

HIOGO & OSAKA, 1874.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HIOGO AND OSAKA FOR 1874.

BRITISH CONSULATE.
Hiogo 16th June, 1875.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward to you Report of the Trade of the Ports of Hiogo and Osaka for the year, 1874, together with the following Returns:—

HIOGO.

- I.—Return of the Import Trade.
- II.—Return of the Export Trade.
- III.—Return of all Foreign Shipping entered and cleared.
- IV.—Return of the duties collected on Imports and Exports, and of Shipping dues.
- V.—Return of the Import and Export of Treasure.
- VI.—Return of Foreign Firms and Residents.

OSAKA.

- VII.—Return of the Import Trade.
- VIII.—Return of the Export Trade.
- IX.—Return of the duties collected on Imports and Exports, and of Shipping dues.
- X.—Return of the Import and Export of Treasure.
- XI.—Return of Foreign Firms and Residents.
- XII.—Return of all Foreign Shipping entered and cleared.

XIII.—Statement showing the total of the Trade and shipping of the Ports of Hiogo and Osaka.

Before proceeding to compare the Trade of Hiogo and Osaka for the past year with that of 1873, and to comment upon it, I consider that a few remarks are necessary in explanation of the differences to be observed in the quantity of many of the articles in the Import Table attached to this Report as compared with the quantity of the chief Imports touched upon under the heading of Imports.

The entries in the Table of Imports show the actual quantity of goods laid down in Hiogo, and which have passed through the Custom House during the past year,—whereas the statistics of the trade of these two ports as published by the Chamber of Commerce show the actual business done during the same period, and which in some instances considerably differ from the quantities in the Import Table. Take for instance camlets. The imported quantity, according to the Custom House return, amounted to only 9,775 yards, valued at \$2,643, whereas the business done in this sort of woollen for the past year amounted to 1,924 pieces, valued at \$33,320. Again,

take cloth. The Customs Returns give 13,333 yards and \$17,370 against 29,308 pieces and \$49,465 being the deliveries and value of cloth as stated by the Chamber of Commerce; and this will apply to many of the other articles of Import.

The value of the deliveries in 1874 amounted to \$6,588,926, showing an increase over 1873 of \$383,722.

HIOGO.

The import and export trade of Hiogo for the year 1873 and 1874 exclusive of treasure, has been as follows:—

Imports.		Exports.	
In 1873.....	\$5,911,386	In 1873.....	\$2,435,271
In 1874.....	6,030,239	In 1874.....	4,956,724
Increase of....\$ 118,853		Increase of ...\$2,521,453	

The large excess in the export trade of last year is almost entirely to be attributed to the considerable quantity of Tea which left this Port. 7,091,165 lbs. of Tea, to the value of \$2,506,179, were shipped off, nearly all to America,—showing an increase in this staple alone over 1873 to the extent of 2,402,895 and 1,260,032, in dollars.

Notwithstanding the increase which both the imports and exports give, yet the trade of Hiogo for the past year has been a most unhealthy one. Large quantities of stocks had to be disposed of, generally at a considerable sacrifice, as merchants could no longer afford to keep goods on hand. Shipments to Europe and other countries, generally met with serious losses, and none more so than the considerable speculations made in rice, which turned out very disastrous to the exporters of this grain. In no former period were stocks so heavy, especially of woollens. The import trade has been highly unprofitable, but the worst is said to be now past, as manufacturers and shippers at home have by this time correctly gauged the consumptive capacities of the country, and are therefore not likely to repeat the mistakes of former years.

There is an article of import, however, which I consider worthy of the attention of the English manufacturer. I mean mousselines de laine, of which deliveries were made during the past year to the extent of 103,760 pieces, valued at \$654,200. This article has hitherto entirely been imported by French and German firms, and finds a ready market in Japan. An imitation of mousseline de laine, which could be laid down at a cheaper rate than the real fabric, would be, I am of opinion, largely purchased by the Japanese.

IMPORTS.

The deliveries of cotton goods during the last season compare favorably with those of the preceding year. The most noticeable feature in this department of our import trade is the great falling off of direct shipments for England, which have, however, been more than counterbalanced by importations from China. This remark applies chiefly to Grey Shirtings, Grey Drills, T-Cloths and Turkey Reds, Cambrics, the chief importers of which are Chinese, who throughout the year successfully competed with direct shipments from England. For this class of goods, this market will, it is expected, continue to draw its supplies from Shanghai, as the telegraph wires and increased shipping facilities enable houses here, particularly Chinese firms, to speedily avail of these sudden spurts which from time to time visit this as all other Eastern markets. Another feature deserving of notice is the introduction of Indian made yarn, several parcels of which have recently been sold in this market. The quality is favorably spoken of, and a little improvement in the manner of packing is all that is required to place it on an equal footing with home-made yarns.

I may point out that since the quality of Manchester goods has so greatly deteriorated the Japanese have become quite as particular when making their purchases as the Chinese, which here, as elsewhere, prejudicially affects trade by curtailing business. The consumptive powers of these ports for cotton goods is remarkable, for hardly a native steamer arrives from Yokohama without bringing purchases of some kind or other made in that market, many of the Osaka merchants, unfortunately for Importers here, having reverted to their old custom of replenishing their stocks from Yokohama, where they consider there is always a greater field for selection.

The trade in woollens fell considerably short of the expectations of importers, partly owing to the policy of the Japanese Government in ordering direct from Europe the anticipated requirements of the army, and partly to the embarrassments caused by the failure of two of the leading native Banks, which calamity for a time quite disorganized all departments of trade, and seriously restricted enquiries for woollens at a period of the year when in former seasons they have commanded most attention. In cloth more than in any other article the Japanese have displayed their characteristic unstableness; their taste of late having been so varying that the past year witnessed the return of large shipments to England, and as many more sacrificed by public auction.

Blankets met with a steady demand until the settlement of the Formosan difficulty, when the enquiry gradually subsided, but the highest prices paid during the excitement produced by impending troubles failed to cover cost, though it is well known that the Government purchased through an agent in Yorkshire upwards of 100,000 pairs, at four cents per lb. beyond what they could have been bought for on the spot.

It is curious to notice that, notwithstanding the importance of the trade in plain, figured and printed mousselines, as evidenced by past and present returns, which places them second in importance on the list of imports, this branch continues to be monopolized by French and German houses, which is the more surprising considering the number of years Japan has been opened and the opportunities which have been afforded to British manufacturers for competing with their French and German neighbours.

Latterly the business that has been transacted in imports has, however, been upon a more satisfactory and healthy basis, as the speculative furor to import clothing, cloth and fancy articles (which the Japanese readily bought up, when the first extraordinary change was made in the native costumes) has been checked by the business being largely overdone, and by the consequent very heavy losses to all interested. And since the attention of importers has gradually returned to more legitimate and less speculative business.

The principal imports are Cotton Yarn, Shirtings, Drills, Chintzes, Turkey Reds, Velvets, Taffachelass, Camlets, Lastings, Lustres, Mousselines-de laine and

Victoria Lawn, also Iron, Sugar, Raw Cotton, Kerosine oil, Safflower and Medicine.

Most of the former find their way from England, although some few, and, as before-mentioned, mousselines-de laine, principally come from the Continent. Sugar, Raw Cotton, Safflower, and Medicine are imported from China, and Kerosine oil from the United States.

Grey Shirtings.—Sales are reported at 485,407 pieces, representing a value of \$1,166,134, and showing a falling off, as compared to the previous year, of 80,000 pieces. These goods constitute the principal staple article of import and 8½ lbs are the most saleable weight, the best chops of which ruled at \$27½ in January, declining gradually until \$25½ was reached in May, when a slight improvement brought the value up to \$26½. This rate was, with occasional fluctuations, maintained until November, since which date extreme weakness prevailed, and at the close of the year the prospects of the trade were most unfavorable, the dealers being over-supplied with common goods. 7 lb. cloth is consumed to a less extent; other weights meet with little or no enquiry. A considerable proportion of the trade is in the hands of Chinese, who purchase largely for the market at the Shanghai auctions.

Cotton Yarns.—The outlet for these goods is small, in consequence of the preference given by the native wearers to Japanese Cotton, which is largely grown in these districts, and probably suits their looms better than foreign yarn. Total deliveries for 1874 amounted to 8,385 piculs, against 7,013 for 1873. Owing to a scarcity of number 28/32 the value of this article advanced in December to \$128 per bale for best chops of water twist. Number 16 to 24 has declined steadily throughout the year, and for the last six months has been saleable to a limited extent only. There is no market for number 38/42.

