

Foreign
trade of
principal
countries.

300. It will be seen that Germany has the largest amount of foreign trade, followed by France, United States, Belgium and Holland. The foreign trade of the United Kingdom, however, considerably exceeds that of Germany, and is larger than that of any country in the world.

Trade in
Australa-
sian Colo-
nies.

301. In proportion to population, by far the largest trade was done by Belgium and Holland, which, with the exception of Uruguay and Mexico, were the only countries in the table where the value per head of imports and exports was larger than that of the United Kingdom. The value per head, however, of the external trade of some of the Australasian Colonies is, with the exception of Holland, higher than that of any other country of importance in the world.

Excess of
exports.

302. Exports exceeded imports in Russia, Austria, Egypt, Japan, Chili, Mexico and the United States. In all other countries imports were in excess, and in some cases to a large extent.

Excess of
imports

United
States
trade with
Great
Britain.

303. Of the total exports from the United States 51·27 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, and 60·36 per cent. to British Possessions, while of the imports only 24·28 per cent. came from Great Britain and 35·60 per cent. from British Possessions, the imports from British Possessions, exclusive of the United Kingdom, exceeding the exports thereto.

Exports to
British
pos-
sessions.

304. In view of the increasing interest taken in the future relations of England and her colonial possessions, the following figures respecting the trade between them will probably be found interesting. In 1885 the exports from Great Britain to foreign countries were \$904,766,783, and to British Possessions \$415,731,194, the latter being not quite one-third of the total amount, which proportion was the largest yet recorded, and the following figures show that the same proportion has been steadily increasing for a number of years:—