreptitiously introduced into the Protectorate and special measures are being taken to check this illicit traffic.

Efforts are being made to open up the trade of the Cross River and specially favourable terms in the way of loans and other facilities have been offered to pioneers. It is pleasing to record that several applications to secure these terms have been made and it is hoped that before very long the practical exploitation of the trade of this region will be a *fait accompli*.

The kindling of a spirit of rivalry and competition of the existence of which indications are no longer wanting, will exercise a salutary influence on trade and inure to the benefit of the native who will in the future obtain a better price for the produce as it is more eagerly sought after.

*Imports and Exports into and from Northern Nigeria passing through Southern Nigeria.*

The total value of direct imports into Northern Nigeria during the year was £95,781 and of indirect imports (*i.e.* those transferred from Southern Nigeria) £48,931 giving a total import trade for that Protectorate of £144,712. Of this amount the bulk consisted of Government imports and the articles admitted free into Northern Nigeria. The amount therefore received as Customs on imports passing through to Northern Nigeria is very small.

The total value of exports from Northern Nigeria was £152,821. This figure includes £95,840 for rubber, £1,327 for palm kernels and £3,005 for ivory.

The figures for 1903 are not available for comparison.

SHIPPING.

*Steam Ships Entered.*

Year.	Number.	British.	Foreign less German.	German.
1901 ... ..	254	226	2	26
1902 ... ..	306	260	4	42
1903 ... ..	376	298	7	71
1904 ... ..	446	349	2	95

From this it will be seen that the Germans do practically the whole foreign shipping business and that the proportion of German to British vessels which was as 1 to 9 in 1901 is now approximately 1 to 3½. In other words while British ships have increased in number by about 50 per cent. the German vessels have multiplied by well over 300 per cent.

*Taking Tonnage Figures (Aggregate Tonnage of Vessels),*

Year.	British.	German.
1901 ... ..	250,000	32,000
1902 ... ..	304,000	55,000
1903 ... ..	374,000	70,000
1904 ... ..	444,000	90,000

it will be noted that German tonnage which was one-eighth of British tonnage in 1901 was nearly one-fifth in 1904, and that while British tonnage has not doubled in the past four years German tonnage has almost trebled.

*Average Tonnage of British Shipping.*

	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Tons. 1,900	Tons. 2,000	Tons. 1,925

*Average Tonnage of German Shipping Entered from Germany.*

	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Tons. 1,532	Tons. 1,547	Tons. 1,520

The following table shows the proportion of vessels plying on the Branch Service between Lagos and Forcados which entered and cleared as compared with 1902 and 1903:—

	British Steamers.			Foreign Steamers.			Total.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Entered with cargoes .. ..	244	272	330	39	53	73	283	324	403
Lagos Branch boats entered with cargoes.	110	108	125	—	1	19	110	109	144
Entered in ballast .. ..	16	26	19	7	26	24	23	52	43
Lagos Branch boats entered in ballast.	14	23	17	—	24	24	14	47	41
Total entered .. ..	280	298	349	46	73	97	306	376	446
Total Lagos Branch boats ..	124	131	142	—	25	43	124	156	185
Cleared with cargoes .. ..	205	244	324	41	76	63	246	320	407
Lagos Branch boats cleared with cargoes.	79	80	125	—	26	32	79	106	157
Cleared in ballast .. ..	48	48	28	4	1	13	52	49	41
Lagos Branch boats cleared in ballast.	42	47	21	—	—	13	42	47	34
Total cleared .. ..	253	292	352	45	77	96	298	369	448
Total Lagos Branch boats ..	121	127	146	—	26	45	121	153	191

These vessels are utilized for transshipping Lagos cargo. Such transshipments are not included under exports and imports. It will be observed that the Branch Boat Service is rapidly developing.

In Appendix C will be found a statement of the number, tonnage, &c., of both steam and sailing vessels for the last four years.

## AGRICULTURE.

*Forestry—Onitsha Plantation.*

The total area of the Onitsha Plantation is 450 acres. The bulk of this is planted with coffee, only a few acres being devoted to cocoa.

The total expenditure for the three years 1901-2, 1902-3 and 1903-4 was £3,258 while for the same period the revenue was approximately £1,260, shewing a loss on working of £1,998, or calculated on an average for the period there was an annual recurrent expenditure of £900 with an annual loss of about £400.

In considering the value of this plantation it would be unsound to pass judgment on the "will it pay?" principle, for experience gained as to the unsuitability of specific products to local climate and soil conditions may form a good investment, although the actual financial results may at first sight seem disappointing. It has, however, been deemed prudent to carry out experiments on a somewhat restricted scale and to put the plantation in charge of the Forestry Department.

With the abandonment of the coffee plantation the work of experimental cultivation will not however cease. Arrangements have been made and ground prepared for carrying out a comprehensive series of experiments.

Plots of ground will be sown with native cotton, with and without manure, with ground-nuts alone and with ground-nuts and wild native corn. It is believed that the leguminous ground-nut will supply the nitrogenous matter in which the soil is deficient. Various native beans, indigenous and exotic tobaccos, tea and indigo will also be subjects of experiment.

*Cotton.*

One hundred and twenty-eight acres were put under cotton cultivation and produced 4,826 lbs. of lint cotton which was shipped to England. 6,606 lbs. lint cotton grown by the Asaba natives has also been shipped while there remained at the close of the year 9,584 lbs. of cotton to be ginned, also grown in the Asaba District. The total amount of cotton ginned at Onitsha (11,432 lbs.) produced 14,700 lbs. of seed.

By an arrangement with the British Cotton Growing Association expenses in connection with cotton growing on the plantation are borne by the Association to whom the cotton is shipped. The Association purchases cotton grown by the natives at the rate of 1d. per lb. of seed cotton. Several experimental cotton farms were started in the Eastern Division but they proved an entire failure, chiefly due to bad seed, and

it is considered undesirable to expend more money in this direction as the people, fully occupied with the more lucrative trade in palm oil, decline to take any interest in the subject.

It is doubtful whether the natives in the southern portion of the Protectorate will ever take up cotton growing of their own accord, as a better return is obtained from the cultivation of yams, &c., with far less work and trouble than the cultivation of cotton entails. It remains to be seen whether the efforts of the British Cotton Growing Association at Uromi and at Onitsha will prove sufficiently remunerative to permit of the experiment being continued. The chief obstacle is the cost of labour.

In fact, owing to the labour problem the West Coast of Africa is seriously handicapped in competing with the East in any produce common to the two countries. It must continue to rely upon the produce of the oil palm in the trade of which it holds a monopoly.

A new nursery will be started for experimenting with American cotton, guinea and other grasses, cloves, lucerne and castor oil.

One of the main objects of these plantations should be the introduction of various species of plants of economic importance, both indigenous and exotic, that are likely to prove suitable to this climate. These should include timber trees such as the various species of African and American mahoganies, cedars (of the *genus cedrela*), the Indian teak tree, the African oak, the Oroko, Indian Pterocarps, Copaiba trees, and all rubber-yielding plants, including vines.

#### *Forestry Work in 1904.*

An examination of the mahogany forests of the Western Division during 1903 showed the necessity for raising the minimum felling girth from nine feet to twelve feet. This alteration was effected in order to preserve a proper proportion between the several age gradations of the trees. The forests were practically over-mature; and with a view to husbanding the wood-producing capital for the future, it became imperative to restrict the present exploitation of mahogany by increasing the minimum felling girth. Concurrently, however, with the introduction of an increased girth it was found advisable, in order to encourage the timber industry which is a comparatively young one and for various other reasons, to increase the area of the leases (concessions) from the old limit of nine square miles to 100 square miles and, with the consent of the Secretary of State, to areas even exceeding this latter limit. At the end of 1903 these changes were embodied in the new timber rules, Rule No. 14 of 1903. The immediate result was a very

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large increase in the number of applications for timber leases, so great indeed that practically the whole of the Western Division had by the end of 1904 been applied for twice over, whilst competition for the other forest regions of the Protectorate became extremely keen.

At the end of 1904 twenty-seven leases had been either worked out or abandoned; thirty-three leases were being exploited in the Western Division, and thirty-two new leases for large areas were being negotiated.

The condition as to planting young trees to restock the forests has been conscientiously observed by lessees. Roughly about 54,000 flourishing young trees have been planted in ten timber concessions. Some of these young plants about three years old have already attained a height of 16 feet. The young mahogany trees planted in Calabar Botanical Gardens are not doing well; the leading shoots have in nearly all cases been damaged by insects and the stems by a wood-eating beetle. The plantation was made on very poor sandy soil which probably accounts for the sickly condition of the young trees and their liability to attacks from insect pests.

The natural regenerative power of the three kinds of mahogany, viz.:—*Khaya Senegalensis*, *Endendrophragma Condelli* and another undescribed species of the genus is excellent.

Seedlings and suppressed saplings are plentiful but owing to the dense shade in the forests these young plants rarely get a chance of development. Where timber exploitation is going on and the leaf canopy has been broken, a better state of things prevails, and the young plants have forced their way through the overgrowth.

Under the new rules, provision is being made to secure conditions favourable to the growth of young plants.

The natural regeneration of the iron wood or one of the many so-called African oaks, *Lophira Alata*, is very satisfactory, and so is that of the oil bean *Pentaclethra Macrophylla*, and the Dika nut tree, *Irvingia Bacterii*. Very few seedlings of that fine timber tree *Chlorophora Excelsa* have been found in the Western Division, but it is possible that the regeneration is more satisfactory in the Cross River and Calabar Divisions in which the tree abounds. Young plants of *Funtumia Elastica* seem to be plentiful in the two mentioned Divisions.

The increase of the European Staff of the Forestry Department has enabled the Conservators of Forests to make extended tours and acquire valuable knowledge of the indigenous products of the forests.

*Rubber.*—At the beginning of the year the "close season" for rubber, lasting from December to May, was on the advice

of the Conservator of Forests suspended, and resulted in an increase in the export of rubber during the year, of 668,770 lbs. Experiments are in progress to obtain definite results, and also to devise a better system of tapping trees, the present method pursued by natives being most injurious and in fact responsible for the death of numbers of trees. There is little doubt that the future supply of rubber largely depends on the cultivation of trees and vines by the natives. Planting has been vigorously carried on during the year by the natives in the Western and Central Divisions, 214 plantations having been laid down containing a total of 227,155 young trees.

*Funtumia Elastica*.—A quantity of seed is being collected for planting nurseries in the Eastern and Cross River Divisions.

*Para*.—The Para rubber trees planted some years ago in the Botanical Gardens, Calabar, are progressing very favourably and in some instances have reached a height of 30 feet; they have not flowered yet.

*Ficus Elastica*.—Trees of this species seem suitable to the climate; those in the Gardens have done very well indeed and reached a good size. Experiments in tapping them will shortly be undertaken to ascertain whether the yield of rubber is as great here as in other tropical countries. Plants of this species grown in the Botanical Gardens, Algiers, have turned out a complete failure so far as the yield of rubber is concerned.

