

made, in order to make up the 68 specified articles in the table, and it is considered these are sufficient to justify the assumption that the remaining articles in each class may be taken in the same ratio. It will be seen that not only a fairer, but also a more instructive estimate can be formed of the condition of the trade of the country by this mode of comparison than by the ordinary one of values only.

IMPORTS OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES FOR HOME CONSUMPTION IN 1897.  
COMPARED AS TO QUANTITY AND VALUE WITH THOSE OF 1896.

ARTICLES.	VALUE.		INCREASED OR DECREASED VALUE.		
	Actual in 1897.	At Prices of 1896.	Due to Variation in		Actually more or less than in 1896.
			Quantity.	Price.	
<i>Food and Drinks.</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Ale, beer and porter ...	1,451,7	151,000 +	14,000 -	7,000 +	7,230
Spirits and wines..	1,379,436	1,412,000 +	109,000 -	33,000 +	75,901
Corn..	1,230,886	1,635,000 +	450,000 -	404,000 +	45,795
Corneal..	33,716	41,000 -	76,000 -	7,000 -	82,984
Wheat and wheat flour..	132,118	121,000 -	75,000 +	11,000 -	64,796
Rice, &c..	214,670	162,000 -	79,000 +	53,000 -	25,393
Pork, bacon and hams..	294,510	336,000 +	8,000 -	41,000 -	32,607
Meats, other..	225,604	259,000 +	18,000 -	33,000 -	14,954
Fish..	543,961	461,000 -	193,000 +	83,000 -	109,683
Oysters ..	191,777	200,000		8,000 -	8,495
Coffee ..	723,850	922,000 +	242,000 -	198,000 +	44,579
Tea ..	3,310,358	3,513,000 +	261,000 -	203,000 +	58,225
Sugar ..	7,639,125	7,313,000 +	2,222,000 +	326,000 +	2,547,727
Molasses..	796,761	929,000 +	108,000 -	132,000 -	24,118
Fruit ..	2,230,906	2,181,000 -	374,000 +	50,000 -	324,414
Hops..	84,024	89,000 +	10,000 -	5,000 +	5,457
Salt ..	33,470	33,000 +	14,000 -	5,000 +	8,920
Other articles..	1,660,976	1,694,000 +	22,000 -	33,000 -	10,358
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>20,870,965</b>	<b>21,457,000 +</b>	<b>2,681,000 -</b>	<b>586,000 +</b>	<b>2,095,932</b>
<i>Metals.</i>					
Copper..	270,036	309,000 +	15,000 -	39,000 -	21,374
Iron, pig..	327,088	315,000 -	90,000 +	12,000 -	78,325
" wrought and scrap.	100,083	92,000 -	75,000 +	8,000 -	67,315
Brass..	475,839	638,000 +	139,000 -	162,000 -	23,637
Spelter ..	32,826	31,000 -	10,000 +	2,000 -	7,772
Tin, in blocks ..	249,852	196,000 -	14,000 +	54,000 +	40,039
Yellow metal..	38,284	54,000 +	18,000 -	16,000 +	2,410
Zinc ..	57,754	47,000 -	34,000 +	11,000 -	23,030
Lead ..	233,125	227,000 -	12,000 +	6,000 -	5,984
Other articles..	495,218	523,600 +	18,000 -	28,000 -	9,592
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2,280,105</b>	<b>2,432,000 -</b>	<b>45,000 -</b>	<b>152,000 -</b>	<b>196,680</b>
<i>Chemicals, Dye Stuffs, &amp;c.</i> <i>-Tanning Articles.</i>					
Cream of tartar ..	147,934	151,000 +	38,000 -	3,000 +	34,684
Dyes, aniline ..	249,971	242,000 -	44,000 +	8,000 -	36,065
Opium, crude..	141,019	143,000 +	7,000 -	2,000 +	5,438