T. Cloths.—Although the consumption has increased from 9,700 pieces in 1873 to 29,308 pieces in 1874, it is still so insignificant as to be scarcely worthy of notice. Imports have been principally by Chinese.

Turkey-Red Cambrics.—Deliveries have increased from 40,000 pieces in 1873 to 66,250 pieces in 1874. In consequence of heavy arrivals in June and July prices sustained a considerable decline at that period, but subsequently recovered, and at the end of the year good colors were quoted at from 90 cents for 3 lbs. to \$1.05 per lb. for 2 lbs.

Black Velvets. (Cotton) A large and increasing trade is done in these goods, deliveries of which amounted to 19,960 pieces, against 17,185 for the previous year. Prices ruled with extreme regularity until August, when reduced stocks gave rise to an advance, quotations reaching \$10.50 for good quality. This rate was fairly maintained with slight fluctuations until the end of the year.

Victoria Lawns.—\$1,750 pieces have been taken during the year against 23,820 pieces for 1873. Prices were fairly maintained throughout, and reached a maximum of \$1.12½ in October, contrary to former experiences of the course of the market, which has usually declined towards the cold weather. These goods are evidently in favor with native consumers.

Drills.—Principally English, were purchased to the extent of 31,163 pieces, as compared with 16,470 pieces for 1873. The increase in consumption is probably due to the requirements of the troops during the Formosan expedition, as a large proportion of the deliveries was without doubt for Tokio.

Chintzes.—Total deliveries of all descriptions were 46,514 pieces, a large portion of which was composed of importations by Chinese from Shanghai of common qualities and sold at about \$1.50 per piece or lower. A small proportion of superior goods was also taken, and for special patterns \$3.50 was paid.

Taffachelass.—The consumption of these goods, which has for some time been falling off, has during the past year recovered a little, the figures for the period under review reaching 42,820 pieces.

The demand has been confined almost exclusively to single weft, double weft being entirely neglected, and quotations for the former make ranged between \$2.60 and \$3.00 per piece.

Handkerchiefs.—Sales of these goods which in 1873 were reported at only 7,200 dozen, increased during 1874 to 23,250 dozen.

Miscellaneous Cotton Goods.—In addition to the articles enumerated above there has been a limited consumption during the year of white shirtings, broadens, spots, satins, and some fancy goods, which do not call for any special notice.

Mousselines de laine.—These goods continue to hold a prominent position in the list of woollen imports, total sales reported at 103,760 pieces representing a value of \$654,200 showing, however, a decline as compared to 1873 of 23,000 pieces. Supplies are furnished exclusively by French and German manufacturers, who have adapted colors and patterns to the native taste with considerable success, and the business of the past year, in this class of goods, is said to have been profitable. With so great a variety of qualities it is impossible to give particular quotations. Prices appear to have gradually improved during the early part of the year, reaching their highest point about August, and remaining without much change until the close.

Plain Black Lustres or Orleans.—A large business was done in these articles especially during the month of September, when the best chops of 42 yards were quoted up to \$8.15 per piece. These high prices naturally attracted considerable supplies, which weakened the market to some extent, although at slightly reduced rates and also continued upon a satisfactory scale during the rest of the year. Imports have consisted mostly of goods measuring 40 to 42 yards, but latterly 30 yards appear to be coming into favor.

Camlets.—The business done in Camlets during 1874 amounted to 1,924 pieces, valued at \$33,320, against 1,730 pieces, and \$30,631 in 1873. The favorite colors for this article are scarlet and black.

Black Lastings.—Deliveries have increased from 3,775 pieces in 1873 to 10,410 pieces in 1874. During the first three months of the year the market was entirely bare of stock, and considerable sales for arrival were made, up to \$15.50. Prices have since fluctuated between \$13 and \$14, and at the end of the year were steady with a moderate demand.

Italian Cloth. The consumption of this fabric showed a decrease of nearly one half as compared to 1873. The lowest prices ruled during the month of January, and again, in July. Subsequent to the latter date a gradual improvement took effect, and a fair demand existed at the close of the year. Black is the principal color used.

Cloth.—Although the deliveries for 1874 were rather larger than in 1873, the result of the business of the year was eminently unsatisfactory. Between the months of March and September no sales whatever were effected, but with the approach of the winter a demand set in, and during the next three months 130,000 yards were delivered. The consumption was confined principally to Unions and Sealskins, and holders as a rule were eager to clear their stocks, although the prices offered showed a heavy loss. The current quotations at the end of the year were 35 cents per yard for Sealskins, 75 cents for Presidents, 50 to 60 cents for Unions and Pilots, superior goods being entirely nominal.

Blankets.—Deliveries for the year amounted to 31,000 pieces. The principal business done was during the month of October, when prices for best assortments of 7 lbs. reached 48 cents per lb., but the demand subsequently slackened and the year closed with a decidedly downward tendency.

Miscellaneous Woollens.—These consisted of Long Ells, Alpaca, Fancies, Merinos, Figured Orleans, Corded Orleans, Baratians, Flame, the deliveries of which in the aggregate form an important item, although the individual articles call for no special remark. Under this head may also be included foreign clothing, consisting principally of singlets and drawers, which figure in the list of deliveries to the value of \$25,000. These goods have been placed, principally by public auction, having been imported in considerable excess of demand, at unremunerative prices.

Metals.—The trade in Iron largely increased, deliveries of all descriptions being stated at 42,200 piculs against

24,200 in 1873. The bulk of the business has been in small sizes of nailrods, the quotations for which in January reached as high as \$6 per picul. A gradual decline was experienced throughout the year, and in December this description was valued at \$450 with increasing stocks, composed largely of inferior quality. The consumption of other metals is too limited to require particular notice.

Sugar.—Deliveries had increased from 31,800 piculs in 1873 to 55,500 during the past year. The bulk of this consisted of Formosa and Swatow kinds, and the business is conducted principally by Chinese. The lowest quotation for Formosa was \$360 in July, the market gradually improving until November, when \$5.25, for the same quality was reached. Considerable quantities of sugar are produced in Satsuma, resembling in appearance Swatow black, but possessing superior saccharine qualities, and in consequence realizing higher prices than the imported article.

Cotton.—Deliveries were 17,400 piculs, against 1,400 piculs only in 1873. A partial failure of the native crop created a demand for China staple, which advanced to \$1,625 per picul during the month of October. The market was, however, quickly supplied by considerable importation, and has since been in a languid state. A prejudice appears to exist against the employment of imported cotton, as the native staple, which is little, if at all superior in quality to the best Ningpo, invariably sells at a very much higher price.

Kerosene Oil.—The trade in this commodity promises to be a most important one, and the consumption has increased to 28,300 cases against 19,600 in 1873, and 4,200 in 1872. Prices ruled between \$3.25 and \$3.60 per case, with some firmness towards the end of the year. Petroleum is known to exist in many parts of Japan, and the increasing demand will probably cause some attention to be paid to making it available for use, and thus in time dispense with the importation of foreign oil.

Staple Imports.—Amongst these Umbrellas figure to the extent of \$29,900. Dyes of various kinds \$57,000, Safflower \$116,432, Medicine \$71,000. Boots and shoes have been sold to the extent of \$6,420; these are now largely manufactured in the country, and imported goods are almost entirely superseded. Arms to the value of \$25,000 have been delivered, in consequence of a demand from China, which completely cleared the market. In addition to the above goods, is a long list of unenumerated imports valued at \$953,200, which includes all articles imported for the use of foreigners, besides a variety of commodities, such as window-glass, cement, toys, furniture, liquors, &c., sold to Japanese, which do not come under the denomination of staple goods.

EXPORTS.

The total value of exports for 1874 is estimated at \$5,751,155 against \$3,477,537 in 1873, showing an increase of \$2,273,618, for the two ports.

Tea.—has continued to form the chief export from this district, and the total shipments for the year amounted to 7,091,165 lbs., valued at \$2,506,179, against 4,688,270 valued at \$1,246,147 in 1873.

With the exception of 28,700 lbs. to London, and 507,000 lbs. to Yokohama, the whole of the above export was made to the United States and Canada.

The new teas commenced to arrive on the 11th May, and were brought forward in much larger quantities than usual, 9,500 piculs being settled during the first month. The market opened at extreme rates, which, however, were not long maintained, owing to unfavorable advices from New York, and the bulk of the purchases were made at reasonable prices. From that date a comparatively large business was done until the end of October, when a check took place, and purchases for the rest of the year fell to about 1,500 piculs per month.

With the exception of a short period at the beginning of the season, when fine teas commanded temporarily extreme rates, prices have ruled throughout with unusual regularity. The following table shows the price of good medium, which may be considered the standard quality, throughout the year.