"Root" Rubber.—As a great deal of confusion exists regarding the identity of the different kinds of plant yielding this product, a forestry officer has been placed on special duty with a view to procuring specimens of flowers, fruits, and leaves, and also to carry out experiments to ascertain the amount of tapping and cutting that they can successfully withstand.

*Gutta Percha*.—*Paladium Gutta*.—There are two plants of this species growing in the Botanical Gardens; they both appear to be doing well. Cuttings taken from them have so far proved a failure, but experiments are being carried out to ascertain the best method of propagation.

*Ceara Rubber*.—*Manihot Glaziovii*.—A large number of trees have been planted in the Protectorate during the last few years; but they have proved a failure so far as yield of latex is concerned and their cultivation should be discouraged.

*Castilloa Elastica*.—Plants of this species in the Botanical Gardens, Calabar, are flourishing, but are not yet mature for tapping. The species is very uncertain in its yield of latex when removed from its natural habitat.

*The Indian Teak*.—*Tectona Grandis*.—The two specimens of this species growing in the Botanical Gardens, Calabar, are

poor, but their condition may be attributed to unsuitable soil rather than to uncongenial climate. It is proposed to procure large quantities of seed from Burma and to distribute it for planting in the various districts of the Protectorate.

*Fibres.*—During the year 5,781 packages of Piassava fibre, valued at £3,678 3s. 10d. were exported to Europe. The separation of the fibre from the leaf stalks is an industry which the natives of the Eket Sub-district are taking up successfully.

In addition to the coarse fibre extracted from the lower portions of the leaf stalk a finer fibre known as Rafia is procured from the petioles and blades of the leaflets. It commands a much higher price in the home market than piassava does.

It is proposed to take up the subject of African fibres thoroughly and to procure samples of every kind that the country yields. Amongst others it is proposed to send home samples of the fine silky fibre known as Kapok which is procured from the fruit of *Eriodendron Anfractuosum* (new name *Ceiba Pentandra*), the silk cotton tree that grows abundantly in the Protectorate. Several other fibre-yielding plants are indigenous to the country.

*Gums, Resins, and Dyes.*—The increase of the Forestry Staff will enable a study of these products to be carried out. Hitherto most of their time has been occupied in supervising rubber plantations and timber exploitation.

Table of Forest Produce.

		Benin Name.
1. Gum Copal ... ..	Daniella Thurifera ...	Ogid.
2. Oil Bean ... ..	Pentaclethra Macrophylla	Opogga.
3. African Mahogany ... ..	Khaya Senegalensis ...	Ogwangu.
4. Large cane ... ..	—	Okakan.
5. Medium size cane ... ..	—	Orogbo.
6. Small cane ... ..	—	Ikan.
7. Vine Rubber ... ..	Landolphia Owariensis? ...	Ugbo.
8. Root Rubber ... ..	Carpodinus... ..	Ubachie.
9. Rubber Tree (bastard) ... ..	Funtumia Africana ... ..	Bassa Bassa.
10. Long Capsuled Mahogany	(Endendrophragma) (Con-	Ikpwapobo.
11. " " "	delli). (Endendrophragma) (Con-	Onamakuku.
12. African Green-Heart ... ..	delli Species).	
13. Species so-called Cedar ... ..	Piptadenia Africana ... ..	Okan.
14. Baobab ... ..	Trichelia Species ... ..	Opobo.
15. Rubber Tree ... ..	Adansonia Dignatita ... ..	Use.
16. African Teak ... ..	Funtumia Elastica ... ..	Anyo.
17. Iron Wood ... ..	Chlorophora Excelsa ... ..	Oroko.
18. Camwood ... ..	Lopnera Alata ... ..	Eba.
19. White Mahogany ... ..	Baphea Nitida ... ..	Ume.
20. Satin Wood ... ..	Peltophora species ... ..	Agba.
	—	Anyemo.

## LEGISLATION.

The enactments for the year 1904 consist mainly of Proclamations amending those of earlier years, and Rules and Orders giving effect to them. The Preservation of Wrecks and Salvage Amendment Proclamation gives necessary powers of inspection and enquiry to the Receiver. Of new enactments the most important is the Diseases Exclusion Proclamation and the Rules made thereunder, passed to prevent the importation into the Protectorate of dangerous infectious diseases.

The efficiency of the Police and Administration of Prisons has been dealt with by the legislature.

Orders under the Native Courts Proclamation, 1901, have been made extending and limiting where necessary the appointment of Native Courts. Some of these latter courts have made useful rules against Adulteration of Produce. Others have adopted the provisions of the Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1903. In consequence of this and the increased facilities provided by the Births and Deaths Proclamation, 1904, the work of Registration is increasing and the returns furnish a more reliable record. New enactments affecting trade and traffic are the Importation of Cowries Prohibition Proclamation, Orders made under the Roads and Creeks Proclamation, 1903, and the Customs Tariff Proclamation.

## EDUCATION.

The increase of the Staff of the Educational Department during the year 1904 by a Senior Inspector of Schools, rendered it possible to secure more systematic inspection and examination of Government and assisted schools.

Great difficulty has been experienced in providing from among natives of West Africa a staff qualified to teach in Government schools, and two West Indian schoolmasters have in consequence recently been appointed and are attached to Bonny and Benin City schools.

The increased number of Government schools has entailed an addition to the lower grades of the native teaching staff. The daily attendance of pupils at Government schools has increased, as the natives in the localities where schools have been established have begun to appreciate the practical benefits of education.

During the year schools have been established at Aro-Chuku, Aseh and Aboh with the assistance of local chiefs, under the system of local contribution which has been fully described in the report for the years 1902 and 1903.

Girls' schools have also been established in connection with the Government schools at Warri and Sapele.

In connection with Bonny school substantial new buildings were constructed, to the cost of which the firms having agencies in the Protectorate contributed with the most praiseworthy liberality. A headmaster's house, two bungalows for native staff, four dormitories each capable of holding 50 boys, and a workshop were completed and occupied in the latter part of the year under review.

The establishment of a Technical Instruction Department in connection with this school where pupils will be taught carpentering, coopering, and other crafts has been heartily welcomed by the native chiefs. It is hoped that this will be an inducement to them to allow their boys to remain longer at school instead of removing them when they have acquired such elementary knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic as makes them useful in checking the accounts of the house.

In addition to the buildings which have been completed, a large two-storied building which will contain a dining room and quarters for pupil teachers is now in course of erection.

The permanent buildings in connection with the Sapele school to which reference was made in the Report for 1903, have been completed and occupied.

At a meeting of the Board of Education which was held in March it was represented that the Rules governing grants to assisted schools were not sufficiently elastic and steps have been taken to amend them where they have been found by experience to be unsuited to local conditions.

Early in 1904 the Roman Catholic Mission erected a boys' school at Calabar where good work is being done and a large attendance has been secured.

In the latter part of the year the same Mission also began the construction of the girls' school.

10. Grants in aid to the amount of £1,002 were made to Government schools during the year.

Mission schools received the following amounts:—

	£	s.
Church Missionary Society ... ..	310	0
Niger Delta Pastorate ... ..	80	0
United Free Church of Scotland ... ..	470	0
Roman Catholic ... ..	482	14
<b>Total of ... ..</b>	<b>1,342</b>	<b>14</b>

11. A book depôt has been established at Bonny under the Educational Department for the supply of books and school equipment. The demands for elementary school books and school equipment was very great, and two large consignments from England were quickly exhausted. In all 24 schools have been supplied with materials from the depôt.

12. Considering the short life of the Educational Department and the difficulties to be contended with in such an undeveloped country, the work done may be regarded as satisfactory, though the record may not appear impressive.

## GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

### HOSPITALS.

#### *European Hospital, Calabar.*

*In-Patients.*—At the close of 1903 only one case remained in hospital out of a total of 127 admissions during that year. In the course of 1904, 112 patients were admitted, of whom four were still in hospital at the beginning of 1905. There were three deaths, giving a mortality rate of 28.54 per 1,000.

*Out-Patients.*—In all 1,411 cases were treated against 1,246 in 1903. Sixteen deaths were recorded, giving a death rate of 11.33 per thousand. One death was due to suicide, one to wounds received on active service, and three to drowning.

#### *Native Hospital.*

*In-Patients.*—There were 1,070 cases treated in St. Margaret's Hospital at Calabar, including 37 admitted during 1903. There were 62 deaths, giving a rate of 57.9 per 1,000. Forty-seven cases remained in hospital at the end of the year. The figures for 1903 were 911 admissions with 65 deaths, giving a mortality of 71.35 per 1,000.

*Out-Patients.*—30,862 cases were treated, including 224 carried over from 1903; there were 178 deaths, giving a rate of 5.7 per 1,000. 307 remained at the end of the year for treatment. In 1903 there were 24,023 admissions and 78 deaths giving a mortality of a little less than three per 1,000.

It will be observed that there was an increase of 284.6 per 1,000 cases of out-patients—a gratifying indication that European treatment is becoming now more generally appreciated.

The chief causes of death were diseases of the digestive system, diseases of the respiratory system and dysentery.

There are cottage hospitals at Warri, Aboh, and Egwanga.

## ASYLUMS.

*Lunatic Asylum.*—The only institution of this nature is the new Lunatic Asylum at Calabar.

There is a Leper Settlement at Asaba which at the end of the year sheltered 32 patients.

## PRISONS.

*Number of Prisons.*

There are now 22 prisons in the Protectorate. Those at Akassa and the Etebetum Brickfields were built during the year under review.

*Description and Capacity.*

All the prisons are on the associated ward system, each ward being so constructed so as to give each prisoner about 300 cubic feet of air space. At Calabar and Asaba there are a certain number of separate cells. There is, in addition, at the Calabar prison an infirmary containing 12 beds and two associated wards for convalescent prisoners.

*Number Incarcerated.*

The number of prisoners incarcerated during the year amounted to 8,899 men, 154 women, and 31 juveniles. Of these 4,067 were convicted prisoners, four were detained as debtors and 5,013 were detained pending trial. Of those convicted 25 had been previously convicted three times, 41 twice, and 56 once. The total number, 9,084, passing through the prisons show an increase of 1,092 over 1903 and 3,368 over 1902. The increase is due to the greatly increased area of the Protectorate under direct administrative control and not to any increase of crime.

*Political Prisoners.*

The number of political prisoners admitted during the year was 17 and there were 30 such prisoners in custody at the end of 1903.

*Deaths.*

The number of prisoners who died otherwise than by process of law was 173. This gives a percentage of 4.25 which compares unfavourably with the 2.66 per cent. recorded for 1903. The excess was in a great measure due to the extremely high death rate among the Ekomekus who on being brought round to Calabar Prison suffered severely from dysentery and pneumonia.

*Prevailing Diseases.*

The prevailing diseases in the prisons of the Protectorate were fever, diarrhoea, dysentery, pneumonia and chicken pox.

