

The total imports of iron and steel goods, as compiled from the annual reports of Trade and Navigation, are given in Table 19, showing the imports subject to duty, and Table 20, showing the imports free of duty.

The total value of the imports during the fiscal year ending March, 1908, was \$61,819,698, as compared with a value of \$43,222,626 during the nine months ending March, 1907, and a value of \$43,235,380 during the twelve months ending June 30, 1906.

The weights or quantities are in many cases not given, so that it is not possible to state the total tonnage of iron and steel imported. A minimum estimate of the tonnage imported can, however, be arrived at by selecting those items for which the weight is given. This has been done and the results are given in Table 18. It is apparent that the imports of iron and steel during the nine months ending March, 1907, exceeded 783,025 tons; while during the twelve months ending March, 1908, the imports exceeded 1,064,133 tons.

IRON.—TABLE 18.

Imports of some Iron and Steel products of which the quantities are available.

| Material. | Nine months ending March, 1907. | Twelve months end- ing March, 1908. |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Tons. | Tons. |
| Pig iron | 150,157 | 212,290 |
| Ferro-products and chrome steel | 16,582 | 17,661 |
| Ingots, blooms, billets, puddled bars, etc. | 19,150 | 6,356 |
| Scrap and scrap steel..... | 39,945 | 69,213 |
| Plates and sheets | 107,701 | 126,172 |
| Bars, rods, hoops, bands, etc. | 106,175 | 98,640 |
| Structural iron and steel | 173,411 | 373,871 |
| Rails and connexions..... | 78,288 | 52,706 |
| Pipe and fittings | 16,637 | 25,080 |
| Nails and spikes | 3,537 | 2,741 |
| Wire | 58,239 | 57,046 |
| Forgings, castings and manufacturers | 13,203 | 22,357 |
| Total. | 783,025 | 1,064,133 |