January,	old.....	\$34 to \$38, per picul.
February,	"	.....\$34 to \$38, " "
March,	"	.....\$34 to \$38, " "
April,	"	.....\$34 to \$38, " "
May,	new.....	none.
June,	"	.....\$35 to \$38, per picul.
July,	"	.....\$36 to \$38, " "
August,	"	.....\$36 to \$37, " "
September,	"	.....\$37 to \$38, " "
October,	"	.....\$37 to \$39, " "
November,	"	.....\$36 to \$38, " "
December,	"	.....\$36 to \$38, " "

The general quality of the crop of 1874-75 was superior to that of 1873-74, and the proportion of fine teas larger than usual. This attached an exaggerated value to the lower qualities, and to make up for the scarcity of the latter, the tea plants appear to have been subjected to an extra picking late in the year, which threw a large quantity of very inferior leaf upon the market. The result will probably be that the first crop of next season will be of superior quality, but of limited extent.

The production of tea in this district will no doubt steadily increase, as a considerable stimulus has within the last three years been given to the cultivation of the plant, which returns a most profitable result to the farmer.

Rice.—This article was next in importance to tea, having been exported to the extent of 318,556 piculs, valued at \$796,390, of which 243,700 piculs were shipped to London. At the beginning of the year prices ruled at \$2.30, but in consequence of disturbances in the country joined to an apprehension of war with China, rapidly advanced to \$2.90, which precluded further shipments on foreign account. In June the quotation for best grain was \$3.40, and since that date the value has steadily declined. In August the Government took the ill-advised step of prohibiting the exportation of this grain, being apparently under the mistaken supposition that the high prices had been caused by foreign demand. This prohibition was withdrawn on the 1st April last. Although the extreme rates current had some time previously led practically to the same result, it was felt that such interference with trade is most mischievous and contrary to all sound commercial rules. Shipments of Japan rice had left a heavy loss to exporters, but on the other hand the grain had been introduced into the London market with such results as gave hopes that a valuable trade had been inaugurated, and that with nominal prices ruling on this side shippers might eventually reconp themselves. The action of the Government has not only destroyed this chance, but has left the uncomfortable feeling that in the event of the trade being re-opened at some future time, a succession of further losses will be sustained, with eventually a like useless result. That the export of rice has had no injurious effect upon native consumers is evident from two significant facts. First, that the bulk of the purchases by foreigners was made under contract at from \$2 to \$2.25 per picul, and the higher price paid was for a small quantity at \$2.20, whilst the market value continued to rise for some months after shipments finally ceased, and eventually reached \$3.40 per picul. Second,—that no demand existed for foreign grain, only one cargo of Saigon rice being imported during the year, which realized \$1.50 per picul, whereas in 1870 the importations of this grain amounted to 893,000 piculs. It should also be remarked that between January, 1872, and April 1873, the Japanese Government exported on its own account to foreign countries no less than 2,000,000 piculs, or 120,000 tons. If this operation could be conducted without danger of causing a scarcity of food in the country, the export might safely have been left in succeeding years to be governed by the usual laws of supply and demand.

Copper, bronze &c.—Total export 17,532 piculs, against 24,428 in 1873. Prices were at their highest in May, when best slabs and fingers were quoted at \$24.50. The market thence declined to \$22 in October, when an improved demand set in which continued until the end of the year. A few small settlements of rough Copper were made at about \$21. The supply of bronze

and gun metal appeared to have been exhausted, and for the limited quantity on offer during the year extreme prices were asked.

Tobacco.—Shipments for 1874 were 9,649 piculs, against 10,440 piculs, in 1873, the whole of which was taken for the London Market. This trade is capable of considerable development, and the native growers would find it to their interests to prepare the leaf by cutting and sorting before bringing it to market, thereby commanding a higher price. Heretofore the foreign exporter has had to purchase the tobacco as it comes from the field, often imperfectly dried, with stalks attached, and good and bad leaves mixed. These defects have to be remedied, as far as possible, before shipment, but they greatly detract from the marketable value, and the dampness of the leaf besides causes fermentation during the voyage, the result of which is that a very large proportion of the tobacco imported from Japan is sold in London as "country damaged." These circumstances, which are entirely under the control of the native grower, have up to the present time made the trade highly unsatisfactory and subjected those engaged in it to wholly unnecessary risk.

Camphor.—A large increase is shown in the export of this commodity, the figures being 7,455 piculs in 1874, against 2,588 piculs in 1873. Of this quantity 4,455 piculs have been taken for London, 2,000 for New York, and the remainder for China. Prices have fluctuated between \$13.50 to \$15 throughout the year. The quality of the produce of this district is good, and fetches a higher price in London than that imported from China.

Vegetable Wax.—A very marked falling off has taken place in this produce, the export for 1874 being only 7,410 piculs against 12,301 piculs in 1873. The cause may be looked for in the state of the London market, which declined from 98 shillings per cwt. in January 1873, to 64 shillings in January 1874, and to 55 shillings in June in the same year. Prices on this side have fluctuated between \$14 and \$9.50, the lowest price having been reached in August. After that date the market became stronger, and in October \$13 per picul was again asked. The dealers say that this article cannot be produced at a lower cost than \$11 to \$12 per picul, as in its unrefined state it goes largely into native consumption at the equivalent of this price.

Curios.—Exports under this head, which comprises fans, lacquered ware, bronzes, and the like, amounted to \$129,500, of which \$84,500 worth was sent to London, and \$45,000 to New York.

Rags.—The quantity exported, principally to America, amounted to 1,328 piculs. The high freight that ruled throughout the year checked business in this direction, and the unsatisfactory result of shipments to London has apparently entirely stopped export to that market.

Remaining exports were principally in the hands of the Chinese, and consisted of Seaweed, Medicine, Sulphur, Isinglass, Ginseng, Rapeseed oil, Cuttle fish, Sharks fins, Mushrooms, &c., &c. 3,079 head of cattle, valued at \$82,960, were exported to Yokohama for the consumption of the foreign troops and residents.

Shipping and Navigation.—The number of Foreign vessels that entered the Ports of Hiogo and Osaka during the year 1874, amounted to 196, aggregating 239,972 tons, showing a decrease of 76 vessels, and 48,660 tons against 1873. 204 American, 139 British, 44 German, 4 French, and two Danish vessels entered and cleared during the past year. The American Pacific Mail Company's coast line supplied as before a large proportion of tonnage, amounting to 175,620 tons, out of the 182,649 tons under this flag. The principal portion of the over-sea trade was carried on in British bottoms. Eighteen British vessels, two German, and one American loaded for the United Kingdom, and five British and one German for New York, during the year.

The most important feature in the trade is the local traffic between this Port and Yokohama, on the one side, and Shanghai on the other. The Pacific Mail Company had practically enjoyed a monopoly of this since 1868, but it is now being contested by two Japanese lines, supposed to be largely subsidized by the Government, and which have reduced freights to absurdly low rates.

Currency.—The intended removal of the Mint at Osaka from under European superintendence was notified during

the latter part of the year, and has since been carried into effect by the retirement of the Director and the greater part of his foreign staff. The coinage will in future be under the absolute control of native officials, with the assistance of three or four foreigners who have been retained for the present. I am informed that the establishment works well under the control of the Japanese officials, and that the number of coins struck has augmented rather than diminished.

The number and value of coins struck from the 1st January, 1874, to 31st January, 1875, amounted to:—

Gold, 2,414,874 pieces, of five, two, and one yen, Value in dollars	\$9,850,897
Silver, 29,563,977, of one yen, 50 sen, 20 sen, 10 sen, and five sen, Value in dollars	\$4,205,813
Copper, 61,630,947 of two sen, one sen, one-half sen, and one kin, Value in dollars	\$ 499,841
Total.....	\$14,556,551

There is a marked falling off in the coinage of gold, which was to be expected, for not only has the rate of exchange ruled against the advantage of coining gold, but the total amount in circulation may be considered equal to about \$1.50 per head of the entire population of the country, and it is scarcely probable any large increase will be necessary.

I observe in the Osaka Mint report for 1874 the following observations relative to the silver coinage.

On the 17th March last, the Government issued the authorization for the coinage of a new silver one yen piece, of improved design, the weight to be 416 grains Troy, and the fineness .900, with the value clearly indicated thereon for the guidance of foreigners as well as Japanese. A considerable number of these coins have gone into circulation.