*Escapes and Recaptures.*

There were 152 escapes and of these 102 were recaptured. This number of escapes is high and may be due to the great increase in the number of prisoners as compared with the augmentation of the staff.

*Value of Labour.*

Assessing 1st class convict labour at 6*d.* a day and 2nd class labour at 3*d.* a day—and even this is probably in excess of its true value—the value of work done would aggregate £19,852. The expenditure on prisons during this period amounted to £15,954 11*s.* 1*d.* In 1903 the nominal earnings were £10,234 and the expenditure £10,153.

*Native Council Contributions.*

At present native councils contribute nothing towards the maintenance of prisoners committed by them, but arrangements are being made for a contribution in future.

*Efficiency of Staff.*

The Prison Department suffered for want of efficient warders and gang drivers. These subordinate officers seldom remain long enough in service to become really useful. The majority of the men enlisted as gang drivers do not realise their responsibilities or understand how to treat the prisoners under their charge.

The number of offences committed by prison officials in 1904 amounted to 99 against 183 in 1903.

*Inspections.*

During the year all the prisons except Bende and Akwete in the Protectorate were visited by the Governor of Gaols.

## JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

## CIVIL STATISTICS.

The total number of civil suits instituted in 1904 was 693. Disregarding 281 small claims, damages for assault and trivial cases, the total was 412. Of these 387 cases were decided in favour of the plaintiff and 25 in favour of the defendant. There were no appeals.

## GENERAL.

Comparing the 1904 figures with those of the previous year there was a decrease in "Offences against the Person" of 148, an increase of 45 in "Offences against Property," and an increase of 210 cases under "Other offences," in which latter number 119 under the law relating to masters and servants are included. In 1903 cases of this class totalled 231.

## NATIVE COURTS.

Under the Native Courts Proclamation No. 25 of 1901 and the amending Proclamations Nos. 17 and 23 of 1903, 42 Native Councils and 30 Minor Courts have been established in the Protectorate. The annexed list shows their distribution according to the districts constituted under the Supreme Court Proclamation No. 6 of 1900.

The District Commissioner is ex-officio President of every Court in his district. In the absence of the District Commissioner, the Assistant District Commissioner, and in the absence of both these officers, the Vice President of the Court sits as President.

Each native member of the Court holds office for three months as Vice President in rotation according to seniority.

The Native Courts have jurisdiction and power in all civil and criminal cases to which native law applies and in which all the parties are natives, or in which any party not a native consents in writing to his case being tried by the Native Court.

The civil jurisdiction of Native Councils is limited to suits in which the amount involved does not exceed £200, and in the case of Minor Courts the limiting amount is £25.

In criminal cases Native Councils have power to award sentences of imprisonment not exceeding two years and fines not exceeding £100. In Minor Courts these powers are limited to imprisonment for three months and fines not exceeding £50.

When a District Commissioner or an Assistant District Commissioner sits as President, a Minor Court has the higher jurisdiction of a Native Council.

Appeals from the decision of a Minor Court lie to the Native Council, or to a Minor Court with the District Commissioner or Assistant District Commissioner sitting as President. The Supreme Court decides appeals from Native Councils.

Leave to appeal from the decision of a Native Council may be granted by the District Commissioner upon such terms and such limitations as would apply if the case had originated in the District Court, provided that no appeal is allowed where the amount involved does not exceed £50 or the term of imprisonment three months.

The Native Courts possess and exercise powers as conservators of peace and have the power of arresting offenders against any Native or other law in force in the Protectorate.

Native Councils have power to make Rules, subject to the approval of the High Commissioner, embodying any Native Law and Custom, and Rules providing generally for the peace and welfare of the natives.

A Native Council exercises a general supervision over all Minor Courts in its district, and the Rules made by a Native Council apply to all Minor Courts which are subordinate to it.

The clerical staff of the Native Courts is paid from Protectorate Funds, the Court making a refund of such expenditure in part or whole if in a financial position to do so.

The revenue of the Native Courts is mainly devoted to the improvement and general welfare of the district over which the Court has jurisdiction.

Early in 1903 the existing Native Courts were reorganised and the number has this year increased with an extension of the area under effective control.

During the year 1904 over 16,000 civil and 4,903 criminal cases were disposed of in the Native Courts. The large number of cases dealt with indicates an increasing tendency on the part of the natives to refer their disputes to these Courts for decision instead of having recourse to the varied forms of trial by ordeal which formerly existed.

Native law is administered in all the Courts in so far as it is not incompatible with any statute or Proclamation or repugnant to natural justice.

*List of Native Courts as on 31st December, 1904.*

District.	Native Councils.	Minor Courts.	Native Councils to which Minor Courts are Subordinate.
Calabar Division— Calabar ... ..	Calabar Oron Ikpa  Eket	Creek Town Adiabo Ikoroiflong Uwet Eastern Ekoi Ibano Itenan Inen	Calabar. " " " " Eket. " "

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## List of Native Courts as on 31st December, 1904—cont.

District.	Native Councils.	Minor Courts.	Native Councils to which Minor Courts are Subordinate.
Eastern Division— Opobo ... ..	Opobo Essenz Oboi/ia Aba Azumini Asong Asa	Obegu	Aba.
Degama ... ..	Bonny New Calabar Okrika N'Karaha Agrita	Omokoroshi Elelo	Okrika. N'Karalia.
Owerri ... ..	Owerri		
Brass ... ..	Neme	Twon Sabagria Ekow Ogbayan	Neme. " " "
Western Division— Warri ... ..	Warri	Bogidi Ajayube Frukama Okpari Jeremi Ougelli	Warri. " " " " "
Sapele ... ..	Sapele Benin River	Abraka	Sapele
Benin City ... ..	Benin City	Oromi Agbor Opomo	Benin City " "
Ifon ... ..	Ifon Owo Agbede Afuge		
Central Division— Asaba ... ..	Asaba Onitsha Aguleri Abutshi Isale-Uku Idah		
Agberi	Agberi Omoku Aboh-'Ndoni Useri Aseh		

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List of Native Courts as on 31st December, 1904—*cont.*

District.	Native Councils.	Minor Courts.	Native Councils to which Minor Courts are Subordinate.
Cross River Division— Bende ... ..	Bende Aro-Chuku " " " "	Itu Ahoffia Oloko	Aro-Chuku Bende. "
Afikpo ... ..	Ediba Afikpo	Akuna Kuna	Ediba.
Obubra Hill ...	Okuni	Obubra Hill	Okuni.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated European population resident in the Protectorate numbered 500 of whom 157 were officials and 343 merchants or missionaries.

In the preceding year the number of officials and "others" were 159 and 301 respectively.

The net increase of the European population was 40, there being a decrease of two under officials and an increase of 42 under "others."

The deaths during the year numbered 19, of which 16 were attributable to disease and three to accident, giving a mortality rate of 38 per thousand compared with a rate of 26.08 in 1903 and 27.22 in 1902.

The chief causes of death were fever and abscess.

The invaliding rate for officials was 114.68 per thousand and for "others" 69.97, the average rate being 84 per thousand.

The figures for the past four years are tabulated below:—

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*Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for the years  
1901, 1902, 1903, and 1904.*

Year.	Number.	Officials.		Death-rate per mil.	Invaliding per mil.
		Died.	Invalided.		
<b>Officials.</b>					
1901.	121	4	15	33	123·9
1902.	125	3	31	24	248
1903.	159	2	27	12·57	169·84
1904.	157	7*	18	44·58	114·64
<b>Others.</b>					
1901.	276	13	32	47·1	115·9
1902.	279	8	17	28·67	60·98
1903.	301	10	27	33·22	89·70
1904.	343	12	24	34·98	69·97
<b>Officials and others combined.</b>					
1901 ... ..	397	17	47	42·82	118·42
1902 ... ..	404	11	48	27·22	118·81
1903 ... ..	460	12	54	26·08	117·39
1904 ... ..	500	19	42	38	84

\* NOTE.—Of these, two occurred in England.

Sickness was most prevalent during the months of May, July and October, and the highest death rate was recorded in August and October. The number of invalidings was greatest in July, August and September.

During the year 31,932 cases of disease were treated, of which 240 or 7·51 per thousand ended fatally. These included 250 cases of guinea-worm and nine of small-pox. None of the small-pox cases terminated fatally.

The number of successful vaccinations was 8,711 or 2,522 in excess of the figures for 1903, but these figures do not by any

means represent the actual number of vaccinations performed as many inoculations were made in November under the new vaccination scheme as to the results of which figures were not available at the close of the year.

The general health of the Europeans was fairly satisfactory and the invaliding rate fell by 33.39 per thousand.

The sanitary condition of Duke Town was much improved by the laying out of new streets and the relief of overcrowding. The town now presents a trim and clean appearance which excites the admiration and surprise of officials who have had experience of the malodorous squalor of the typical Eastern Bazaar. The water supply is excellent and the sanitary arrangements are being rapidly extended and improved.

A lunatic asylum was built in Calabar but legislation will be necessary to give the High Commissioner power to confine therein others than criminal lunatics.

Chicken-pox broke out in the Calabar jail and three deaths occurred from that malady.

There was a severe outbreak of guinea-worm among soldiers quartered at Calabar and the Cross River stations. There is no doubt that the troops affected acquired the infection while on active service in the Mkpani country about a year before.

By systematic drainage and filling up of swamps much was done to improve the sanitary condition of the stations at Opobo, Bonny, Brass, Forcados, Akassa, Sapele, Warri, Aboh and Asaba.

Thanks to improved sanitation, Akassa, once regarded as one of the unhealthiest stations in the Protectorate, has now become one of the most salubrious. The reputation of Forcados, too, is improving, but much still remains to be done in clearing it of mangrove swamp.

#### REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

As explained in the report for 1902 the machinery for estimating the total population or even accurately ascertaining the number of births and deaths, is still so defective that any attempt to give reliable figures would be useless.

The number of births registered was 153 as compared with 34 in 1903. Of these 91 were male and 62 female births, 24 being among aliens and 129 among natives. The large increase is due to the adoption of the registration system by more Native Councils.

Of Christian marriages 76 were registered against 57 in 1903. In Calabar District 51 were recorded.

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The deaths registered were 211 in number, comprising 130 males and 81 females. Among aliens 48 deaths occurred while the native mortality was 144. Of Europeans 19 died. The mortality of alien and native infants under one year of age was 38, and of children under seven years of age 66.

Thirty-eight deeds affecting land were registered, including 22 leases, four timber concessions, and 12 Powers of Attorney. The fees collected were £42 13s. 6d. 37 trade marks were registered, yielding fees to the extent of £59 15s.

## CLIMATE.

### METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

The rainfall throughout the Protectorate was not so heavy as that of the previous year. The greatest recorded was at Benin City in July when it amounted to 48·66 inches in the month.

The average for the four stations at which records were kept was 146·87 inches, the highest being at Bonny with 182·24 and the lowest at Sapele 93·59 inches.

