

reason why New Zealand's share of the Fijian business should not be at least equal to that of Australia. We understand that the freights from Great Britain to New Zealand are no greater than to Sydney, harbour charges in New Zealand are less, the distance between Auckland and Fiji is shorter by one-third, and the freight is slightly cheaper. Under circumstances such as these New Zealand should sell a much greater proportion of goods to Fiji than she is at present doing.

Imports.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF VALUES OF PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FOR THE SIX YEARS 1913-18, SHOWING THE COUNTRIES WHENCE IMPORTED AND WHITHER EXPORTED, ALSO THE TOTAL TRADE OF THE COLONY.

	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
Imports from—	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	152,998	185,771	135,552	146,025	125,598	118,104
Canada	20,976	18,207	37,939	28,127	26,504	30,793
India	57,405	42,835	41,523	43,166	24,205	32,074
Australia	494,161	493,458	439,422	425,735	525,536	656,164
New Zealand	89,903	70,288	133,908	113,254	174,379	134,395
Germany	17,440	18,981	219	658	278	4
United States of America ..	50,217	58,702	48,685	56,292	68,575	113,058
Japan	4,309	7,590	11,464	19,136	21,786	35,724
Parcel-post	..	..	14,962	16,785	18,539	19,864
Other	16,559	31,406	16,634	29,322	26,008	26,187
Total	903,968	927,238	880,308	878,500	1,011,408	1,166,367

It will be seen that New Zealand merchants could do much more of the trade in Fiji than they are doing if they set their minds seriously to the task. A splendid market is at their very doors. Fijian merchants and traders generally are favourably disposed towards New Zealand; some of them, indeed, are anxious to have a closer trade relationship.

The following is a list of imports of products and goods wholly or partially manufactured in New Zealand, showing the total trade in those articles and the amount sold by New Zealand merchants and manufacturers. All goods not at present produced in New Zealand have been omitted from the list.

	New Zealand's Proportion	Total Value of Imports.		New Zealand's Proportion	Total Value of Imports.
	£	£		£	£
Biscuits	336	20,420	Brushware	306	1,297
Butter	4,186	10,970	Candles	6	231
Cheese	807	1,243	Cement and lime	3,965	4,545
Coffee and chicory	157	873	Church furniture	5	116
Confectionery	689	2,937	Cordage and rope	1,333	8,269
Fish, tinned	1,040	28,392	Doors and sashes	393	683
Flour, sharps, and pollard ..	1,034	69,910	Drapery	18,150	222,498
Fruit and vegetables	3,498	14,746	Drugs	698	10,422
„ preserved	318	4,692	Furniture	55	934
Oats, New Zealand	85	919	Grease and tallow	4,060	5,111
Honey, New Zealand	97	174	Hats and caps	127	2,417
Hops, New Zealand	318	480	Leatherware	275	8,064
Jams and jellies	74	2,234	Fishing-lines	62	1,344
Lard and dripping	284	1,530	Agricultural machinery ..	4	4,755
Meats, preserved	15,041	25,901	„ steam	15	9,263
Milk, preserved	1,678	5,314	Oars	1	757
Oatmeal	213	670	Paints, dry and in oil ..	68	3,289
Pickles and sauces	112	1,129	„ mixed	131	3,333
Sugar	4,276	4,326	Paper (wrapping and bags) ..	968	5,917
Bricks	8	687	Pipes, earthenware	529	540
Coal	750	23,864	Putty	15	187
Coke	69	177	Soap, fancy	42	2,591
Manure, artificial	337	23,837	„ plain	1,603	11,726
Timber for fruit-cases	11,480	14,201	Starch	17	409
„ dressed	4,002	19,752	Stationery	888	11,622
„ rough	513	18,329	Tar and pitch	109	1,292
Basketware	21	392	Tinware	331	872
Boats	48	267	Twine	192	2,135
Boots and shoes	43	14,909	Umbrellas	19	2,688
Boxes and trunks	27	1,458			