

LAGOS.

Imports and Exports.

13. The value of the imports of the year is returned as 459,376*l.*, and that of the exports (consisting principally of palm kernels, oil, and cotton) as 517,535*l.*, showing an increase in the former of 111,100*l.*, and in the latter of 31,208*l.*, as compared with the previous year.

Shipping.

14. The number of vessels entered inwards, exclusive of mail steamers, was 206, of an aggregate tonnage of 38,452, and the number cleared outwards 119, of an aggregate tonnage of 36,525.

15. Besides the above, 201 mail steamers, representing a tonnage of 202,378, called off the port to discharge and receive cargo.

Gaols and Prisoners.

16. The number of commitments in 1875 was 393, comparing favourably with the previous year, when 514 persons were committed.

17. The sanitary state of the prison is reported by the medical officer to have been good.

Crime.

18. The number of offences reported was 229 less than the previous year, viz., 1,099 in 1875, and 1,328 in 1874.

Hospitals.

19. The hospital continues in the same efficient condition as last reported, and calls for no special remark.

General Remarks.

20. Notwithstanding the partial stoppage of trade for one or two months during the investment of Abeokuta by the Dahomians, the year was comparatively a prosperous one, and were it not for this annual invasion of the Egba territory, with its attending atrocities and wholesale destruction of villages and farms, produce would flow uninterruptedly into the local markets, and Lagos, from its position and extensive inland water communication, would rapidly become the great emporium of the West Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN D'A. DUMARESQ,
Acting Administrator.

His Excellency Lieut.-Governor Lees, C.M.G.

ST. HELENA.

ST. HELENA.

No. 16.

Governor H. R. JANISCH, ESQ., to THE EARL OF CARNARVON.

MY LORD,

St. Helena, March 2, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1875.

2. The returns are nearly similar to those of the preceding year, and will require therefore only a brief report.

3. The revenue of the year was estimated at 13,500*l.*, and amounted to 13,615*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* The expenditure, estimated at 13,563*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, amounted to 13,289*l.* 15*s.* 10½*d.* exclusive of 750*l.* advanced by the Crown Agents for the redemption of debentures.

4. The pension list has been reduced by the deaths of Mr. George W. Melliss, late Colonial Engineer and Surveyor, at 164*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, and Mr. John Thompson, late Clerk in the Customs, at 80*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum; against this reduction are some small additions to Messrs. Goodwin, Bagley, and Hayes, amounting in all to 20*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* per annum.

5. The shipping returns show that 138 vessels have entered and that 40 vessels have cleared at this port.

6. In a memorandum from the Board of Trade, forwarded in your Lordship's Circular Despatch dated June 29, 1875, referring to similar returns for the year 1873, it is desired that steps should be taken to obtain a distinction in the number of vessels only calling from those bonâ fide entered and cleared. The apparent discrepancy in the returns of ships entered and cleared does not however, arise from the neglect of this distinction. As for instance, in the present year the total number of vessels arriving at this port was 605, but only 138 are returned as "entered," imports having been landed from each vessel in the latter number. At the same time it is to be observed that the quantity landed from the majority of those vessels was comparatively trifling, and in this manner a large part of the imports into the Island are obtained by taking advantage of casual supplies from the passing shipping.

7. In the same manner the return of vessels cleared includes all vessels which have shipped cargo from the Island, however small the quantity, or vessels which having landed the whole of their cargo have cleared outwards in ballast.

8. The returns of gaols and hospitals show the same favourable results as the last year. There were only four convictions for indictable offences (being trivial larcenies), and the deaths in the

9. The Colonial Surgeon, at my request, prepared a table (a copy of which I enclose), giving the particulars of the death-rate of the Island for some years past, and proving that the comparison with that of other countries in temperate latitudes is favourable to St. Helena not only for one but for a long series of years.