#### *Temperature and Humidity at Chief Stations.*

Station.	Maximum Shade Temperature.	Minimum Shade Temperature.	Average Temperature.	Mean Relative Humidity.
	Degrees.	Degrees.	Degrees.	Degrees.
Calabar ... ..	95	64	80·59	89·47 to 77·66
Bonny ... ..	99	60	81·51	89·43 to 67·42
Sapele ... ..	94	65	79·35	92·93 to 81·18
Benin ... ..	94	61	76·97	75·62 to 71·93
Asaba ... ..	98	62	77·74	87·81 to 78·89

## POST, TELEGRAPHS, AND SURVEY.

The statements of revenue and expenditure show that although the expenditure exceeded the revenue by £3,561 19s. 2d. there was a considerable development of postal business. The rise in expenditure is attributable chiefly to the inauguration of a telegraphic service.

“Personal Emoluments.”—The sum of £4,286 14s. 9d. thus classified is nearly twice the amount expended in 1903 and



by a decline in the sale of stamps to collectors. In 1902 stamps to the value of £2,819 3s. 0d. were sold to philatelists, but in 1903 the value shrank to £1,211 6s. 2d. and in 1904 to £416 16s. 1d. The falling off in revenue is therefore not due to any contraction of legitimate postal business, and if this adventitious item of sale be eliminated, the deficit vanishes and in its place there is on other items an increase of £651 11s. 2½d. over 1903 and £2,018 10s. 11d. over 1902.

The following table shows the amount of revenue collected in comparison with the three preceding years:—

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sale of stamps, postcards, &c. ...	8,809 2 11	4,527 17 4	4,214 6 8½	3,801 6 6
Commission on money orders ...	264 18 1	294 9 1	370 16 0	480 10 8
Unclaimed money orders ...	8 11 6	7 14 10	18 18 4	7 10 0
Rent on private letter-boxes ...	—	—	—	54 0 0
Taxed articles ... ..	—	15 18 2	—	—
Telegrams ... ..	—	—	—	166 15 0
Express delivery and portage of telegrams.	—	0 12 0	1 18 8	9 19 6
Telegraphic address ... ..	—	—	—	2 8 0
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>8,577 7 6</b>	<b>4,846 6 5</b>	<b>4,605 9 8½</b>	<b>4,462 10 5</b>

#### LETTERS.

The total number of letters, postcards, books and sample packets dealt with during the year amounted to 812,431 as compared with 742,034 in the previous year, showing an increase of 70,397. The figures for the last four years are:—

Year.	No.
1901 ... ..	494,325
1902 ... ..	553,909
1903 ... ..	742,034
1904 ... ..	812,431

#### PARCELS.

The number amounted to 15,384 as against 13,718 in 1903, an increase of 1,666. The following figures indicate the steady development of parcel post transactions:—

Year.	No.
1901 ... ..	9,314
1902 ... ..	11,118
1903 ... ..	13,718
1904 ... ..	15,384

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The sum of £596 was collected as duty on imports by parcel post, against £474 collected in 1903: the figures are:—

Year.					Amount.
					£
1901	...	...	...	...	165
1902	...	...	...	...	366
1903	...	...	...	...	474
1904	...	...	...	...	596

## MONEY ORDERS.

The business transacted showed a gratifying advance, both issues and receipts yielding substantial increases—£3,826 and £2,478 respectively—over 1903.

The figures for the last four years are:—

Year.					Issues.	Receipts.
					£	£
1901	...	...	...	...	21,089	2,124
1902	...	...	...	...	22,948	3,226
1903	...	...	...	...	29,069	3,159
1904	...	...	...	...	32,895	5,687

## POSTAL EXPENDITURE.

The gross expenditure was £8,024 9s. 7d., or £3,122 17s. 9d. in excess of the figures of 1903. Personal emoluments accounted for £1,729 5s. 4d. of the enhanced cost of the department.

## Comparative Table.

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Personal emoluments ... ..	2,204 8 7	2,218 6 8	2,557 9 5	4,286 14 0
Manufacture of postage stamps	855 11 1	117 5 8	117 2 7	275 8 0
Postal stores ... ..	87 16 3	858 5 2	229 14 9	867 5 6
Conveyance of mails (Inland) ...	498 19 10	507 14 10	981 11 3	998 2 5
"    "    " (Foreign) ...	711 14 7	801 11 11	813 11 5	1,103 7 2
Postage, all departments ... ..	185 2 2	182 1 2	148 5 5	102 1 2
Maintenance of telegraphs ...	—	—	31 3 3	785 15 4
Uniforms and clothing ... ..	20 2 4	12 10 7	22 18 9	8 16 9
Overtime fees ... ..	—	—	—	86 2 0
Purchase and up-keep of tele- phones.	—	—	—	15 15 0
Total ... ..	8,963 0 10	4,148 4 7	4,901 11 10	8,024 9 7

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## TELEGRAPHS.

During the year the telegraph system was inaugurated by the opening of stations at Benin, Bonny, Calabar, Egwanga, Eket, and Forcados. The total amount expended to 31st December last was £27,734 14s. 7d. and the total length of lines opened 181½ miles.

The number of official telegrams (7,016) which have already passed over the lines is sufficient to indicate how greatly the service was needed.

The principal line is from Calabar to Bonny, a distance of 117½ miles made up of the following sections:—

Calabar to Eket	...	...	...	45½ miles.
Eket to Egwanga	...	...	...	31½ „
Egwanga to Bonny	...	...	...	40½ „
				117½ miles.

The other line is from Forcados to Lagos boundary, a distance of 64 miles. At the boundary it meets a line from Lagos. This Lagos-Forcados line was opened for traffic during the year but has proved most unreliable owing to cable faults, damage done to the air line by the sea, and by the collapse of the posts supporting it in the treacherous mangrove mud. Large inland extensions detailed below—which will render the upkeep of this line unnecessary—are now in course of construction.

Appendices D and D1 give the number of messages despatched from and received at the different stations since 11th May.

The receipts on account of private telegrams, portorage, &c., aggregated £169 2s. 6d.

The working of the existing telegraph coast lines gives grave cause for dissatisfaction, there being numerous interruptions due to the falling of trees and the swampy nature of the ground traversed. Of late the cable portion of the Bonny-Calabar line has also proved so defective that it will be necessary in the near future to replace it by an inland aerial line.

*Inland Mail Service.*

The service continues to work satisfactorily, and has been augmented by a weekly service between Bonny and Degema. Postal communication is now established between the following places:—

Calabar and Bonny *viâ* Eket and Egwanga (weekly-launch and canoe).

Calabar and Obukun *viâ* Itu, Afikpo, Obubra Hill, and Okuni (weekly-launch, canoe, and runners).

Itu and Ikot Ekpene (weekly-canoe and runners).

Itu and Dende *viâ* Aro-Chuku (weekly-canoe and runners).

Bonny and Akassa *viâ* Bakana and Degema (weekly-launch).

Bonny and Owerri *viâ* Bakana and Nsokpo (fortnightly-canoe and runners).

Warri and Benin City *viâ* Sapele (fortnightly-runners).

Sapele and Benin River (fortnightly-canoe).

Asaba and Ogrugru (fortnightly-canoe).

### *Telegraph Construction.*

The air and cable line between Forcados and Omolume on the Lagos boundary which crosses the Forcados, Escravos, and Benin rivers, and follows the coast line, being continually interrupted owing to the encroachment of the sea, and the rapid deterioration of the cables, it was decided to connect Lagos with Forcados by a land line which will pass through the most important stations in the Western Division and at the same time to further extend the telegraph system by connecting Calabar with the inland stations in the Eastern, and Central, and Western Divisions.

The urgent need of telegraph communication between Forcados and Lagos renders the construction of the lines in the Western portion of the Protectorate of primary importance. The line starting from Warri will pass through Sapele, Benin City, Ifon, and Owo, and run thence to the Lagos boundary where it will be connected with an extension of the Lagos-Ibadan line *viâ* Oshogbo and Ilesha, and communication will eventually be established between Warri and Forcados by an air and cable line.

The extension of the telegraph system in the Eastern and Central Divisions embraces a scheme for constructing a line to connect Calabar with Onitsha, the headquarters of the Central Division, and an important commercial centre. This line will pass through the newly-established post of Oyo in the Calabar Division and the stations of Aba and Owerri in the Eastern Division.

The Niger will be crossed by a cable at Onitsha, from which place an air line will be constructed to Benin City thus linking up Lagos and Calabar with all the important stations of the Protectorate, with the exception of those in the Cross River Division.

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## SURVEY.

The Survey Officers, who devoted their energies in 1903 to telegraph construction, were engaged during 1904 in the task of preparing surveys to be incorporated in the revised map of the Protectorate.

The delimitation of the boundary between Southern Nigeria and Kameruns still remains to be carried out but will, it is hoped, be undertaken shortly.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

During the past two years the responsibilities of the Public Works Department have largely increased through the development of the Protectorate generally and the opening up of the interior.

The isolation of the outstations from Calabar renders effectual supervision over works in progress by the Head of the Department a difficult task.

The reorganization of the Department has in consequence been decided on.

Under the new system Divisional Engineers, one to each Division, have been provided to control and supervise all works, stores, &c., throughout the Divisions, and this policy of decentralization will it is hoped result in increased efficiency and greatly relieve the pressure now felt at headquarters.

At the end of the year the European staff consisted of the following:—

- 1 Director.
- 1 Deputy Director, on leave.
- 1 Senior Assistant, on leave.
- 3 Assistants.
- 11 Foremen.
- 1 Brickmaker.
- 1 Mechanical Engineer.
- 17 Foremen temporarily employed on specific works.

The principal works which were carried on during the year are enumerated below:—

## CALABAR.

Prison.—Completed; total cost £13,729.

New Barracks.—In progress; £8,317 spent during the year. Total cost up to end of year £13,500.

Lunatic Asylum.—Completed; total cost £1,095.

Contagious Diseases Hospital.—In progress; £586 spent during the year.

Kroo House and Boatswain's Store, Queen Beach.—Completed; total cost £1,157.

New Customs House and Post and Telegraph Offices.—Completed; total cost £3,169.

New P.W.D. Offices, Stores and Workshops.—Completed.

Director's Bungalow.—Commenced, and with the last two items has cost up to the end of the year £5,332.

P.M.O's. Bungalow.—Completed; total cost £1,500.

Blacksmith's Shop, Queen Beach.—Commenced; estimated cost £1,007.

Bungalows, Hope Waddell, High School.—One almost finished and two in hand. The total cost of these school buildings at the end of the year amounted to £9,764.

Quarters for Native Clerical Staff.—Twenty houses practically completed at cost of £1,832.

Store and Quarters for St. Margaret's Hospital.—Erected at cost of £310.

Police Barracks.—Native lines erected at cost of £160.

Artisans' Quarters.—In progress; £669 spent.

Extension to Printing Office.—Completed at cost of £150.

Cover to Slipway, Queen Beach.—Completed at cost of £570.

Secretariat Bungalow.—Erected at cost of £485.

