

REPORT ON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS IN 1884.

THE following statement in tabular form shows the value of articles imported in 1884 which the colony ought to produce in abundance, not only for its own consumption, but also for export; the articles and their value, together with the markets, are also given. It will be seen that, after the United Kingdom, our best customer is New South Wales, who took just half what the Mother Country did, and more than five times in value of our produce than any other country. She has proved a most valuable market for our draught horses, oats, bran, butter, cheese, and potatoes, and to a less extent wheat; these seven articles brought us £280,000 in that market alone.

The South Sea Islands, including Fiji and New Caledonia, took £35,000 worth of our produce, and it may reasonably be supposed that, now there is a regular mail service, these figures will be largely increased. One thing that cannot fail to strike even a casual observer is the large sum (£25,000) we paid to Tasmania for fresh fruit; our jams and jellies cost us £10,552; the greater portion of these two amounts should be kept in the country; we can grow nearly all the kinds of fruit we want, and ought to do so at a price to compete with the imported article; similarly we should not have to import marmalade, as oranges can be obtained very easily from Sydney, and it is to be hoped we shall supply ourselves with this fruit in a few years. No doubt our jam bill will be reduced considerably this year, as several factories are hard at work at the present time.

Wellington, 18th December, 1885.

W. DE G. REEVES,
Officer in charge, Agricultural Department.

VALUE of Alimentary Products, &c., Imported from, and Exported to, the undermentioned Countries, and the Principal Articles, 1884.

Countries.	Imports	Principal Articles.	Exports.	Principal Articles.
United Kingdom ..	£ 255,891	Seeds (grass and clover), candles, linseed and olive oil, preserved fish, preserved milk	£ 901,026	Wheat, meat (frozen and preserved), flour, grass seed, butter and cheese, beans and peas.
New South Wales ..	24,590	Fresh fruit, stud horses, cattle, sheep	455,123	Oats, potatoes, butter, bran and sharps, wheat, cheese, bacon and hams, malt.
Victoria	42,599	Flour, fresh fruit, stud sheep, confectionery, candles, chaff	82,187	Oats, seeds (grass and clover), butter and cheese, barley.
South Australia ..	4,257	Flour, jams	42,789	Oats, barley, malt.
Fiji, South Sea Islands, and Whale Fisheries	13,934	Fresh fruit	35,009	Bacon, biscuits, butter and cheese, preserved meat, potatoes, salt beef, cattle, horses, sheep.
Queensland	..	..	23,887	Oats, butter and cheese, bran and sharps, potatoes.
Cape Colony	..	..	12,669	Wheat, butter and cheese.
Tasmania	32,608	Fresh fruit, jams, stud sheep ..	12,250	Salt beef, wheat, sheep, oats, barley.
Bengal	..	..	4,163	Horses, oats, chaff.
Mauritius	..	..	3,424	Oats, flour, bran and sharps.
United States ..	34,127	Preserved fish, fruit, hops, grass and clover seeds	3,192	Horses, bacon and hams, grass seed.
Brazil	..	..	1,359	Potatoes, flour.
West Australia ..	12	..	225	Cheese.
Hongkong, China ..	1,051	Fruit, preserved fish	..	
Germany, Holland, France, and Belgium	464	Seeds (grass and clover), preserved fruit, starch	..	
Totals ..	409,533	..	1,577,528	