10. Additional and improved machinery for the preparation of fibre has been provided during the year by the Colonial and Foreign Fibre Company. There are now seven machines at work, which are estimated to clean about 20 tons of raw material weekly requiring an engine of 25 effective horse-power to drive them. The factory gives employment to about 20 hands in town and more than that number in various parts of the Island. I examined a bale of the fibre prepared by these patented machines which was forwarded to Philadelphia for the exhibition. It seemed to me to be much superior to the bales which frequently pass this port in vessels from the East, and Mr. Erridge, the manager of the factory, informs me he has received a letter from one of the largest hemp and flax brokers of New York acknowledging the receipt of the bale of fibre, and pronouncing it to be equal, if not superior, in every degree to Manilla hemp.

11. The whale fishery in the neighbourhood of the Island has been prosecuted with great success in the last season by American vessels, and the evident wealth to be obtained from this source has at last stimulated the fitting out of a whaler from this port, well adapted and furnished for the fishery. I am happy to add that fair success has already attended the effort, and I hope it will prove the commencement of an industry which may hereafter be largely extended to the benefit of the Island.

12. The Cinchona Plantation has had no increase since last year, from the want of funds to extend the cultivation. The trees continue to improve, and the largest have attained the height of nearly 18 feet. I have made several attempts to increase the number from cuttings, but without success, in consequence of the want of skilled management and constant attention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUDN. R. JANISCH.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

NOTES and TABLES concerning MORTALITY on the ISLAND of ST. HELENA.

The first Table has been prepared to show for 17 consecutive years the total annual deaths with the proportions at various ages, the proportion of deaths to the population, and the ratio per-centage of deaths at various ages.

The second Table is designed to show the ratio of the most fatal diseases to the whole number of deaths.

TABLE No. 1.

Years.	Total Number of Deaths.	Deaths.			Number of Deaths per 1,000 of Population.	Ratio of Deaths to whole Number of Deaths.		
		Under 5 Years.	Between 5 and 10 Years.	Above 10 Years.		Under 5 Years.	Between 5 and 10 Years.	Above 10 Years.
1859 -	134	73	5	56	20.79	} Average for Six Years. 38.96	} 4.66	} 56.36
1860 -	128	52	11	65	19.86			
1861 -	163	48	4	111	25.29			
1862 -	140	59	6	75	21.72			
1863 -	123	34	6	83	20.63			
1864 -	105	43	5	57	16.29			
1865 -	163	84	9	70	26.29	} Average for Six Years. 37.9	} 2.82	} 59.1
1866 -	113	49	3	61	16.61			
1867 -	141	35	2	104	22.63			
1868 -	106	36	1	69	16.96			
1869 -	105	45	2	58	16.93			
1870 -	80	20	3	57	12.62			
1871 -	89	28	1	60	14.49	} Average for Five Years. 32.57	} 2.85	} 64.57
1872 -	67	24	1	42	11.75			
1873 -	78	32	4	42	15.44			
1874 -	67	17	1	49	14.04			
1875 -	49	13	3	33	10.35			

TABLE No. 2.—Ratio per cent. of Deaths from Diseases named to whole number of deaths.

Diseases.	Average for Six Years, 1859 to 1864.	Average for Six Years, 1865 to 1870.	Average for Five Years, 1871 to 1875.
Pulmonary consumption -	11.61	14.1	14.
Disease of the nervous system -	5.49	8.47	10.3
" " liver -	1.27	4.23	.28
" " heart -	2.04	3.81	5.71
Natural decay -	9.7	8.61	11.42
Fever -	10.47	4.66	4.
Teething and convulsions -	7.66	4.23	4.
Diarrhoea -	1.	5.5	2.3
Dysentery -	4.98	6.07	4.
Inflammation of bowels -	2.68	4.37	5.43

A comparison of the death rate with that of other countries in temperate latitudes is favourable to St. Helena not only for one but for a long series of years.

ST. HELENA.