The Government of the Straits Settlements recognized the new coin as a legal tender, and it was also accepted at other places on the coast of China. But although the Japanese silver yen as then proposed was the precise equivalent of the Hongkong dollar, the application for the Japanese yen to be proclaimed in that colony as a legal tender was, at the instance of the Chamber of Commerce, refused. Strange to say, however, the Canton Government immediately proclaimed the coins for acceptance.

The new silver yen has been, so far, well received, but serious objections were raised as to the weight of 416 grains, whilst the Trade dollar of America weighed 420 grains.

The Government have it under consideration how far it may be desirable to assimilate the weight of the Japanese yen with the American Trade Dollar.

Cost of the Osaka Mint.—From the Commissioner's Accounts, it appears that the total cost of the Mint establishment, from the commencement of the works in 1868, to 31st July, 1874, amounts to \$1,960,075.

This sum includes the original mint buildings, the additions and enlargements for coinage of copper, the bullion offices, residences of officials, and workmen's barracks, gas works, cokeovens, store and coal sheds, in fact all buildings and appliances of whatever kind, machinery imported and manufactured, stores from Europe and Japan, coals, etc., as well as all salaries, wages and all the contingent expenses. The appropriation of portions of the sum to capital account, and current expenditure presents the usual difficulties, large additions to the machinery having been constructed on the premises, which, with endless other appliances, are, in the accounts referred to included in current expenditure.

The following division is a fair approximation of the total under the two headings viz:—

Capital accounts.....	Yens 1,500,000.
Current expenditure, to 31st July, 1874.....	Yens 460,075.
Total.....	Yens 1,960,075.

For this time outlay of \$1,500,000, the Government possesses a most efficiently appointed mint, complete in

itself, and capable of producing 300,000, to 400,000 coins of mixed denominations, or 100,000 dollars, per diem.

Dimension of the Mint.—The following statement of the floor area of each division of the Mint will convey an idea of the extent of the establishment:—

DIVISIONS OF THE MINT.	SUPERFICIAL FEET.
Assay Department	1,638
Melting-rooms, gold, silver, and copper	8,308
Rolling Mills	10,568
Coining Department	10,355
Annealing furnaces, &c.....	5,360
Weighing Department	1,200
Die Department	2,124
Engines, and boiler space	5,150
Copper refinery	2,112
Fitting shop, foundry, smithy &c	14,350
Total area of Departments	61,163

The gross earnings or receipts of the Mint.

The gross receipts of the Mint from the commencement of the coinage in 1871 to July 31st, 1874, are as follows:—

Gold, Seignorage, premelting and assay fees.	Yen. 475,636
Silver, Seignorage, premelting and assay fees, and profit on subsidiary coins ...	1,543,141
Copper, Estimated gross profits on copper coinage	140,000
Total.....	Yen 2,158,777

Estimated Annual Expenditure.—The estimated expenditure for the ensuing year, including salaries, wages, stores, coals, &c., may be taken as follows:—

Directors Department. —Pay of European officials, 36 Japanese sub-officials, and cadets, and 331 operatives	Yen. 102,540
Probable value of stores, coals crucibles, stationary	51,000
Commissioners Department. —Pay of 16 officials, and 108 sub-officials, and servants	62,000
Total.....	Yen 215,540

The above-expenditure will now be considerably reduced by the removal of the European staff of officials.

Public Companies.—The Hiogo Gas Company completed the erection of its plant in September, upon a piece of ground leased from the Government, adjoining the foreign settlement. The Municipal Council made a contract with the Company for the lighting of the public lamps, which is being satisfactorily performed, and is a very great improvement on the former Kerosene oil lamps. Many private houses are also supplied.—Offers have been made by the Company to light the native town, Government offices and Railway Stations, but the central Government refuses to allow pipes to be laid under the streets, and the matter is therefore in abeyance. The Gas produced is of excellent quality, and supplied to private consumers at \$4 per 1,000 feet.

The Japan Paper Making Company, Limited, is likewise an English undertaking, with a head office in London, formed for the purpose of converting rags and other materials in pulp or "half-stuff" for the use of paper makers in America and Europe. Japan rags have hitherto failed to remunerate the shippers owing to the high cost of freight and the quantity of extraneous matter with which they are mixed, and the theory of the Company is, that if freed from all foreign substances and compressed into a small space, a great saving in freight will be effected, and the product will be offered to purchasers in a more saleable form. The Company, after considerable opposition from the local authorities, has succeeded in procuring a site in the neighbourhood of the settlement, where it is now engaged in erecting works of large extent.

Mines.—Coal of good quality, as well as gold, silver, copper and other minerals, is known to exist in this neighbourhood. The mines in this district number, according to a return furnished me by the Local Government, fifty-nine mines. Out of this number only six mines are worked, and with the exception of two coal-mines, which are at present not worked, their yield is gold, silver and copper. At Ikouno in this neighbourhood a gold and copper mine is worked by Foreigners (Frenchmen) on account of the Japanese Government, and the value of the yield, I am informed, amounts to from twenty to twenty-five thousand dollars per month. As soon as the European machinery is in working order the yield of that mine will be considerably larger. It is to be regretted that as the Japanese Government will not permit the employment of foreign capital, these sources of wealth remain at present undeveloped.

Railways.—The railway from Kobe to Osaka (20½ miles) was opened for passenger traffic on the 11th May, 1874, so that the line has not yet been a year in operation. Parcels and goods have been carried for shorter periods, and the receipts show a steady increase amounting by the latest published returns to about £50 per mile, per week. The competition by steamers, for passengers especially, with the Railway between Kobe and Osaka is rapidly declining according as the people of the country become more sensible of the advantages of time and punctuality. The line is worked with great credit to the Japanese and all concerned, and no accident causing injury to a single passenger has occurred since it was opened.

Most of the subordinate officials are Japanese. The engine-drivers, but not the firemen and foreman platelayers are foreigners. The works of the line, which include large river bridges, three short tunnels, and some heavy earth-work appear to have been constructed with care and solidity. They are reported to have stood the action of heaving floods last year without injury or interruption of the traffic.

From Osaka to Kiyoto (27 miles) the works begun last year are now in active progress, and it is believed that, notwithstanding the large number of rivers to be bridged over there is a fair prospect of the line being opened up to Kiyoto during the year, 1876.

With the object of connecting the Port of Tsuruga on the North Coast with Kobé and the Bay of Osaka, surveys have been made, and the proposed line of railway marked out round the Eastern side of Biwa Lake, from Kiyoto and Otsu to Shiotsu and Tsuruga. I am also informed that further surveys are in progress from the lake towards the interior with the view eventually to the joining of Kiyoto and Tokio by a central trunk line, which will open up largely tracts of country now sorely in need of improved means of communication.

Traffic from May 11th to December 31st, 1874:—

Number of passengers, 505,733, Receipts for same.....	\$ 135,440
Parcels and luggage,—number of Parcels, 15,771 Receipts for same	\$ 3,118
Goods weight, piculs 1,981 Amount for same	\$ 233
Total Receipts.....	\$138,800

This Railway was opened for passenger traffic on the 11th May, 1874, and for goods on 1st December, same year.

Telegraphs.—A Telegraph Office was opened at Otsu, the head of Lake Biwa, at the beginning of this year. It is contemplated to connect Sakai, near Osaka, with the other portion of the Telegraph system. The line to Hakodate has been recently opened, and some very quick answers to telegrams forwarded from Kobe to that port have been received.

Other extensions are pending but have not yet taken definite shapes.

The charges have not been altered since last year when it was fixed at \$1.50 to either Nagasaki or Yokohama. A charge of one and a-half cents for delivering messages to within a certain radius from the Telegraph office has recently been advertised by the Department, the sender having to prepay the charge. The lines are largely availed of both by natives and foreigners, the char-

ges for Telegrams forwarded by Japanese being considerably disproportionate to foreign written messages. The earnings for the past year amounted to over 115,000 yens. The Japanese appear to be becoming much more skilful in the receiving and forwarding of messages. This is especially so as concerns native work.

Post Office.—During the first quarter of the present year there were despatched from the Hiogo Post Office 178,620 native letters, papers, etc., and about the same number were received. Letters, papers, &c., can be posted for any part of the world having postal communication. Stamps and envelope cards were sold during the past three months to the amount of \$4,190.12. Postal cards worth one sen are considerably used by Japanese in their local communications. Money orders can be obtained up to 30 yen, available in Japan only. A fee of ten sen is charged on an order for 30 yen. Savings banks are about being established. The denominations of the postage stamps are of one sen, two sen, four sen, six sen, ten sen, twelve sen, fifteen sen, twenty sen, thirty sen, and forty-five sen.

