

Europe in the first half of this year, being over five millions more than in same term in 1897. This looks as though she was a very valuable customer to the continental nations. We now turn to the exports of Great Britain for first half of this year and of 1897.

Exports.	1899.	1897.	Inc. or Dec. of 1899.
Australasia.....	53,010,000	51,085,000	inc. 1,925,000
East Indies.....	88,560,000	72,970,000	inc. 15,590,000
Canada.....	15,400,000	12,080,000	inc. 3,320,000
West Indies.....	4,380,000	4,115,000	inc. 265,000
South Africa....	28,510,000	34,025,000	dec. 5,515,000
West ".....	5,145,000	4,590,000	inc. 555,000
East ".....	2,015,000	1,985,000	inc. 30,000
Hong Kong.....	6,305,000	4,800,000	inc. 1,505,000
Other colonies....	9,160,000	8,420,000	inc. 720,000
Total to Colonies	\$212,485,000	\$174,090,000	inc. \$18,395,000
United States...	40,060,000	68,940,000	dec. 28,880,000
France.....	39,040,000	35,225,000	inc. 3,815,000
Holland.....	22,225,000	22,115,000	inc. 110,000
Germany.....	58,290,000	50,550,000	inc. 7,740,000
Belgium.....	23,230,000	21,185,000	inc. 2,045,000
Spain & Port'l.	15,865,000	12,565,000	inc. 3,300,000
Russia.....	27,195,000	15,915,000	inc. 11,280,000
Sweden & N'y.	18,490,000	8,180,000	inc. 10,310,000
Denmark.....	9,935,000	6,855,000	inc. 3,080,000
Rest of Europe..	38,550,000	35,040,000	inc. 3,510,000
Egypt.....	12,380,000	10,760,000	inc. 2,220,000
China.....	18,630,000	15,750,000	inc. 2,880,000
South America...	40,250,000	37,175,000	inc. 3,075,000
Other Countries.	55,400,000	52,041,000	inc. 3,359,000
Total foreign Countries....	420,140,000	392,296,000	inc. 27,844,000
Total Colonies...	212,435,000	194,090,000	inc. 18,345,000
Total Exports...	\$632,575,000	\$586,386,000	inc. \$46,189,000
" Imports...	1,183,053,000	1,127,085,000	inc. 55,974,000
Total British Foreign Trade			
1/2 Year '99			
& '97.....	\$1,815,634,000	\$1,713,471,000	inc. \$102,163,000

For purposes of more ready comparison and information as to the localities from whence Great Britain derives her imports, and whither her exports are sent we have condensed the above statistics into groups showing the imports and exports for first half of this year compared with 1897.

Great Britain's Foreign trade.	1899.	1897.	Balance of Impts. or Exports.
	\$	\$	\$
Canada, Imports....	25,760,000	23,510,000	inc. 2,250,000
" Exports.....	15,400,000	12,080,000	inc. 3,320,000
Other Colonies, Impts.	221,369,000	210,990,000	inc. 10,369,000
" Expts. 197,085,000	182,010,000	inc. 15,075,000	
United States, Impts.	320,360,000	292,625,000	inc. 27,735,000
" Expts.. 40,060,000	68,940,000	dec. 28,880,000	
Europe, Imports....	499,255,000	494,120,000	inc. 5,135,000
" Exports.....	252,820,000	207,630,000	inc. 45,190,000
Sth America, Impts..	53,165,000	45,735,000	inc. 7,430,000
" Expts.. 40,250,000	37,175,000	inc. 3,075,000	

Although the aggregate of the imports and exports of the United States last year was \$307,520,000 in excess of the average of preceding five years, they only exceeded the total of those of Great Britain for the first half of this year by \$109,886,000. The monthly average of the foreign trade of Great Britain last year, June, 1898 to June, 1899, was \$288,300,000, the monthly average of the United States was \$160,400,000. The foreign trade per head yearly of Great Britain is \$89; the foreign trade per head yearly of the United States is only \$25 per head. The prospect, therefore, of the United States catching up to Great

Britain in the race for foreign trade is not very bright. In fact, were American goods excluded from British markets as British goods are sought to be from American markets, the foreign trade of the United States would be reduced by a heavy percentage. There are other aspects of the above exhibit of Great Britain's foreign trade which are full of interest, but the point we emphasize at present is, that although assailed by such vigorous rivals as Germany and the United States, both of whom have been boasting loudly of their encroachments on the trade of Great Britain in the last two years, the official returns prove that the foreign trade of the Old Country has made very marked advances under severe competition.

THE "ALL-BRITISH" CABLE SERVICE.

What Australians think thereof.

The great interest now being manifested in the different schemes for obtaining improved cable service and reduced rates is most marked in Australia. The following interesting article appears in the July issue of *The Australasian Insurance and Banking Record*.

The views of the *Record* probably express public opinion in Australia, and it seems that an "All-British" cable service via Canada is not regarded quite favorably. The article is deserving of careful perusal, especially for its strong advocacy of an Anglo-American-Australia cable as against an "All-British" line. The article contains a reference to the meeting between Mr. Chamberlain and the deputation of public men and merchants on the 30th June, the proceedings of which were dealt with in our columns last month. The *Record* says:—

We have showed the large gains made by the Eastern Extension Australasian and China Telegraph Company, Limited, but at the same time questioned the policy of instituting a rival "All-British" service via Canada at an enormous expense, and suggested that advantage should be taken of the determination of the United States Government to lay a cable to Honolulu to arrange for its extension via Manila to Australia. An "All-British" service would be, we thought, far less immune from interruption by warlike operations than an Anglo-American-Australian service, which would be under the protection of two flags, the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes, instead of under one. The Canadian desire for an "All-British" service is, in fact, provocative of antagonism on the part of the United States, the only power that could break the land line. And certainly the extremely remote possibility of war between the United Kingdom and the United States would not be made the pretext for a wasteful expenditure on what is intended to be primarily a commercial service. Four things revive interest in the subject, viz., 1st. The rapidly approaching termination of the subsidy agreement between the colonies and the Eastern Extension Australasian and China Telegraph Company, Limited; 2nd, An article