Police Lock-up.—Commenced; estimated cost £175.

European Hospital.—Re-roofed and generally improved; cost £300.

St. Margaret's Hospital.—High Court House.—Anglo-African Bank.—Water supply laid at cost of £145.

#### CROSS RIVER DIVISION.

Afikpo, Bungalow.—Completed; cost £1,530.

Obubra, Bungalow.—Completed; cost £1,351.

Bende, Bungalow.—Completed at a cost of £1,677.

Arochuku, Bungalow.—Completed at a cost of £1,173.

Afikpo Prison.—Completed at cost of £1,000.

#### EASTERN DIVISION.

Degema, Bungalows and Offices.—In progress; £3,172 spent.

Egwanga, Bungalows and Offices.—Completed at cost of £6,457.

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Owerri and Aba, Bungalows.—Completed; cost £2,796.

Akassa, Marine House.—Re-roofed at cost of £264.

Bonny School Buildings.—Commenced and rapid progress made; buildings estimated to cost £10,000 of which £9,682 was spent to end of year.

#### CENTRAL DIVISIONS.

Onitsha, Bungalows and Offices.—In progress; £1,895 spent during the year.

Establishment of P. W. D. Yard and erection of Engineering Workshops.—Completed at Onitsha; total cost £3,361.

Aboh Bungalow and Plantation Bungalow, Onitsha.—Completed at total cost of £3,484.

Coal Store, Aboh.—Completed at cost of £425.

#### WESTERN DIVISION.

Warri Prison.—Completed at cost of £1,124.

Warri Pier for seagoing steamers.—Completed at cost of £2,923.

Warri Coal and Transport Stores.—Moved and re-erected. This work was done under the Pier vote.

Benin City, Bridge over Ikpoba River.—Completed at cost of £912.

Forestry Bungalow, Benin City.—Erected; cost £1,853.

Ifon Bungalows, roofed with iron.—In progress; spent £1,937.

The local production of building materials has been pushed on, and good results obtained from the brickfields at Etehetem on the Cross River and Onitsha on the Niger, the output during the dry season averaging 100,000 a month.

Brickmaking has also been actively carried on at Degema and commenced at Afikpo and Insofan on the Cross River. At Calabar the natives are now beginning to take up this industry and it is possible that before long they will be able to supply all bricks required.

At Etehetem, bricks cost £3 per thousand and at Onitsha about £2, the difference being due to cost of labour.

*Saw Mills.*—There are two Government Steam Saw Mills at work in the Protectorate, one at Etehetem and the other at Onitsha. Both mills are in good working order and supply excellent timber at a price between 2s. and 3s. a cubic foot.

*Quarries.*—Two quarries were opened during the year in the Calabar District, one up the Ekoi Creek and the other at Uwet in the Calabar River.

Limestone and a shaley kind of rock are to be had at Ekoi and splendid granite from Uwet. At Onitsha a large quantity of sandstone has been quarried and supplied to Akassa, Warri, and Forcados for concrete work.

In connection with the scheme for the sanitation of Duke Town, a straight channel has been cut at the cost of £100 through the swamp lying between the town and the European Settlement, and the work of reclaiming the swamp by prison labour has begun.

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## ROADS.

Road-making was vigorously carried on at Calabar during the year. A road graded for wheel traffic was made from the beach level through the coffee plantation to the new barracks, prison labour being chiefly employed; a distance of about two miles.

A road was commenced from Calabar partly following the trace made by the Railway Survey towards Odukpani, and nine miles rendered suitable for cycling was constructed by the natives under the supervision of the District Commissioner and a Foreman of Works.

In the Western Division the Public Works Department have taken over the construction of the Sapele-Ologbo and Warri-Sapele roads.

Throughout all districts the improvement of existing roads and paths has received the constant attention of district officers with satisfactory results, and long distances can now be traversed without difficulty either on horseback or bicycles.

At the end of the year a Supervisor of Roads arrived in the Protectorate who fills a long-felt want and whose special duty will be the construction of new roads suitable for wheeled traffic on carefully surveyed traces.

Completed roads will remain under the charge of the Public Works Department.

The so-called "roads," a network of which intersects the country, are for the most part merely rough footpaths, often no broader than sheep tracks, which have been trodden out with no idea of following a straight line. A fallen tree or other obstacle leads to the diversion of the path, as it is simpler to walk round than to remove the obstruction. In the days of constant village feuds easy communication was often a source of danger and the broadening of the paths was undesirable. This state of affairs led to the isolation of individual villages, and in many cases even the chiefs have been content to know nothing of the world outside their own restricted domains.

Roadmaking must in the future be a very powerful factor for good in opening up the country and breaking down the old barriers of enmity and distrust which have so long existed, to the detriment of commerce and the spread of civilizing influences.

Certain portions of the native paths can be ridden over on horseback, and, with care, traversed on a bicycle. Some of the paths have been improved, and the annexed list gives the roads now under construction to be adapted for wheeled traffic. In the flat Owerri District over 200 miles of straight roadway forty feet wide have been cleared by the natives under the supervision of the District Commissioner, and when supplied with proper bridges over the streams and rivers, and when the surface has been properly levelled, will make the use of wheeled vehicles easy throughout this district. This is the first step towards providing the Protectorate with a system of roads in the European acceptance of the word, and in the course of the next few years the native of the interior who looks on a bicycle with awe will perhaps gaze in wonder at a motor car.

*List of Roads under Construction.*

	Mileage Completed.	Mileage under Construction.
Calabar Division—		
Calabar to Odukpani Nsan and Oban ...	10	2½
Calabar to Creek Town ... ..	—	2
Itu to Ikot-Ekpene ... ..	—	25
Western Division—		
Warri to Sapele ... ..	—	25
Sapele to Ologbo ... ..	11	½
Ologbo to Benin City ... ..	—	19

Other Reports not to hand.

**MARINE DEPARTMENT.**

This department is one of the most important in the Protectorate and makes the heaviest demands on the exchequer, the average expenditure being now about £75,000 annually.

There are 26 steam craft in commission with a subsidiary fleet of over 150 canoes and lighters.

Forty-six Europeans are borne on the establishment, and control a staff of nearly 900 native employees.

There is but a small direct pecuniary return for the heavy expenditure involved but it is, of course, impossible as yet to expect any but indirect advantages from opening up the rivers and developing trade by new steamers services.

The Government yacht "Ivy" after being in commission for 3½ years was sent home for repairs, the cost of which amounted to over £12,500. The annual upkeep of this vessel costs about £7,500 and her original cost was some £60,000.

There are dockyards at Calabar and Akassa which are kept busy all the year round attending to the numerous overhauls and repairs that have to be effected.

The inauguration of the Cross River Transport Service adds to the work of the department.

During the year 28 waterways were cleared—efforts being specially directed to improving the water communication with the Colony of Lagos.

Experiments were made with kernel shells as fuel, but so far the trials have been inconclusive. Burnt alone the shells are so quickly consumed that difficulty is experienced in carrying a sufficient quantity on small craft; with an admixture of coal they yield fairly satisfactory results, but it is found that the ordinary fire grate is unsuitable for the proper combustion of such fuel and further experiments are being made with a modified type of grate. If the experiment proves successful the saving in cost of fuel will be very considerable.

The use of motor launches is now within the scope of practical politics, and before many years it is hoped that this modern type of craft will come into general use. At present there is a difficulty, as the steamship companies charge very high rates for carrying petrol.

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### MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The total strength of the Southern Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force on December 31st was 1,379 made up of 49 officers, 22 British non-commissioned officers, and 1,308 rank and file.

The following stations in addition to headquarters were garrisoned by troops during the year, viz.:—Asaba, Idah, Owerri, Bende, Afikpo, Okuni, Obubra Hill, Ikot-Ekpene, Aba, and Eket.

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At the beginning of the year a contingent consisting of 387 officers, non-commissioned officers and men proceeded to the North Ibibio Country. The object of the expedition was to punish various tribes who were closing trade routes, to bring under control that part of the Ibibio country lying between the Cross and Imo Rivers, and to establish a new station. Considerable opposition was met with, but by the beginning of March all the hostile tribes had submitted and surrendered war guns to the number of 3,941.

In January a force of 394 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, which had left Asaba in December, carried out operations in the Ndotu country rendered necessary by an attack on the District Commissioner when travelling with a small escort. It had little fighting and by the end of January had completed its task.

Before however it returned to Asaba it was met with the news of an outbreak in the Asaba hinterland. The Eku Meku, a powerful secret society, had suddenly risen, sacked and burnt a number of mission stations and had threatened Asaba, the district headquarters, itself. The column which was later reinforced by 60 rank and file from the North Ibibio column, met with severe fighting, but by the end of March the ring-leaders of the rebellion were captured and the country quieted. The column then proceeded to the Kwale country to patrol and open up trade routes. This was successfully accomplished by the beginning of May.

In January the natives on the Cross River portion of the Kameruns boundary revolted, looted and burnt the German trading stations at Nsanakang and Ossidinge and cut up the small German garrison stationed there, killing the European officers.

The rebels then threatened Abokam on the British side of the boundary, and a small force was hurriedly collected and thrown into that place. It was able to hold the posts and keep its lines of communication open.

The operations of a column consisting of 220 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men on the right bank of the Imo River were suspended, when affairs assumed such a serious aspect on the German boundary, to allow of the immediate despatch of a force to the disturbed area.

By the beginning of May the rising was crushed, the German rebels driven over the boundary, and order restored.

In October a force composed of 206 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men was sent to the Ekpaffia country to inflict punishment on the natives who had murdered some Calabar traders and who subsequently attacked the District Commissioner. The force met with stubborn resistance and was much

impeded by rain and the swampy nature of the country to be traversed, but by the end of the year the operations were brought to a successful conclusion.

In the same month a patrol was sent through the Irrua country to enquire into inter-tribal complaints, and to disarm the inhabitants. There was sharp fighting at Akindu.

During November a column consisting of 294 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men visited the Affot District; the action was found necessary owing to the attitude of the people towards the Government. Considerable resistance was met with which protracted operations till the end of the year.

In the same month a column consisting of 246 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men left Asaba to traverse the Onitsha hinterland, collect all war guns and establish settled Government. Tribal disputes had resulted in the stoppage of all trade in the district. The column met with little resistance, and there is every probability of bringing about a complete settlement of this little known country.

The total casualties during the year were as follows:—

—	Killed.	Wounded.
European non-commissioned officers ...	2	3
Native soldiers ... ..	16	99
Carriers and followers ... ..	7	55
Total ... ..	25	157

The expenditure for the financial year was £68,891 against £69,508 in the preceding financial year. The cost of the force for the calendar year 1904 was £64,411 2s. 6d. against £72,497 5s. 3d. in the preceding calendar year.

A large portion of the Protectorate is still unexplored, and in that portion slave trading and human sacrifice continue, and tribal disputes and wars are of constant occurrence. Hausa traders penetrate far beyond the area under control, but are frequently murdered by the inhabitants.

#### INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.

To enable the Intelligence Officer to supply more reliable topographical information and compile more correct maps for the use of the War Office and the local Government he was furnished with a small staff and a completely equipped office.

The staff consists of a Military Officer who is responsible for its general working and efficiency, a native surveyor and draughtsman, with an assistant, and an apprentice draughtsman.

The office is equipped with field sketching and mathematical drawing instruments, also with appliances for the reproduction of maps, plans, &c., by photographic and lithographic processes.

The work is distributed under three distinct headings:—

- (a.) Survey, cartography and plan drawing.
- (b.) Printing by mechanical processes.
- (c.) Compilation of written intelligence, &c.

During the year 57 sketches of unsurveyed areas were supplied to the authorities in the Protectorate and also sent home for insertion in the new map which is in course of preparation. In all, 400 copies of maps and plans have been prepared and issued, while 234 written reports on roads and other topographical information have been dealt with.

The total cost of the department was £610, which included the pay of the Intelligence Officer for the whole year and that of the remainder of the staff from the 1st April.

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### CIVIL POLICE.

At the beginning of the year the force numbered 307 of all ranks, the sanctioned strength being 350. At the close of the year it numbered 401 out of a then authorised total of 444. The classification was as follows:—

- 1 Inspector.
  - 2 Assistant inspectors.
  - 3 Native assistant inspectors.
  - 3 Clerks.
  - 1 Store keeper.
  - 7 Sergeants.
  - 16 Corporals.
  - 17 Lance corporals.
  - 31 Constables (1st class).
  - 57 Constables (2nd class).
  - 262 Constables (3rd class).
  - 1 Instructor.
- 
- 401 Total.**

The force is distributed among 25 stations. At headquarters it performs ordinary police duties and provides guards and escorts; but in outstations the work is of a more varied character, including, as it does, prison duties, the execution of process, and the rendering of assistance to the Customs Preventive branch. The police at Calabar dealt with 493 cases of crime and secured 386 convictions to 107 acquittals. They also investigated 57 cases of alleged crime which were not pressed to a prosecution. Wounding and larceny were the principal offences dealt with.

During the year there were 146 enlistments, 54 dismissals, one desertion and five deaths. Recruits were plentiful but few could read or write or had any knowledge of English. A school has been established, but progress in teaching is much retarded by the fact that few of the recruits speak the same dialect. The men are, however, keen and willing to learn and time will gradually make the task of instruction lighter.

The force is being gradually rearmed with Martini-Enfield in place of Martini-Henry carbines and is frequently exercised in musketry in which fair proficiency is shown.

The strength of the police at Benin City was raised from 27 to 46 in order to relieve the military garrison.

The quarters at Calabar, Benin City, Asaba, and Ifo were materially improved, and the accommodation provided for the various detachments is now adequate and satisfactory.

In recruiting, preference is given to time-expired soldiers.

#### MINERAL SURVEY.

The Mineral Survey inaugurated in November, 1903, in connection with the Imperial Institute, has up to the present time been confined to the centre of the area embraced by the Kamerun frontier on the east and the Cross River on the west. For purposes of description the region may be termed the Oban Hills. Outside this area a traverse was made northward up the Ewayon River, as far as the entrance of the Moya creek, to investigate the principal geological features and thereby ascertain the probability or the reverse of the occurrence of minerals of economic importance in that country. The Oban Hills consists of crystalline rocks, granites, gneiss, and the like, bounded to the north and south by a variable series of sedimentary beds, such as sandstones, slabs and thin limestones of cretaceous age.

The latter continue up the Ewayon River as far as the survey has ascended. These rocks, in the strictly limited area visited, contain no mineral of value for economic purposes. The best

limestones found contained only some 47 per cent. of lime, and the beds, moreover, are never of any great thickness; as building stones, the materials found, are friable and unsuitable for permanent work. To supplement these inferior rocks a suitable and accessible granite was found, and subsequently opened up by the Public Works Department, a few hundred yards above Uwet. The stone is of excellent quality, and the supply for all practical purposes inexhaustible.

By far the greater part of the work of the survey has been confined to the crytalline rocks of the Oban Hills, and here two districts have been found which afford at least a possibility that future and more detailed work may result in profitable returns for the labour expended.

The first is the tin-bearing district at and to the north of Akwa Ibami; the second is the monazite district in the neighbourhood of Ibum.

The densely forested nature of the country and the extremely complicated arrangement of the drainage systems render the exact determination of the sites of the best deposits a matter of some difficulty in either case, but sufficient work has been done to constrict the more promising areas within reasonably narrow limits. In no case has tin been found in the alluvia of the streams in quantity sufficient to warrant washing the sands, but by trenching the heads of the more promising valleys the veins might be found. The associated rocks consist of biotite granites cut by tourmaline-bearing pegmatites; the latter although apparently valueless are considered as good indicators of the presence of tin. With the exception of tourmaline no accessory minerals are found in the tin concentrates.

Monazite is widely distributed, though usually in very small quantities, over practically the entire district of the Oban Hills excepting the part carrying cassiterite. The localities from which the best concentrates have been obtained are the neighbourhood of the Calabar River to the south of Ibum, where the track from Notim to Ibum crosses it, and to the north west of Ibum, towards Awai Ikuri. The composition of these concentrates is being determined and their commercial value ascertained at the Imperial Institute.

The associated rocks consist of both granite and gneiss of many varieties the majority of which apparently contain monazite, and it is this distribution through a series rather than in one rock alone which has probably determined the wide distribution of the mineral, and which, at the same time, militate against the occurrence of a constantly rich deposit over a considerable area.

Traces of gold are not rare, but it is highly improbable that any quantity of importance will be found in the district so

far examined. Masses of quartz are exceedingly common but up to the present have proved worthless.

A first report on the more important results of the survey has been made by Professor Dunstan.

The detailed geological reports of the surveyors were accompanied by sketch maps made by Mr. L. H. L. Studdart, B.A., H.R.S.M., some of which have appeared in the Government Gazette.

## ADMINISTRATION.

### STAFF.

Mr. Walter Egerton, C.M.G., was appointed High Commissioner of this Protectorate and assumed the Government on 2nd April, 1904. During the interval that lapsed between the departure of Sir Ralph Moor, K.C.M.G., and the arrival of Mr. Egerton—a period of 14 months—the administration of the Protectorate was carried on by Mr. Leslie Probyn, C.M.G. (who has since been appointed to the Government of Sierra Leone), and afterwards by Mr. W. F. W. Fosbery, the Senior Divisional Commissioner.

In September Mr. Egerton received the appointment of Governor of Lagos in addition to that of High Commissioner for Southern Nigeria as a first step towards the amalgamation of the two territories which is now in course of being carried out in detail.

In connection with this scheme a new office styled Senior Provincial Commissioner was created. This post will ultimately be held by Mr. J. J. Thorburn, transferred from the Ceylon Civil Service, who for the present discharges the duties of Secretary to the Government of Southern Nigeria.

During the year under review the European staff was increased from 192 in 1903 to 212 or roughly speaking by 10 per cent. As new areas are brought under more direct control it becomes necessary to provide a larger administrative staff, and many years must elapse before finality is reached in this respect.

The creation of a Road Department under an engineer with experience in road surveying and construction through tropical forests was effected and the most beneficial results are looked for from this measure.

In order to supply the demand for accurate trade statistics, and more especially information as to new sources of trade which may be tapped in the near future, a Commercial Intelligence Officer was appointed. It would be difficult to over-rate the importance of this office or the magnitude of the results that may be achieved if, as is anticipated, it is possible for him to collate such facts and figures as may induce British

merchants whose operations are now confined to the fringe of the Protectorate to push further afield and emulate the growing enterprise of the German trader. If the interior is by this means opened up to civilizing influences the moral and material gain will be enormous. Mr. Birtwistle, the officer appointed, did not however arrive until April, 1905, so that further reference to his work falls beyond the period covered by the present report.

A "Civil Service List" for the Protectorate was compiled by Mr. H. Bedwell, Chief Assistant Secretary, which is proposed to expand hereafter into a Year Book, similar to that issued by the Government of Jamaica.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Seven new districts have been created. Aka and Ikot-Ekpene have been added to the Calabar Division. The Eastern Division has been enlarged by the addition of the Ekpafia District. The Central Division has gained by the annexation of the Oka District, the subjugation of which opens up communication with the rich rubber-growing country of Anambra. The Kwale, Agbor, and Ishan Districts have been assigned to the Central Division. These new districts were all finally brought under control during the dry season operations of the year under review but only Ikot-Ekpene station was opened in 1904.

*General condition.*—The general condition of the people is one of *dolce far niente* comfort. They are not inclined to look far ahead, and are not content to live from hand to mouth, a mental attitude which is easily intelligible although it is discouraging to the Government which aims at the introduction of a civilization which will undoubtedly make the life of the native more strenuous as it becomes more luxurious.

The native courts, it is gratifying to find, are doing excellent work and fostering among the people an interest in their local affairs.

Considering the enormous population there is little crime, and as a rule the native admits his guilt, in striking contrast to the tactics of accused persons in other countries.

The people are typical of the country in that they are mentally undeveloped and afford an enormous field for the efforts of the pioneers of civilization. They are free from direct taxation; they live in comfort and have few or no cares. On the whole their lot is a happy one.

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APPENDICES.

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## APPEN

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the PRINCIPAL ARTICLES  
the corresponding period in*Ad va*