Public Works.—Sanda Road—A new road has been constructed leading from Kobe to Sanda, the former residence of the Daimyo Kuki Yamato no Kami, and almost the largest town in this neighbourhood. The road runs north-east over the hills, and ends at Sanda.

The construction of good roads all over the country would materially tend to augment the prosperity of the people, and would bring to choose of the inhabitants of Inland towns and villages many of the necessities of life and foreign importations at a far less amount than it is now possible to convey them on the backs of pack-horses along narrow pathways.

The Minato-gawa leads to the sea just between the Bay of Kobe and that of Hiogo. It is generally dry but in rainy weather drains off the water from the hills just above the valley through which the Sanda road runs. The road passes along the West bank of the river. The embankment of this river is built of massive stones of sufficient strength to resist the heavy rush of water which during the heavy rains flows down this river from the mountains. Fine old trees line each bank of this picturesque water-course.

Barracks have been constructed at Sakamoto-mura, in the rear of the town of Kobe, which is garrisoned by about 200 horse-artillery, and has eight field pieces.

The new Custom-House was completed early in 1874. A Lock Hospital has been successfully inaugurated by Staff-Surgeon Hill, R.N.

A small-pox Hospital has likewise been opened by the subscription of the foreign community at Kobe, and patients have already been received into it.

A large Post Office and a new Telegraph office have been built by the Japanese Government.

Department of Imperial Government Works—Seirakurio (Hiogo).

Through the courtesy of Mr. C. G. Wilson, A.J.C.E., Chief Engineer, I am enabled to give the following interesting report on these works.

The works under the superintendence of Mr. Wilson, belonging to this Department of the Imperial Government, are situated on the South West side of the harbor, and command an eligible and important position on the Bay, for engineering purposes at this Port, both in regard to the Harbor, and also to the terminus of the Imperial Government Railway. These works have been and are being gradually enlarged and improved by additions to the buildings and machinery therein. Also a patent slip has been constructed, and is now completed. It measures from end to end six hundred and fifteen feet, capable of receiving on frame a vessel of about one hundred and ninety feet with draught forward of thirteen feet at ordinary high tide.

In connexion with this, the superintendent has prepared designs for Government, of a seawall and masonry piers, to protect the slip and vessels from the disturbing action of the sea, the currents being here very strong when the winds are from the South-East, causing the surf to beat up with considerable violence. The sea wall will run in a line with the works facing the sea,—and the two

breakwater masonry piers will extend out three hundred and twenty-eight feet, to a depth of thirty feet at high water, enclosing the slip on each side. One end will carry sheerlegs, capable of lifting fifty tons, the other will be supplied with a five-tons travelling crane to move thereon. Both piers will be laid out with rails, three feet six inch gauge to shore end, carried through works and join by siding of about one hundred yards, the Railway terminus at Hiogo.

These masonry piers being nearly vertical, will form quay walls for vessels lying alongside for loading and discharging cargo, which may be turned to valuable account both for commercial purposes, and in times of war, for rapid shipment or debarkation of troops, military stores and other material.

The object of this Department of Public Works is to foster and establish means in this country for constructing and repairing every class of engineering works.

The production or work carried on during the past year is as follows:—Constructing slip, capstans, piling foundations &c. construction of mining apparatus for Mining Department, making of castings in iron and brass of many descriptions; constructing boilers and small steam engines; repairing marine engines and boilers. The number of hands employed has been limited this past year, amounting to two hundred and fifty workmen and coolies. This number will be very much increased and give employment to a large number of hands.

Saké.—The district between Osaka and Kobé is the most famous for saké throughout the whole of Japan. Itami Saké is best known, and is largely exported by junks to Yedo.

Saké is brewed from rice, and in its formation two kinds of rice malt are used. These are afterwards mixed with other rice, at different times, and a certain quantity of water being added (20 to 25 gallons to 20 lbs. rice), the whole is left till a sort of fermentation takes place in about nine or ten days. The liquid is boiled down according to the quality and quantity of the saké to be produced, and is then placed in tubs of immense size and kept well closed until required for use. The rice from which the saké has been manufactured is called "Ros", and is used as manure, and also after having been dried in the sun it is employed in making cakes much liked by the Japanese. Some of the rice employed in the brewing of saké comes from near Okashi, some fourteen miles west of Kobé, but the better kinds come from the province of Kaga. The making of saké here gives employment to large numbers of labourers from the neighbouring provinces of Tamba and Tango, who assemble in large numbers at a fair held annually at Nishinomiya at which places the owners of saké establishments engage their employees for the ensuing season. The season commences in the early part of January, though the preparations for the malt, cleansing of rice, &c., go on some time before that. The export annually takes place in the summer.

OSAKA.

Business at this port, both as regards Foreigners and Japanese, during 1874, was in every respect worse than in 1873, owing principally with the latter to the failure of several large Japanese Firms, particularly the Ohno Bank, many merchants having deposited money in this concern, which it is very doubtful if they will ever recover.

The Japanese trade with the Inland Sea by steamer has greatly increased since the opening of the Railway, all the boats formerly running to Kobe with passengers, now taking cargo to and from various ports. In fact nearly all Japanese produce, with the exception of rice, which is still shipped in junk, comes by steamer. The large regular steamers to Yedo continue to take hence considerable quantities of sugar, paper, metals, oil, seaweed, &c., &c.

A new regulation has lately been made by which all Japanese steamers here have to enter and clear at the Custom House in the same manner as foreign vessels, and foreigners are offered greater facilities by the Custom authorities in shipping coastwise by them than by Foreign-owned vessels; not having to deposit duty being I think one of the greatest.

The changes for the better, above-mentioned, in the transit of Japanese produce does not unfortunately benefit foreigners at this port, and with the exception of occasional purchases of tobacco and vegetable wax, little or no business is done. The Chinese seem to increase in numbers, and do a considerable trade in produce for China such as isinglass, seaweed, awabi, &c., &c.

On the Foreign Settlement no change of note has taken place. The only new building is a boot manufactory.

A new bridge with iron piers and hand-rail has just been completed by the Osaka Authorities over the "Hiak kenburi Kawa," and a contract been entered into with a Yokohama firm to erect one over the Kidzu-gawa, to replace the old bridge, to Kamei-bashi.

No mines have to my knowledge been recently opened in this neighbourhood, but many Japanese are very anxious to have the country opened, in order to get foreign assistance in working some already used, and deplore the shortsighted policy of the Government is not doing this.

I give a list (from Japanese statistics) of produce usually offered for sale here and at Kobé. Silk and tea are omitted, as the former is scarcely ever purchased by foreigners at this Port, and the latter is invariably taken to Kobé.

Tobacco.—Bungo and Hiogo produce about 5,000 bales, equal to 3,000 piculs yearly, of which about 2,000 piculs is purchased by foreigners.

Bichiu, a similar quality. Tosa, about 2,000 to 3,000 piculs which is nearly all consumed by the natives, the color of the leaf not being liked by foreigners.

Owari, about 3,000 piculs, about 1,000 piculs finding foreign purchasers.

Vegetable Wax.—The annual produce is about 30,000 piculs, the greater portion of which is used by natives in making candles &c.

Cumpher.—Tosa, 10,000 tubs yearly; other districts, 15,000 to 20,000 tubs.

Copper.—Iwo 10,000 piculs yearly; other districts 15,000 piculs, about 10,000 piculs of which is generally exported.

Isinglass.—17,000 piculs yearly; about half being purchased by foreigners and Chinese.

Long Seaweed.—Shipments to China about 10,000 kokus, yearly: produce uncertain.

INDUSTRIES.

Paper manufactory.—This machinery is calculated to make one ton of paper per day, or six tons per week. The quality of the paper at present made is of a coarser kind, such as would be used for packing and wrapping papers. Paper is also made suitable for newspapers. Rags only are used for the making of paper fit for printing newspapers, rags and straw for wrapping papers,—the proportions being about 50 per cent of each. It is contemplated to obtain additional machinery in order to produce a better and finer class of paper. This establishment is under foreign supervision.

Sugar refinery.—The object of this refinery is to refine raw Japanese sugar, which material is obtained from Satsuma. This machinery is estimated to refine four to five tons sugar daily. I am informed that the quantity of foreign matter and acidity in the native-grown sugar, owing to imperfection in its manufacture render a subsequent perfect granulation very uncertain, and until improved machinery for the production of sugar from the cane is adopted in the East, a refinery plant will scarcely be found to pay. A small steam plant for crushing the cane was imported at the same time as the machinery for the refinery, for use of the sugar growers in the interior, but I am informed that the Japanese have determined on setting aside this machinery untried, which cost them \$6,000. This refinery when in complete working order will produce about two tons of loaves weekly.