It will be seen that consumption is more largely and steadily fatal than any other disease, and that the mortality from this cause has increased of late years, that diseases of the nervous system are more fatal than formerly, that mortal diseases of the heart are on the increase, that disease of the liver, for which St. Helena once had, deservedly or undeservedly, an infamous reputation, scarcely exists, and certainly fewer deaths occur from this cause in proportion to population than in England. A very large and increasing per-centage of deaths is attributed to natural decay. I record this statement as the result of my examination of the registrar's returns, but I am bound to add it is not in accordance with my personal experience, death from natural decay uncomplicated with disease of any kind being in my experience in Saint Helena, as elsewhere, a rare occurrence; deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea are diminishing, as are those from teething and convulsions, which, as usual, are accelerated by improper feeding, especially among the very large number of illegitimate children born here. The genus "fever" includes but one species, viz., enteric, malarial fever being unknown here except by numerous imported cases.

(Signed) CHARLES H. FOWLER, M.D.,
Colonial Surgeon.

St. Helena,
February 25, 1876.

LABUAN.

LABUAN.

No. 17.

Acting Governor LOW to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

MY LORD, Labuan, March 14, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward the annual returns composing the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1875, with the following explanatory remarks:—

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The receipts on account of revenue reached a total of 8,757*l.* 13*s.* 7½*d.*; the expenditure was 6,721*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*

3. The following table presents the annual totals of revenue and expenditure of Labuan for the seven years succeeding 1868, the last of those in which the colonial revenues were assisted by a grant from the Imperial Parliament:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1869	5,528	6,396
1870	7,158	7,301
1871	7,115	8,226
1872	7,079	7,518
1873	6,917	7,090
1874	7,083	7,187
1875	8,757	6,721

LABUAN.

4. The ordinary revenue of the Colony was derived chiefly from the excise licenses, which are farmed out, and from land revenue.

5. The excise licenses produced 3,625*l.* In 1874 the receipts from this source amounted to 3,980*l.*, the decrease in 1875 being principally due to an alteration in the Ordinance regulating the sale of tobacco, which permits the free export of this article in quantities of not less than one case, or 80 lbs., of Chinese tobacco, 67 lbs. of Javanese tobacco, 500 "beleis" of Borneon tobacco, and 67 lbs. of all other tobaccos; and also to the abolition of the monopoly of the sale of fruit, vegetables, and poultry, which was formerly included in the exclusive privileges of the market farmers, these being now limited to the sale of fish only within certain defined limits and under strict regulations.

6. The receipts from land revenue were 968*l.* 10*s.* 9½*d.*, against 1,301*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* in the previous year; but a sum of 500*l.*, due by the Oriental Coal Company for the last half year's rent of their mines, has been paid since the close of 1875.

7. This item includes 50*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, being part payment of annual licenses for the cultivation of padi on lands belonging to the Crown which have been recently imposed, and on which account a further sum of 64*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* remained uncollected on the 31st December. The greater part of it has since been paid.

8. The chief receipt on account of revenue of a more fluctuating character was the sum of 3,090*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, derived from the sale of copper coin, being the share of profit realised by Labuan on the sale of \$72,500 of the copper money of the Straits Settlements.

9. The expenditure of the Colony was kept down to the lowest possible limit, the greater part of it being appropriated to the payment of fixed salaries, 4,557*l.*, of pensions, 439*l.*, the cost of the armed police force, 1,858*l.*, being included in the former item. The Convict Department, exclusive of establishments, cost the Colony 620*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*, and special payments amounted to 566*l.* 17*s.* 5½*d.* Under this last head of service is included every expenditure of an unusual character, or which was not foreseen at the time of passing, nor provided for by, the Appropriation Ordinance. It covers, in 1875, a gratuity and passage money to Major Hervey, whose appointment of Chief Superintendent of Police was abolished; the passage money from England to the Colony of the newly appointed Surveyor General, Mr. Roach, and his family; the cost of the passage of the family of the Colonial Apothecary from Europe; one-third passage allowance to the Colonial Treasurer to England, and many other smaller items, a detailed statement of which I have had the honour to forward to your Lordship in another despatch.

10. 308*l.* 9*s.* 1½*d.* were devoted to works and buildings. This money was spent entirely in the purchase of materials, all labour being furnished by the Convict Department, except to the value of 50*l.*, which was assigned provisionally to a master carpenter as instructor of convict artizans.

11. The results of the financial transactions of the year are in very close accordance with the calculations of Sir Henry Bulwer.