Articles.	Twelve Months ended December 31st, 1901.			Twelve months December 31st,		
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	
Beads .. .. .	packages 1,390	£ s. d. 8,454 12 9	£ s. d. 734 13 5	packages 1,974	£ s. d. 8,324 0 3	
Beef and pork .. .. .	4,347	8,897 9 7	541 14 4	4,111	9,946 17 2	
Brass and copperware ..	980	3,153 5 9	225 19 8	2,317	4,183 6 6	
Bread and biscuits ..	lbs. 1,172,575	5,195 3 2	412 17 3	lbs. 1,157,264	5,439 11 2	
Building materials ..	packages 54,564	5,368 2 3	463 13 4	packages 55,508	6,000 17 9	
Coals .. .. .	tons 10,572	14,593 0 0	541 6 11	tons 17,497	24,360 10 10	
Chemicals and drugs ..	packages 2,391	7,409 17 2	501 4 0	packages 2,243	6,804 2 8	
Cotton goods .. .. .	27,304	285,069 18 0	23,137 3 1	23,109	244,023 1 11	
Earthenware .. .. .	2,619	9,207 7 0	737 11 7	2,514	6,704 12 2	
Fish, salted and cured ..	899	913 0 11	85 16 4	1,208	1,064 12 5	
Flour .. .. .	565	568 8 11	50 17 5	546	549 18 5	
Furniture .. .. .	3,635	12,250 9 3	659 1 1	2,868	9,553 6 5	
Glassware .. .. .	745	1,909 9 4	156 16 9	757	1,785 4 4	
Haberdashery .. .. .	435	2,579 15 4	309 1 5	214	1,546 13 4	
Hardware and cutlery ..	78,539	69,961 5 3	4,483 14 6	104,000	72,539 17 8	
Jewellery and plate ..	173	1,803 3 2	150 1 7	176	1,165 4 11	
Leather goods .. .. .	893	5,901 8 6	252 7 8	678	4,247 11 0	
Perfumery .. .. .	725	1,867 7 0	146 13 5	926	2,338 14 3	
Pipes— Smoking .. .. .	dozen 166,080	1,774 17 0	157 19 2	dozen 322,995	2,374 0 8	
Provisions .. .. .	packages 32,951	44,729 5 5	3,048 17 4	packages 29,053	38,662 10 5	
Rice .. .. .	cwts. 53,159	23,185 7 7	1,491 4 11	cwts. 50,225	19,565 16 11	
Silk goods .. .. .	packages 583	15,452 14 8	1,258 6 4	packages 518	11,277 5 8	
Soap .. .. .	87,640	8,417 13 6	800 8 1	107,587	11,054 19 9	
Stationery .. .. .	1,817	5,234 11 4	186 15 7	1,269	4,729 0 4	
Umbrellas .. .. .	587	8,830 14 3	617 10 8	616	6,732 19 10	
Wearing apparel .. .. .	3,341	39,225 0 7	2,004 5 0	2,566	25,517 2 10	
Woolen goods .. .. .	1,198	12,142 10 11	982 4 6	826	10,806 2 9	
Other articles .. .. .	—	82,206 1 1	3,819 12 4	—	65,199 19 4	
Total Commercial Imports.	—	549,997 6 1	48,074 17 6	—	514,651 8 4	
Total Government Imports.	—	115,215 13 7	—	—	93,907 13 4	
Total "Ad valorem" Imports.	—	664,212 19 8	48,074 17 6	—	607,559 1 8	

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DIX A.

of IMPORT for the Year ended DECEMBER 31st, 1904, with the THREE preceding years.

lorem.

ended 1902.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.			Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.		
Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
£ s. d.	packages	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	packages	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
820 0 0	1,459	6,456 12 10	647 13 8	1,590	9,342 2 2	923 3 8
648 10 6	3,990	9,207 12 11	560 17 3	5,664	10,705 13 3	729 11 10
385 2 6	1,137	2,871 4 1	235 0 5	2,116	4,658 1 5	434 18 3
482 5 0	lbs. 1,306,439	6,079 15 4	535 17 5	lbs. 1,558,927	7,514 7 3	659 5 0
680 10 1	packages 57,437	9,616 11 6	967 7 11	packages 44,363	3,232 11 2	837 7 8
549 0 0	tons 14,326	16,527 8 8	613 4 4	tons 9,949	11,735 12 9	392 10 1
551 0 2	packages 2,804	6,060 13 6	561 16 8	packages 3,411	9,804 18 10	771 14 7
24,380 5 2	29,764	295,481 2 3	29,512 14 4	57,366	356,976 2 0	35,567 14 1
614 13 0	2,516	6,760 6 1	652 19 5	4,695	8,739 7 4	848 0 0
106 0 0	2,136	1,904 3 3	199 8 3	3,658	2,844 0 1	284 8 6
53 10 6	2,406	2,347 19 1	231 3 7	3,006	2,716 12 0	271 4 3
588 16 4	2,409	6,910 13 0	453 3 5	2,146	6,403 0 0	515 11 10
129 2 5	1,067	1,836 18 8	162 11 8	1,129	1,855 12 9	162 10 8
153 14 11	218	1,124 7 9	111 14 8	285	1,502 19 6	147 18 11
4,476 3 5	106,639	62,187 16 8	4,901 3 2	147,674	73,377 18 2	6,120 5 3
106 14 0	162	970 14 7	96 9 11	206	973 18 3	89 3 4
329 7 0	591	3,942 19 1	223 18 7	1,006	6,450 12 1	354 15 0
233 18 3	630	1,844 8 4	183 10 8	1,373	3,082 7 2	397 7 0
287 9 3	dozen 190,539	2,104 10 10	210 12 4	dozen 223,704	2,563 13 11	256 0 4
3,526 0 6	packages 28,363	40,494 4 2	3,893 17 11	packages 32,696	47,193 15 8	4,633 9 7
1,561 0 0	cwts. 45,223	20,077 10 8	1,599 4 7	cwts. 69,975	30,900 13 3	2,491 10 5
1,120 5 8	packages 633	10,944 3 2	1,094 7 2	packages 1,116	19,223 4 7	1,877 16 0
1,073 4 2	95,342	11,364 12 1	1,076 11 4	126,476	14,024 12 4	1,349 9 0
210 5 2	1,467	5,619 17 3	193 11 2	1,783	6,631 12 11	256 9 4
656 13 11	899	5,829 16 8	573 9 2	999	10,943 7 2	1,087 3 8
2,427 13 9	3,087	30,246 16 11	2,819 13 9	4,321	43,768 3 5	4,083 13 7
1,050 7 2	1,296	9,548 13 0	944 6 5	782	12,786 15 4	1,242 2 0
4,030 13 6	—	44,407 13 10	3,033 3 7	—	38,638 0 4	2,851 18 11
51,285 14 10	—	564,410 18 3	56,299 1 4	—	696,106 12 3	69,548 2 4
—	—	59,438 5 11	—	—	57,880 18 4	—
51,285 14 10	—	623,879 4 2	56,299 1 4	—	753,987 10 7	69,548 2 4

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Articles.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1901.			Twelve months December 31st,		
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	
Aerated waters .. ..	dozen. 35,154	£ s. d. 5,403 17 7	£ s. d. 289 8 6	dozen. 25,731	£ s. d. 3,860 5 2	
Ale, beer, porter and cider.	quarts. 3,874	1,052 18 2	140 2 0	dozen quarts. 3,774	947 3 7	
Ale, beer, porter and cider.	dozen pints. 17,466	2,018 11 8	319 15 2	dozen pints. 22,461	3,786 9 10	
Ale, beer, porter and cider.	imperial gallons. 808	31 7 11	5 15 10	imperial gallons. 747	66 1 11	
Cigars and cigarettes ..	No. 2,050,000	2,165 4 2	238 11 6	No. 2,454,000	2,671 8 19	
Cowries .. .. .	cwts. 9,846	3,919 2 11	492 6 0	cwts. 17,812	7,616 2 0	
Firearms— Guns (Dane) .. ..	No. 8,745	3,770 9 4	1,093 2 6	No. 6,463	2,318 0 4	
Guns (other than Dane).	275	4,250 15 5	32 5 0	649	4,350 5 8	
Revolvers and pistols	151	442 9 3	12 7 6	114	317 16 5	
Gunpowder .. ..	lbs. 222,402	3,032 1 5	5,555 1 0	lbs. 591,990	8,167 2 1	
Kerosene and all lamp oils.	imperial gallons. 201,268	5,744 15 7	1,550 8 10	imperial gallons. 263,545	6,896 18 5	
Salt .. .. .	tons. 18,319	26,412 4 3	18,293 0 0	tons. 21,171	31,806 2 2	
Spirits— Brandy .. .. .	imperial gallons. 1,145	1,021 15 5	137 8 0	imperial gallons. 1,039	787 17 4	
Gin .. .. .	1,332,433	117,604 1 5	191,509 19 0	1,542,134	139,981 13 7	
Liqueurs .. .. .	2,789	556 10 7	418 1 6	740	233 14 8	
Rum .. .. .	199,936	9,217 10 6	29,890 13 0	178,751	7,978 10 4	
Whisky .. .. .	12,770	5,239 2 11	1,783 6 0	15,647	6,501 16 6	
Unenumerated .. ..	2,962	2,200 19 5	416 1 7	3,094	2,535 11 0	
Sugar .. .. .	cwts. 7,620	4,511 1 2	209 18 6	cwts. 4,950	4,627 0 6	
Tobacco— Manufactured .. ..	lbs. 4,233	518 7 10	115 4 4	lbs. 4,477	519 10 11	
Unmanufactured ..	2,085,548	92,483 18 5	44,759 2 8	3,276,520	77,830 9 8	
Wines— Claret .. .. .	imperial gallons. 4,950	1,175 11 3	242 6 0	imperial gallons. 5,762	1,264 0 8	
Other kinds .. ..	5,209	1,932 11 8	494 2 0	5,355	2,059 0 6	
Sparkling .. .. .	2,064	3,520 13 8	227 8 0	1,393	2,306 2 9	
Other articles .. ..	—	8,938 7 0	596 13 10	—	3,518 12 11	
Total Commercial imports.	—	264,794 1 11	298,821 7 9	—	318,112 11 9	
Total Government imports.	—	13,010 7 0	—	—	4,975 5 10	
Total Specific Imports.	—	277,804 8 11	298,821 7 9	—	323,087 17 7	

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ended. 1902.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.			Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.		
Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
£ s. d. 214 13 1	dozen. 30,072	£ s. d. 4,155 10 9	£ s. d. 250 12 0	dozen. 32,677 <sup>93</sup>	£ s. d. 4,568 16 8	£ s. d. 272 11 9
140 18 6	dozen quarts. 4,127	998 12 10	153 12 0	dozen quarts. 2,819 <sup>41</sup>	738 8 11	105 8 7
421 3 7	dozen pints. 18,355	3,004 12 7	344 3 7	dozen pints. 25,602 <sup>3</sup>	4,178 18 9	477 18 10
14 0 7	imperial gallons. 358	29 16 11	6 14 10	imperial gallons. 88	11 13 4	1 18 0
249 3 0	No. 3,043,600	3,204 9 10	313 9 0	No. 4,152,890	3,872 14 0	398 11 9
865 12 0	cwts. 2,307	2,375 3 0	135 7 0	cwts. 6,288	3,512 15 8	314 8 0
791 12 6	No 7,167	2,688 13 1	910 17 6	No. 8,530	2,997 13 5	1,066 5 0
38 0 0	2,380	8,638 1 1	42 15 0	2,419	5,880 13 7	154 5 0
10 10 0	246	998 2 0	7 5 0	245	1,079 0 1	7 2 6
16,014 3 0	lbs. 238,790	2,902 15 6	5,669 15 0	lbs. 939,276	12,258 18 0	23,412 13 0
2 079 6 6	imperial gallons. 291,238	8,576 17 3	2,269 0 6	imperial gallons. 378,126 <sup>80</sup>	12,583 15 8	2,922 2 4
21,161 0 0	tons. 21,867	32,422 3 1	21,250 0 0	tons. 510,055 <sup>60</sup>	38,564 11 3	25,499 5 9
134 2 0	imperial gallons. 1,105	1,028 9 11	184 5 0	imperial gallons. 1,055 <sup>98</sup>	961 5 3	144 12 0
227,232 8 0	1,455,664	134,271 4 7	226,327 1 0	1,860,818 <sup>58</sup>	176,152 16 5	278,686 4 9
94 10 0	1,665	520 10 2	266 5 0	569 <sup>04</sup>	199 11 6	85 3 2
27,046 4 0	201,830	8,992 5 10	30,334 7 0	265,178 <sup>15</sup>	14,516 9 6	39,855 10 7
2,329 10 0	18,406	7,709 15 2	2,749 16 0	20,224 <sup>91</sup>	8,649 12 1	3,015 8 10
445 7 0	2,510	1,937 8 8	345 6 0	3,012 <sup>065</sup>	1,865 14 8	428 19 8
226 5 0	cwts. 3,560	3,461 5 11	168 2 0	cwts. 6,607 <sup>449</sup>	6,394 9 11	336 7 11
149 4 8	lbs. 4,858	703 5 7	157 18 8	lbs. 5,470	809 3 11	182 6 2
54,079 12 4	3,001,496	70,579 15 7	50,155 4 4	3,826,565 <sup>1</sup>	85,351 14 0	63,823 17 8
298 2 0	imperial gallon. 3,038	852 12 8	151 12 0	imperial gallons. 6,226	1,402 10 11	311 6 3
529 16 8	6,508	2,196 4 6	845 6 4	8,263 <sup>49</sup>	2,420 9 9	816 1 3
203 14 0	1,798	2,947 13 2	266 17 0	1,907 <sup>77</sup>	3,099 3 8	271 9 6
559 19 9	—	10,341 19 0	752 3 1	—	8,309 10 4	861 17 1
355,318 17 2	—	301,692 18 0	343,846 14 10	—	392,456 5 1	443,335 8 10
—	—	14,344 11 8	—	—	7,894 6 2	—
355,318 17 2	—	316,037 9 8	343,846 14 10	—	400,350 11 3	443,335 8 10

