

The exports of wool to England in 1843, were valued at	£15,568	9	8
„	1844,	„	42,769 15 9
„	1845,	„	72,235 0 0
„	1846,	„	105,911 9 6

The apparent decrease in the amount in 1844, as compared with 1843, is accounted for in this way, that the shipments take place in the first and last quarters of the year, and therefore the proportion of wool shipped each year varies according as the season is late or early.

The mineral discoveries and subsequent working have conducted very materially to improve the Colony. Since the opening of the Burra Burra mine, in September, 1845, to March, 1847, the company had sold at, and shipped to, Swansea 6,034 tons of copper ore, and had on hand at the latter date 3,807 tons, making the total quantity of ore raised during eighteen months 9,841 tons. The working expenses of the mine for the same period amounted to £32,943, in addition to which the cartage of the ore from the mine to the port (a distance of about ninety miles) cost £21,466, so that it is very obvious the operations connected with this mine alone have not only benefited the shareholders but afforded employment to a large number of labourers, mechanics, miners, and others.

The average cost of raising the ore, including every item previously to shipment, is about six pounds per ton, the freight and charges at Swansea about five pounds fifteen shillings per ton, so that the profit on the Burra Burra mine ore, sold to 31st March, 1847, had been about four pounds per ton; the average price being then sixteen pounds per ton. This average will be considerably increased by the sale of the cargoes of ore within the last six months, so that the profits of the mine are in reality understated.

The Kapunda mine has not been worked so energetically or extensively as the Burra Burra, but the assay of the ore is more uniform and averages fully as high as the latter. From the 8th July, 1846, to the 9th September, 1847, 1,929 tons had been sold at Swansea, realising a gross sum of £37,024 17s.

The other mines in South Australia have not yet exported much ore, owing to the high wages demanded by miners, the absence of large lodes of ore, and the heavy outlay necessary to render the ore raised from small lodes fit for market. The adoption of smelting would make all the mines much more valuable than they now are; and the inferior ore being reduced to a regulus the profits would be greatly enhanced.

The public revenue and expenditure of the Colony are now equalised, in fact, the former has exceeded the latter so much as to enable the Government to pay off various debentures and other debts. We subjoin a return compiled from authentic documents, showing the receipts and disbursements for the last six years:—

1841,	Revenue	£26,720,	Expenditure	£104,471.
1842,	„	22,074,	„	54,444.
1843,	„	24,142,	„	29,842.
1844,	„	27,878,	„	29,453.
1845,	„	37,180,	„	31,752.
1846,	„	48,015,	„	36,971.