

TABLES

RELATING TO THE

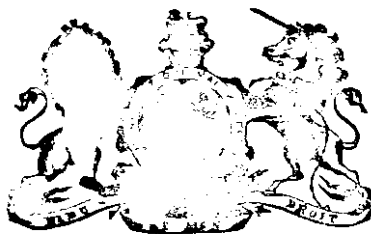
TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

BRITISH POSSESSIONS AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES,

1898-99 TO 1902-03.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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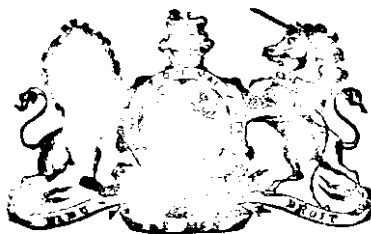
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EXPLANATORY NOTE.

In the following tables values are expressed in pounds at the rate of 15 rupees to £1, this rate having been maintained since January, 1898, with but slight variation.

Under the Indian Sea Customs Act the value of any goods imported or exported is defined as follows for the purpose of the Act: (a) the wholesale cash price, less trade discount, for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold, or are capable of being sold, at the time and place of importation or exportation, as the case may be, without any abatement or deduction whatever, except (in the case of goods imported) of the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof; or (b) where such price is not ascertainable, the cost at which goods of the like kind and quality could be delivered at such place without any abatement or deduction except as aforesaid.

For the purpose of levying import duties the Government of India fixes tariff values of goods subject to such duties. These values are revised from time to time.

The Imports are classified according to the countries from which they come, as shown in the bills of entry, and not according to their prime origin. Thus goods from Switzerland, which has no seaboard, and is not named in the returns, are credited to the countries from which they are shipped. Similarly, it is possible to give only the destination of the Exports as shown by the shipping bills, and not the ultimate destination.

Special mention must be made of the large trade with Hong Kong, most of which is trade with China, though some of it is with Japan, the Philippines, and the Pacific Coast of America. A very large portion of the trade with the Straits Settlements is really trade with the Far East. Colombo (Ceylon) and Aden are also entrepots of trade, and a considerable proportion of the goods despatched to, or received from, these ports represents transit trade. It is probable that much of the trade shown as to, or from, Holland and Belgium, is in reality trade with Germany. The Exports to Egypt are not all retained by that country, but consist to a large extent of rice, wheat, &c., consigned to Port Said to await orders for delivery in ports west of Suez.

