

Imports and Exports of Coals during the last Five Years.

			Imports.		Exports—New Zealand.	
			Tons.	£	Tons.	£
1887	...	...	107,230	108,288	43,659	44,083
1888	...	...	101,341	98,431	64,192	61,367
1889	...	...	128,063	114,053	79,490	76,228
1890	...	...	110,939	102,166	69,614	67,003
1891	...	...	125,318	120,422	91,664	91,173
Totals	...	...	572,891	543,360	348,619	339,854

Places where Coal exported to, from Newcastle.

Countries.				1888.	1889.	Increase.	Decrease.
				Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Victoria	...	...	...	666,947	811,818	144,871	...
New Zealand	...	...	...	138,007	156,172	18,165	...
South Australia	...	...	...	74,250	181,411	107,161	...
Queensland	...	...	...	...	5,319	5,319	...
Tasmania	...	...	...	33,514	61,585	28,071	...
Western Australia	...	...	...	11,814	14,780	2,966	...
Hongkong	...	...	...	36,953	79,826	42,873	...
Java	...	...	...	32,288	70,494	38,206	...
New Caledonia	...	...	...	9,108	10,838	1,730	...
Singapore	...	...	...	17,879	39,057	21,178	...
Mauritius	...	...	...	7,081	15,422	8,341	...
Fiji	...	...	...	7,259	10,966	3,707	...
United States	...	...	...	314,593	296,357	...	18,236
India	...	...	...	34,643	62,216	27,573	...
Philippine Islands	...	...	...	33,084	45,026	11,942	...
Peru	...	...	...	9,186	23,044	13,858	...
Sandwich Islands	...	...	...	21,418	27,081	5,663	...
Mexico	...	...	...	2,193	9,601	7,408	...
Chili	...	...	...	100,631	145,237	44,606	...
Solomon Islands	...	...	...	...	1,428	1,428	...
South Sea Islands	...	...	...	3,632	3,642	10	...
Africa	...	...	...	400	487	87	...
Ceylon	...	...	...	1,685	2,438	753	...
Macassar	...	...	...	...	3,740	3,740	...
Haiphong	...	...	...	...	933	933	...
Yokohama	...	...	...	...	1,003	1,003	...
Sumatra	...	...	...	...	5,449	5,449	...
Guam	...	...	...	...	3,328	3,328	...
Penang	...	...	...	1,130	1,654	524	...
Bangkok	...	...	...	...	725	725	...
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	480	480	...
New Guinea	...	...	...	485	...	...	485
Indo-China	...	...	...	1,867	...	...	1,867
Queensland	...	...	...	5,074	...	...	5,074
South America	...	...	...	14,822	...	...	14,822
New Hebrides	...	...	...	894	...	...	894
				1,580,337	2,091,557	552,098	40,878

NOTE.—Total increase for 1889 is 511,220 tons.

The New South Wales coal has advantages and disadvantages as compared with that of New Zealand. It is harder, and therefore less liable to injury by loading and transit; but it is frequently mixed with incombustible material. The working-seams are there from 8ft. to 6in. thick, with intervening bands of indurated clay, stone, shale, morgan, and jerry between them varying in size from 1in. to 22in. This involves extra work in mining, and frequently reduces the value of the fuel. Notwithstanding this, the miners having the advantage of cheaper provisions, the cost of working the coal is considerably less than in New Zealand.

Coal owners in New South Wales are generally free from royalty, and the greater part of the coal shipped at Newcastle is only subject to a payment of 10d. per ton for rail and port charges. The difference made by those four items—labour, royalty, rail and port charges—as against Westport coal, amounts to 3s. 11d. per ton. Then comes the private expenditure for mining-works and plant. The average sinking at Newcastle is only about 400ft. In New Zea-