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## Summary of Imports.

Articles.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1901.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1902.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.	
	Value.	Duty.	Value.	Duty.	Value.	Duty.	Value.	Duty.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Commercial—								
Ad valorem .. .. .	549,667 6 1	48,074 17 6	514,451 8 4	53,295 14 10	564,440 18 3	56,290 1 4	698,104 13 3	69,548 2 4
Specific .. .. .	264,794 1 11	386,821 7 9	318,112 11 9	355,318 17 2	301,692 18 0	343,846 14 10	362,456 5 1	443,335 8 10
Free.. .. .	122,827 19 10	—	187,194 11 10	—	212,278 8 5	—	305,979 5 3	—
Government Imports .. .. .	360,126 14 0*	—	276,622 17 10*	—	188,256 12 6	—	160,187 14 1	—
Specie—								
Commercial .. .. .	—	—	—	—	24,073 2 8	—	42,238 19 9	—
Government .. .. .	—	—	—	—	202,000 0 0	—	165,500 0 0	—
From Lagos .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Imports .. .. .</b>	<b>1,287,116 1 10</b>	<b>346,896 5 3</b>	<b>1,246,481 9 9</b>	<b>406,604 12 0</b>	<b>1,492,747 19 10</b>	<b>405,145 16 2</b>	<b>1,792,468 16 5</b>	<b>512,883 11 2</b>

\* Including specie.

APPENDIX B.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1904, with corresponding period of the THREE PRECEDING YEARS.

Articles.	Twelve months ended December 31st, 1901.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1902.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1903.		Twelve months ended December 31st, 1904.		Remarks.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
Benniseed	230,726	3,138 18 0	302,305	3,676 12 3	288,614	3,652 14 0	367,728	4,981 10 5	
Cocos	34,131	300 3 10	20,825	236 11 4	50,343	524 4 8	41,633	301 9 2	
Coffee	4	14 7 6	29	63 0 0	15	15 0 9	44	49 2 6	
Cola (Kola) Nuts	—	—	—	—	123	1 0 6	285,639	2,501 8 7	
Cotton, Raw	1,303	6,009 10 4	1,075	3,527 17 9	1,048	3,742 13 2	321	1,179 11 6	
Ebony	5,176	3,164 15 4	4,888	2,845 15 2	5,885	3,226 2 8	5,781	3,678 3 10	
Fibre	8,103	115 1 11	898,216	9,064 13 11	671,100	6,443 8 10	631,568	5,408 2 9	
Gum Copal and Gum	4,196	1,202 8 11	6,432	1,917 13 9	9,363	2,732 1 5	15,414	4,988 17 2	
Arabic	39,448	10,986 5 8	32,622	9,629 17 5	18,274	5,735 8 10	11,763	0 16 0	
Ground-nuts	128,622	11,228 16 8	164,630	13,235 1 6	460,446	32,027 14 0	642,515	3,468 15 5	
Hides	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ivory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lumber (Native Timber) suppr. ft.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Export duty, \$11,300 5 4
Manioc	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Oil Medicinal (Sandal) lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Oil Wood, etc.) pkgs	58,871	437,092 10 10	57,140	453,084 19 0	68,330	528,738 1 2	2,550	3,750 2 6	
Palm Kernels	12,560,349	608,011 8 0	12,726,720	625,151 0 9	12,018,075	62,708 17 11	70,500	597,953 8 9	
Palm Oil	1,740,156	106,924 15 5	866,834	46,945 14 7	1,177,803	61,845 1 2	13,628,733	710,055 15 9	
Rubber	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Shea Butter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Products	—	31,823 16 6	—	24,685 14 6	—	33,766 11 0	364	3,714 11 6	
Foreign Goods	—	35,664 1 11	—	54,951 13 11	—	121,834 16 3	—	133,010 1 3	
		1,263,706 0 10		1,254,686 5 9		1,431,984 6 4		1,718,716 18 3	

## APPENDIX C.

## SHIPPING TABLE.

1901.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam— British ..	226	250,197	1,265,767 1 8	218	247,567	1,194,666 6 8
German ..	26	32,507	} 31,349 0 2	28	37,978	} 59,094 14 2
French ..	2	2,282		2	2,282	
Sail— American ..	1	610	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	1	610	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	235	285,506	1,297,116 1 10	249	288,432	1,253,706 0 10

1902.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam— British ..	260	304,236	1,149,860 7 8	260	296,167	1,096,925 4 4
German ..	42	55,310	} 96,621 2 1	41	53,877	} 157,771 1 5
French ..	1	1,236		1	1,235	
Dutch ...	2	22		2	22	
Norwegian..	1	724		1	724	
Sail— British ..	4	1,404	} Included in value of Steam Vessels.	4	1,404	} Included in value of Steam Vessels.
American ..	1	570		1	570	
Swedish ..	1	403		1	3	
Spanish ..	1	6		1	6	
Total ..	313	363,911	1,246,481 9 9	306	354,869	1,254,696 5 9

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1903.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam— British ..	298	374,866	1,382,504 4 2	292	368,492	1,190,411 8 3
German ..	71	68,946	110,243 15 8	70	68,800	241,572 18 1
French ..	3	4,717				
Norwegian..	3	2,340				
Dutch ..	1	11				
Sail— British ..	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.	3	797	Included in value of Steam Vessels.
Total ..	379	451,877	1,492,747 19 10	372	445,157	1,431,984 6 4

1904.

Flag.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.	No.	Tonnage.	Trade.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Steam— British ..	349	444,134	1,661,447 15 0	352	444,904	1,569,190 3 11
German ..	95	90,548	141,021 1 5	94	88,280	209,526 14 4
Norwegian	1	683				
Danish ..	1	729				
Sail— British ..	4	1,946	included in value of steam vessels.	3	955	Included in value of steam vessels.
Portuguese..	1	60		1	60	
Total ..	451	538,100	1,792,468 16 5	452	535,811	1,718,710 18 5

## APPENDIX D.

Returns of TELEGRAMS DESPATCHED from the various Telegraph Offices during the period  
11th MAY to 31st DECEMBER, 1904.

Station.	May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		October.		November.		December.		Total.		Receipts. £ s. d.
	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.		
Benin ...	—	—	30	15	3	13	4	15	20	19	9	17	29	16	12	91	120	9 7 5	
Bonny ...	85	44	117	68	129	74	85	24	103	63	132	43	50	119	56	885	422	25 8 9	
Calabar ..	78	52	154	74	94	77	87	59	224	75	231	69	79	160	79	1,283	564	32 14 11	
Egwanga ...	18	36	51	57	50	66	67	32	68	54	94	58	48	86	64	535	415	37 3 1	
Eket ...	2	14	15	10	11	19	10	10	20	12	48	15	10	28	7	154	97	5 13 11	
Forcados ...	—	—	10	19	17	5	8	2	42	56	43	87	91	67	102	233	362	26 15 5	
	183	146	377	243	304	254	261	142	477	279	546	289	307	476	320	3,181	1,980	137 3 6	

## APPENDIX D1.

Returns of TELEGRAMS RECEIVED at the various Telegraph Offices during the period  
11th MAY to 31st DECEMBER, 1904.

Station.	May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		October.		November.		December.		Total.	
	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.	Official.	Ordinary.
Benin ...	—	—	33	15	2	9	2	4	15	7	6	12	8	17	13	14	79	78
Bonny ...	88	57	157	106	97	105	79	55	195	110	200	98	199	101	161	110	1,176	742
Calabar...	74	54	197	75	167	90	128	65	244	75	244	70	294	70	211	67	1,559	566
Egwange	29	52	43	59	51	95	41	44	75	65	88	67	87	63	54	77	468	522
Eket ...	12	11	11	11	8	22	27	8	42	12	58	11	65	13	45	6	268	94
Forcados	—	—	17	13	8	8	5	8	55	54	46	65	57	71	97	46	285	265
	203	174	458	279	333	329	282	184	626	323	642	323	710	335	581	320	3,835	2,267

## 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.	Year.
428	Bahamas ... ..	1903-1904
429	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ... ..	1903
430	Mauritius ... ..	"
431	Seychelles ... ..	"
432	Barbados ... ..	1903-1904
433	Southern Nigeria ... ..	1903
434	Fiji ... ..	"
435	Straits Settlements ... ..	"
436	Grenada ... ..	"
437	Northern Nigeria ... ..	"
438	Jamaica ... ..	1903-1904
439	Malta ... ..	"
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate ... ..	1902-1903 & 1903-1904
441	British Guiana ... ..	1903-1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago ... ..	"
443	St. Lucia ... ..	"
444	Basutoland ... ..	"
445	Leeward Islands ... ..	"
446	St. Vincent ... ..	"
447	Bermuda ... ..	1904
448	St. Helena ... ..	"
449	Falkland Islands ... ..	"
450	Weihaiwei ... ..	"
451	Hong Kong ... ..	"
452	Gambia ... ..	"
453	Gibraltar ... ..	"
454	Turks and Caicos Islands ... ..	"
455	British Honduras ... ..	"
456	Seychelles ... ..	"
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ... ..	"
458	Straits Settlements ... ..	"

### MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
23	Dominica ... ..	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada ... ..	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong ... ..	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria ... ..	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ... ..	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ... ..	Rubber.
29	Ceylon ... ..	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island ... ..	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

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