Cotton spinning factory, by steam, at Sakai, near Osaka, newly imported from Europe, is now in good working order, but as yet produces but coarse thread, No. 18 to 24 chiefly, the cost of which, however, is equivalent to the same kind of cotton yarn imported from England. There

are 24 looms, some of which have 75, whilst others have from 120 to 250 spindles.

Cotton Yarn and Cloth.—and cotton knitting are now bleached to perfection after European fashion by Japanese, and with great advantage. Dying yarn and raw cloth, Turkey Red in imitation of foreign patterns, have been tried here, but as yet the color of Turkey Red has not attained the proper qualities of a solid dye.

Knitting machines are regularly bought up and made use of pretty considerably by the Japanese in the making of underclothing, shawls, scarfs, and stockings in cotton and wool of all colors. The natives work them very cleverly, and particularly so in Kiyoto. The most suitable of these knitting machines are Lambs' Patent, long model, and Bickfords' Patent, round model, both American.

Carpet weaving has been introduced and the Japanese make some handsome specimens of carpeting made of cotton and mixtures, of straw-fibre and coir-fibre, after European patterns, very solid and cheap.

Manufactories of Hats, cloth and straw, and of caps of cloth of any kind, of velvet or silk after foreign style have been started in Osaka with great success, and the trade becomes a very lucrative one for the enterprising Japanese. One manufacturer, for instance, makes 1,000 dozen of hats and caps monthly, and has besides large orders on hand. The caps made by Japanese are equal in shape and finish to the newest fashion and best make of foreign countries. The well known Prussian flat cap is worn in Osaka and neighbourhood by thousands of the natives and appears to be the favorite shape.

Clothing.—Of all description after foreign patterns, as well as shoes, are made here on a large scale and of excellent finish; indeed so well made are these articles on the spot, and sold at such moderate prices that foreign importation of this class of goods is scarcely saleable. The wearing of foreign clothes by Japanese is steadily on the increase.

Sewing Machines.—Are in great use, and the Japanese tailors know well how to handle them. The imported sewing machines are now very difficult to sell, partly owing to the extensive stock in the hands of the merchants, and also because the Japanese themselves are making sewing machines now, perhaps not exactly as perfect as foreign made machines, but they are made so much cheaper that most of the natives prefer to invest their money in a cheap imitation than in a solid and good imported article.

Glass Manufactory.—This establishment has been greatly improved, and the Japanese now make very fine glassware of all descriptions, except window-glass, and these articles are sold at a much lower price than those imported.

Chemicals and Drugs.—The Japanese in Osaka and Kiyoto have commenced to manufacture chemicals from imported drugs, and although they show little proficiency in this industry, yet their attempts to imitate foreign-made chemicals have tended to keep down the market for this class of goods.

Firebricks.—Of common quality made of common sand and clay, and of superior quality, and of better make than the celebrated "Schamot" bricks, are now being manufactured in Osaka by a gentleman from Swansea, Wales, on a new system and of better quality, it is said, than any as yet imported.—This establishment, I am informed, is prepared to make in one cast 20,000 bricks, one laborer making 1,000 bricks a day.

Revolvers and guns are now made here and in Sakai after foreign patterns. They are made cheap, and tolerably well finished.

Bread beer, (an imitation of German light beer,) liqueurs, and confectionery are made in Osaka, Kiyoto and its neighbourhood by Japanese. They also make soda-water, lemonade and other aerated waters. These drinks are much consumed by the natives. The Japanese have attempted to make cigars, but in this they have not been so successful, owing to their not understanding the method of preparing the tobacco before it is manufactured into cigars. I have, however, seen cigarettes made by Japanese very neatly finished.

I will conclude these remarks on the trade, etc., of Osaka by stating that a short line of Railway has been opened to and from the Osaka terminus and Ajikawa River, and close to the Foreign Settlement, for the conveyance of passengers and goods. This arrangement will no doubt prove of great convenience to the foreign public.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient
humble servant.
(Signed) A. A. ANNESLEY.

I.—RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF HIOGO FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31ST DECEMBER, 1874.

FROM ENGLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

		Yards.		
COTTON MANUFACTURES.—Total value \$1,641,074.				
Shirtings ...	...	Yards.	20,819,957	1,108,825
Chintzes ...	...	"	689,516	40,489
Taffachelas ...	...	"	423,897	89,186
Velvets ...	...	"	434,927	85,659
Italian cloth, imitation ...	...	"	159,898	26,250
Cotton Fabrics ...	...	"	622,672	42,085
T.-Cloths ...	...	"	822,544	49,399
Cambries ...	...	"	362,132	22,222
Handkerchiefs ...	...	Dzcs.	10,790	5,259
Cotton singlets and drawers ...	...	"	7,597	30,841
Cotton Yarn ...	...	Piculs.	3,795	127,141
Cotton Goods (Chinese) ...	...	Pieces.	6,535	11,791
Total value, Cotton Manufactures ...			\$1,641,047	
WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.—Total value \$165,095.				
Cloth ...	...	Yards.	13,333	17,370
Stripes (Spanish) ...	...	"	8,413	5,610
Flannel ...	...	"	14,584	3,468
Long Ells ...	...	"	37,920	12,489
Camlets ...	...	"	9,775	2,643
Blankets ...	...	Piculs.	405	18,895
Monsselines de laine... ..	...	Yards.	804,172	103,606
Wool faucies ...	...	"	438,451	94,709
Total value, Woollen Manufactures ...			\$258,790	
WOOLLEN AND COTTON MANUFACTURES.—Total value \$803,687				
Orleans and Lustres... ..	...	Yards.	717,065	128,507
Italian Cloth ...	...	"	47,503	10,910
Woollen and Cotton mixtures... ..	...	"	2,622,906	664,270
Total value, Woollen and Cotton Manufacture ...			\$803,687	
METALS.—Total value \$267,913.				
Iron, manufactured ...	...	Piculs.	30,914	139,436
Iron, Pigs ...	...	"	14,176	20,818
Iron, Wire ...	...	"	925	6,702
Lead, Pigs ...	...	"	226	1,824
Lead, Sheets ...	...	"	164	1,108
Spelter and Zinc ...	...	"	364	2,756
Steel ...	...	"	323	5,190
Tin ...	...	"	666	19,180
Tin Plate ...	...	Cases.	1,237	9,249
Quicksilver ...	...	Piculs.	93	17,648
Iron Ware... ..	...	"	...	33,516
Iron Screws ...	...	"	...	5,720
Brass Ware ...	...	"	...	2,695
Copper ...	...	"	...	2,071
Total value, Metals ...			\$267,913	
MISCELLANEOUS, FOREIGN.—Total value \$1,326,807.				
Candles ...	...	Lbs.	10,000	1,673
Canvas ...	...	Yards.	7,758	1,713
Cigars ...	...	Lbs.	7,300	10,584
Cordage ...	...	"	18,000	2,196
Window glass ...	...	Cases.	3,694	14,096
Horns, Buffalo ...	...	Piculs.	229	1,713
Hides, &c... ..	...	"	1,817	20,924
Red Lead ...	...	"	106	1,331
Paint oil ...	...	"	1,142	9,807
Leather ...	...	Piculs.	879	29,468
Soap ...	...	"	515	2,758
Vermilion ...	...	"	...	37,643
Tapestry ..	...	"	...	8,751
Cement ...	...	"	...	8,149
Potash ...	...	"	...	1,982
Clocks ...	...	Pieces.	6,566	26,995
Dyes ...	...	Piculs.	107	23,568
Boots and Shoes ...	...	Pieces.	2,028	5,738
Drugs ...	...	Piculs.	4,201	22,318
Furniture ...	...	"	...	5,395
Tiles ...	...	"	...	2,862
Glassware ...	...	"	...	9,870
Implements ...	...	"	...	2,304

I.—RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE.—Continued.

