

Imports into British Possessions from Great Britain and foreign countries compared.

320. The total amount imported from Great Britain was \$26,559,954 less than in 1885, and the proportion to the total imports was also less, being 52·00 per cent. as compared with 53·85 per cent. in the preceding year. The excess of imports from Great Britain over imports from other countries has been as follows in the years named, viz., in 1884 \$72,371,510, in 1885 \$74,073,065, and in 1886, \$36,833,675, showing a very considerable falling off in the last year. The imports from Great Britain exceeded those from other countries in eleven colonies, the largest importers being India, New South Wales, Victoria and Canada in the order named. The Straits Settlements only imported \$15,379,746 from Great Britain, and \$82,692,166 from other countries.

Proportion of imports from British Possessions into Great Britain to total imports.

321. The proportion of imports from British Possessions to the total imports into the United Kingdom has remained much about the same for a number of years, as shown by the following figures, though the larger proportion in 1886 may be an indication of a tendency to increase :—

PROPORTION OF IMPORTS FROM BRITISH POSSESSIONS TO TOTAL IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1871	22·03 per cent.
1875	22·57 “
1880	22·50 “
1884	24·56 “
1885	22·75 “
1886	23·40 “

But the proportion of exports to Great Britain to the total Colonial exports has steadily decreased during the same period :—

Similar proportion of exports.

PROPORTION OF EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE TOTAL EXPORTS FROM BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

1871	50·45 per cent.
1875	49·47 “
1880	46·46 “
1884	43·33 “
1885	42·84 “
1886	41·54 “