Instruments, scientific	...	...	6,878
do. musical	...	...	1,260
Jewellery	...	...	3,911
Beer and Porter	...	Dozens.	18,642
Brandy	...	...	544
Champagne	...	...	837
Sherry	...	...	595
Whiskey	...	...	219
Claret	...	...	2,563
Lamps	...	...	10,533
Looking glasses	...	...	4,313
Machinery	...	...	42,069
Matches	...	...	3,212
Medicines	...	...	36,342
Oil, kerosine	...	Piculs.	40,734
„ lubricating	...	...	1,788
„ salad	...	...	2,903
Eau de Cologne	...	...	12,307
Soap (scented)	...	...	2,307
Pictures	...	...	2,022
Porcelain	...	...	6,424
Provisions (stores, &c.)	...	...	4,195
Butter, Cheese, Condensed Milk	...	...	24,286
Scales	...	...	13,047
Silver ware	...	...	1,537
Stationery	...	...	1,861
Stoves	...	...	13,013
Thermometers	...	...	1,813
Towels	...	...	1,232
Trunks	...	...	1,120
Umbrellas	...	...	1,832
Watches	...	...	7,549
Clothing	...	Pieces.	1,073
Books	...	...	8,601
Coals	...	...	10,813
Articles on Govent. account, (principally Railway material.)	...	Tons.	945
Miscellaneous	...	...	1,223
	...	...	5,123
	...	...	550,000
	...	...	81,392
Total value, Miscellaneous, Foreign			\$1,326,807
MISCELLANEOUS, LOCAL OR EASTERN PRODUCE.—Total value			
[\$990,624.]			
Cotton	...	Piculs.	25,772
Safflower	...	...	251,490
Rhinoceros Horns	...	...	2,098
do. Hoops	...	...	110
Sapan Wood	...	...	4,045
Sea horse tusk (narwhal)	...	...	5,479
Sugar, Brown	...	...	3,029
do. White	...	...	8,749
do. Candy	...	...	1,631
Musk	...	...	8,797
Camphor, refined	...	Catties.	4,348
Saffron	...	...	3,137
Liquorice	...	Piculs.	153
Gall nuts	...	...	6,042
Gum	...	...	7,183
Hemp	...	...	3,365
Tea	...	...	3,823
Paper, China	...	...	2,850
Tortoise-shell	...	Catties.	3,208
Mats	...	...	1,334
Tea leads	...	Catties.	13,331
Rattans	...	...	1,763
Sundries	...	Piculs.	1,849
	...	...	10,025
	...	...	12,463
	...	...	5,273
	...	...	13,889
	...	...	10,932
Total value, Miscellaneous Local or Eastern Produce			\$990,624
RECAPITULATION.			
Cotton	...	...	1,641,047
Woolen Manufactures	...	...	258,790
Woolen and Cotton Manufactures	...	...	803,687
Metals	...	...	267,913
Miscellaneous, Foreign	...	...	1,326,807
Miscellaneous, Local or Eastern Produce	...	...	990,624
Total value of Imports			\$5,288,868

RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF HIOGO FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31st, 1874.

FROM OPEN PORTS IN JAPAN.

Cotton Manufactures	...	\$141,137	Umbrellas	...	\$11,689
Woolen Manufactures	...	66,741	Wines, &c.	...	5,562
Cotton and Woolen Manufactures	...	38,480	Medicines	...	4,425
Metals	...	35,413	Stores	...	25,084
Arms and Ammunition	...	2,537	Tea leads	...	24,643
Seaweed	...	33,338	Jewellery	...	4,885
Tobacco	...	26,090	Glassware	...	4,957
Dried fish	...	12,342	Hats	...	9,135
Cattle fish	...	3,885	Furniture	...	6,390
Awabi	...	2,260	Tortoiseshell	...	2,360
Camphor	...	24,250	Gunny bags	...	3,550
Dyes	...	9,290	Soap	...	1,020
Beans	...	3,281	Ginseng	...	1,782
Tea	...	5,690	Curios	...	9,372
Boots	...	8,749	Mushrooms	...	9,032
Machinery	...	32,637	Beche de Mer	...	6,655
Silk	...	27,329	Wax	...	22,933
Coral	...	3,920	Miscellaneous	...	73,655
Tea Mats	...	9,202			
Clothing	...	20,019	Total	...	\$741,371
Books	...	7,582			

II.—RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF HIOGO FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31st, 1874.

TO ENGLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

Silk—Raw	...	* Catties.	1,569	\$6,565	...
Skin	...	...	3,600	1,835	...
Floss	...	...	1,000	2,020	...
Waste	...	...	103,370	28,737	39,137
Tea	...	lbs.	7,091,165	...	2,506,179
Copper	...	Catties.	835,437	...	177,947
Tobacco	...	...	961,990	...	86,421
Wax	...	...	741,029	...	95,193
Camphor	...	...	745,509	...	104,482
Dried fish:—					
Awabi	...	...	160,527	17,233	...
Cattle	...	...	239,712	28,648	...
Irico	...	...	90,627	24,412	...
Sharksfins	...	...	7,956	2,448	...
Shell-fish	...	...	221,054	17,387	90,128
Seaweed—uncut	...	...	4,330,382	55,852	...
cut	...	...	623,717	13,597	64,449
Rice	...	Piculs.	318,556	...	796,390
Wheat	...	Catties.	5,620,750	...	96,693
Furs	...	...	...	...	3,297
Tea dust	...	Catties.	81,637	...	2,180
Timber	...	...	...	...	2,773
Umbrellas	...	Pieces.	136,815	...	10,148
Isinglass	...	Catties.	173,446	...	33,483
Mushrooms	...	...	50,580	...	19,614
Peony Bark	...	...	63,961	...	2,846
Rags	...	...	132,800	...	5,898
Sulphur	...	...	511,947	...	8,734
Animals	...	...	...	...	1,667
Ammunition	...	...	...	...	2,047
Bamboo ware	...	...	...	...	2,065
Bronze, broken	...	Catties.	289,746	57,187	...
„ ware	...	...	...	10,013	67,200
Drugs	...	...	69,885	...	2,580
Ginseng	...	...	11,790	...	11,189
Fans	...	Pieces.	354,888	...	53,001
Lacquerware	...	...	...	...	50,808
Porcelain ware	...	...	...	...	28,265
Provisions	...	...	...	...	2,381
Saltpetre	...	Catties.	42,600	...	2,161
Screens	...	Pieces.	127	...	1,073
Sundries	...	...	...	...	20,911
Total value.....					\$4,396,330

* 100 Catties=one picul.

RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF HIOGO FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1874.
TO OPEN PORTS IN JAPAN.

Rags	\$ 4,959	Woolens	45,839
Sugar	86,694	Cottons	30,062
Medicines	14,956	Metals	69,237
Betel	4,150	Coke	4,226
Cement.....	5,756	Silk	1,620
Wines, Spirits, &c.....	10,643	Boots	2,472
Tea Mats	9,643	Books	3,587
Stores	30,786	Clothing	12,814
Jewellery	6,196	Leather	7,091
Arms and Ammunition	14,533	Furniture	8,600
Machinery	33,415	Mixed Cottons and Woolens	7,504
Hats	5,974	Tortoiseshell	2,847
Musk	4,500	Miscellaneous	52,759
Umbrellas	2,317		
Kerosine Oil	36,866	Total	\$560,364
Vermillion, Dyes, &c.	40,316		

III.—RETURN OF ALL FOREIGN SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED AT THE PORT OF HIOGO, FOR THE YEAR, 1874.

	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British	66	46,312	67	47,942
American, general	8	4,853	8	4,853
do. Mail Steamers.....	90	175,620	90	175,620
French	2	567	2	567
German	22	7,816	22	7,816
Danish	1	337	1	337
Total	189	235,505	190	237,135
Total Entered and Cleared 379 vessels, of 472,640 tons.				

IV.—RETURN OF DUTIES COLLECTED ON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, AND OF SHIPPING DUES AT THE PORT OF HIOGO FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1874.

Nature of Dues	Amount.
Import Duties	\$100,993
Export Duties	244,255
Shipping Dues	4,250
Total	\$349,498

V.—RETURN OF TREASURE IMPORTED TO AND EXPORTED FROM THE PORT OF HIOGO DURING THE YEAR ENDING, DECEMBER 31st, 1874.

Imported. From	Value.	Exported. To	Value.
England and other Countries.....	\$81,000	England and other Countries.....	\$1,080,110
Open Ports in Japan	1,537,272	Open Ports in Japan	2,903,517
Total Imported	\$1,618,272	Total Export	\$3,983,627
Total Imported and Exported, \$5,601,899.			

VI.—RETURN OF THE FOREIGN FIRMS AND RESIDENTS AT THE PORT OF HIOGO, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1874.

Nationality.	No. of Firms.	No. of Residents.
British	50	195
American	8	44
German	12	59
Dutch	3	34
French	—	8
Anstro-Hungarian	—	5
Portuguese	—	8
Spanish	—	—
Swiss	2	2
Danish	—	7
Swedish and Norwegian	—	4
Italian	—	1
Greek	—	1
Russian	—	4
Chinese	75	372
		650

VII.—RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF OSAKA FOR THE YEAR ENDING, 31st DECEMBER, 1874.
FROM ENGLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

COTTON MANUFACTURES, \$1,340.			
Turkey Reds	Yards.	14,484	1,340
WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES, \$ Nil.			
WOOLLEN & COTTON MANUFACTURES, \$ Nil.			
METALS, \$40,845.			
Iron (manufactured)	Catty.	99,958	3,394
„ (pig)		144,822	14,654
„ (wire)		167,869	15,708
Tin		53,726	1,010
Tin-plates	Cases.	100	1,415
Quick-Silver	Catty.	1,178	1,305
Iron ware			
			\$40,845

MISCELLANEOUS (Foreign), \$124,028.			
Hide—Buffalo	Catty.	131,537	15,373
Leather	”	36,415	9,445
Drugs.....		340,722	20,231
Fish-lines		1,104	2,536
Beer and Porter	Dozens.	4,990	8,413
Claret.....	”	583	1,236
Machinery		—	1,731
Medicine		—	1,994
Kerosine	Catty.	108,112	6,332
Stationery		—	1,821
Watches	Pieces.	865	4,291
Sundries		—	8,440
Total value Miscellaneous Foreign.....			\$124,028

MISCELLANEOUS (Local) \$194,440.			
Alum.....	Catty.	95,550	1,330
Cotton, Raw		90,176	11,211
Horns, Rhinoceros	”	123	2,520
Hoops.....		12,145	2,458
Ivory		2,472	4,027
Patchuck		7,921	1,112
Rattans		125,010	7,613
Rhubarb		32,269	3,037
Sapan Wood		44,049	1,098
Sugar—Brown		531,963	27,993
„ White		688,982	56,136
„ Candy		23,650	2,154
Vermillion		8,438	13,900
Musk		153	9,336
Garrow-wood		11,978	2,492
Camphor (refined)		993	3,551
Gall nuts		144,337	10,323
Safflower		31,296	21,182
Hemp		—	5,169
Sundries		—	7,798
Total value Miscellaneous Local			\$194,440

RECAPITULATION.			
Cotton Manufactures			\$1,340
Metals			40,845
Miscellaneous, Foreign			124,028
do. Local			194,440
			\$360,653

RETURN OF THE IMPORT TRADE OF OSAKA FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1874.
FROM OPEN PORTS (HIOGO ONLY).

Woolen	\$1,672	Furniture	\$6,194
Cottons	1,826	Leather	4,221
Metals	62,451	Coke.....	4,226
Arms and Ammunition	2,725	Vermillion, Dyes, &c.	39,816
Machinery	28,093	Kerosine Oil	28,916
Wines, Spirits, etc.	4,782	Sugar	59,372
Tea Mats	8,408	Belel.....	4,150
Stores	20,437	Musk	4,500
Cement	4,184	Miscellaneous	26,458
Rags.....	3,459		
Medicines	13,456		
			\$329,346

VIII.—RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF OSAKA FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1874.

To ENGLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

Silk—Skin	Catty.	18,900	16,861	...	...
„ Waste		16,538	6,051	22,922	...
Sulphur		141,755	...	2,972	...
Camphor		227,689	...	32,107	...
Awabi		69,973	21,933	...	...
„ Shell		31,126	1,021	...	...
Cuttle Fish		253,043	33,611	...	...
Irisk		110,664	35,876	...	...
Shark's fins		16,076	5,713	...	...
Shrimps, dried		12,698	1,266	...	...
Shell-fish, dried		31,938	1,891	...	...
„ (Kaibashira)		...	2,809	104,120	...
Isinglass		282,496	...	67,275	...
Mushrooms		118,149	...	47,567	...
Oil-seed		270,450	...	18,709	...
Peony Bark		163,628	...	8,578	...
Rags		1,790,524	...	18,426	...
Sea-weed, uncut		144,740	...	2,148	...
„ cut		276,225	...	8,614	...
Tobacco		220,669	...	15,522	...
Wax, Vegetable		275,843	...	31,980	...
„ Bees		10,659	...	5,461	...
Ammunition		...	...	6,674	...
Brass Ware		...	...	1,741	...
Bronze, broken		46,018	...	8,950	...
„ ware		...	...	3,617	...
Copper		476,563	89,453	...	...
„ old		42,585	9,888	...	...
„ sheet		7,170	1,724	102,065	...
Cotton piece Goods	Pieces.	10,114	...	2,742	...
Drugs	Catty.	204,696	...	15,469	...
Gentian		16,765	...	4,217	...
Ginseng		9,307	...	9,966	...
Provisions		...	...	1,180	...
Sulphur		196,600	...	8,980	...
Dresses—Silk		...	...	1,010	...
Umbrellas	Pieces.	46,685	...	3,974	...
Sundries		...	...	9,751	...
Total value of Export		...	...	...	\$566,537

RETURN OF THE EXPORT TRADE OF OSAKA FOR THE YEAR ENDING, DECEMBER, 1874 TO OPEN PORTS IN JAPAN.

Woollens		\$6,644	Silk	...	\$12,956
Metals		10,275	Tea Mats	...	3,782
Arms and Ammunition		8,317	Books	...	4,946
Sea-weed		19,451	Umbrellas	...	4,057
Tobacco		26,090	Wines, &c.	...	1,977
Dried Fish		8,008	Medicines	...	2,573
Mushrooms		9,032	Glass-ware	...	1,750
Beche de Mer		6,655	Hats	...	1,861
Cuttle Fish		3,685	Furniture	...	2,000
Ginseng		1,752	Camphor	...	6,115
Awabi		1,960	Stores	...	7,867
Wax		22,933	Miscellaneous	...	30,157
Boots		8,062			
Machinery		5,956			
Curios		9,033			
Total		...	Total	...	\$227,894

IX.—RETURN OF DUTIES COLLECTED ON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AND SHIPPING DUES AT OSAKA, DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1874.

Import Duties	.....	\$11,539
Export Duties	.....	23,728
Shipping Dues	.....	169
Total	.....	\$35,436

X.—RETURN OF TREASURE IMPORTED TO AND EXPORTED FROM THE PORT OF OSAKA DURING THE YEAR ENDING, 31st DECEMBER, 1874.

Imported. From	Value.	Exported. To	Value.
England and other Countries	.....	England and other Countries	.....
Open Ports in Japan (Hiogo)	..... \$13,000	Open Ports in Japan (Hiogo)	..... \$108,300
Total Imported	..... \$13,000	Total Exported	..... \$108,300

Note—Since the opening of the Railway between Osaka and Hiogo, no record can be kept of the Treasure brought to and taken away from Osaka unless sent by water.

XI.—RETURN OF THE FOREIGN FIRMS AND RESIDENTS AT THE PORT OF OSAKA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING, DECEMBER 31st, 1874.

Nationality.	No. of Firms.	No. of Residents.
British	10	50
American	2	9
German	—	6
Dutch	1	24
French	1	6
Austro-Hungarian	—	—
Portuguese	—	—
Spanish	—	—
Swiss	1	4
Danish	—	—
Swedish and Norwegian	—	—
Italian	—	—
Greek	—	—
Russian	—	—
Total	15	99
Chinese	.....	80

XII.—RETURN OF ALL FOREIGN SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED AT THE PORT OF OSAKA FOR THE YEAR 1874.

	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British	3	2,291	3	2,291
American	4	2,176	4	2,176
Total	7	4,467	7	4,467

XIII.—STATEMENT SHIewing THE TOTAL OF THE TRADE AND SHIPPING OF THE PORTS OF HIOGO AND OSAKA FOR THE YEAR 1874.

	Imports.		Exports.	
	Hiogo.	Osaka.	Hiogo.	Osaka.
From England and other Countries	\$5,288,868	\$360,653	To England and other Countries	\$4,396,360
„ Open Ports in Japan	741,371	329,346	„ Open Ports in Japan	560,364
Treasure	\$6,030,239	\$689,999	Treasure	\$4,956,724
Total	\$7,648,511	\$702,999	Total	\$8,940,351
Total Imports for Hiogo and Osaka	\$8,351,510		Total Exports for Hiogo and Osaka	\$9,843,082

	HIOGO.		OSAKA.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Number of Foreign vessels, Entered and Cleared	379	472,640	14	8,934
Total Entered and Cleared, Hiogo and Osaka	393	481,574		

	HIOGO.		OSAKA.	
	Residents.	Firms.	Residents.	Firms.
Total Residents and Firms, Hiogo and Osaka	372	75	99	15
Total Duties collected at Hiogo and Osaka	.....		..... \$384,934	

(Signed) A. A. ANNESLEY,
H. B. M's Acting Consul for
Hiogo and Osaka.

