

WINNIEG PRICES CURRENT

India's Coffee Production.

At the end of 1899 there were 271,208 acres of land under coffee in India, all of which, excepting 450 acres, was in Southern India. Coffee production is mainly restricted to a limited area in the elevated region above the south-western coast, the coffee lands of Mysore, Coorg, and the Madras districts of Malabar and the Nilgiris, comprising 90 per cent. of the whole area under the plant in India. About 47 per cent. of this area is in Mysore, where there were 128,010 acres in 1899, and the plant is grown on 118,514 acres, being 43 per cent. of the whole, in the British districts of Coorg (72,206 acres), the Nilgiris and Malabar (46,218). In Madras, cultivation on an extended scale is practically restricted to the two districts already mentioned, and to Salem and Madurai. Coffee is also grown in Burma, Assam, Bengal, and Bombay, but in all these provinces on a very restricted scale. The yield has been very poor since 1896, that of last year being the worst of the series, and representing only about 17 2-3 million pounds, this quantity being hardly more than half the production fifteen years ago. Though this recent poverty of the crop has been due in the main to adverse seasons in Madras, Mysore, Coorg, and Travancore, the fall in prices since 1897 has removed the stimulus which had been given for a few years to the further expansion of the coffee-growing area, while disease has combined with adverse climatic conditions to reduce the yield. In 1899 there were 27,631 persons permanently, and 82,656 temporarily, employed on the coffee estates, together 110,287 persons, or one person to about 2 1/2 acres. The following figures are the average of the ten years ending 1899-1900:—Indian coffee-production, 30,092,413 lb.; exports, 30,017,680 lb.; Foreign coffee-imports, 1,581,171 lb.; re-exports, 735,862 lb. The principal countries to which Indian coffee was exported in 1899-1900 were:—United Kingdom, 17,040,000 lb.; France, 10,817,536 lb.; Ceylon, 1,224,272 lb.; Austria-Hungary, 298,704 lb.; Germany, 292,344 lb.; Australia, 272,496 lb.; Asiatic Turkey and Persia, 137,984 lb.; Arabia, 85,232 lb. It should be mentioned that the official report from which the above details are extracted states that "the figures, for which the government are dependent upon the planting community, are imperfect and defective, planters, for unknown reasons, sometimes withholding information."—Chamber of Commerce Journal.

Borax in Europe.

The greater part of the borax which now enters into European commerce is extracted from boracalite, a mineral which is formed principally of borate of lime. It is found in great quantities in certain parts of Asia Minor. The process of treatment depends upon the reaction of borate of calcium and caustic soda, which, when added, form borax and carbonate of lime. It has been found that the caustic soda may be replaced by bicarbonate of soda to obtain the same result, the best method being to use a mixture of the two. In the process which is now generally used, the native boracalite is reduced to a fine powder in a mill. Of the powder, 15 parts by weight are taken, and 60 parts of water, and this is placed in a steam-heated vessel, adding eight parts of bicarbonate of soda, and two parts of caustic soda, and the whole boiled for about three hours. The mass resulting from this treatment is passed into large filter presses, and the hot solution which comes off is placed in crystallising basins, and at the end of a few days, the borax may be collected in crystals; these are put to dry in a steam oven. They are often in irregular masses of large size, and these must be broken into small pieces, after they have been well cleaned. The small crystals thus obtained are assorted and put in barrels whose weight is from 100 to 800 pounds. The cake of carbonate of lime which remains in the filter-press is washed with water until the borax is completely extracted, and is then sold to glass, paper or cement works. It is estimated that 100 pounds of boracalite will yield 100 to 105 pounds of crystallised borax.—Scientific American.

The "Jubilee" Diamond.

One of the classes of the Paris exposition that attracted the attention of the visitors most, was undeniably that of jewelry. In the French section was

GROCERIES

Prices to retail dealers for ordinary lots, with usual discounts for cash or large lots.

Table listing various grocery items such as Apples, Beans, Corn, Peas, Potatoes, and other produce with their respective prices per case or per unit.

Canned Goods

Table listing various canned goods including sardines, corn, and other preserved foods with prices per case.

Canned Meats

Table listing various canned meats such as Corn Beef, Lunch Tongue, and other preserved meats with prices per case.

Coffee

Table listing various coffee products including Green Rio, Inferior Grades, and other coffee types with prices per sack.

Cereals

Table listing various cereal products such as Split Peas, Barley, and other grains with prices per sack.

Cigarettes

Table listing various cigarette brands including Old Judge, Athlete, and Sweet Caporal with prices per M.

Cured Fish

Table listing various cured fish products such as Boneless Halibut, Codfish, and other fish with prices per lb.

Dried Fruits

Table listing various dried fruit products including Currants, Raisins, and other fruits with prices per sack or per unit.

Dried Fruits

Table listing various dried fruit products such as Raisins, Apples, and other fruits with prices per box or per unit.

Nuts

Table listing various nut products including Brazil, Almonds, and other nuts with prices per pound.

Maple Sugar

Table listing various maple sugar products with prices per sack.

Salt

Table listing various salt products including Rock Salt, Common, and other salts with prices per barrel.

Assorted Herbs

Table listing various herb products such as Allspice, Cassia, and other herbs with prices per pound.

China Blacks

Table listing various China Black products including Choice, Medium, and Common with prices per pound.

India Ceylon

Table listing various India Ceylon products including Choice, Medium, and Common with prices per pound.

Tobacco

Table listing various tobacco products such as T. & H., Lilly, and other brands with prices per pound.

Dominion Tobacco Co.'s List

Table listing various tobacco products from Dominion Tobacco Co. including BRIGHT CHIRWING PLUG, POMEY, and other brands with prices per pound.

Empire Tobacco Co.'s List

Table listing various tobacco products from Empire Tobacco Co. including EMPIRE, GOLDEN PLUG, and other brands with prices per pound.

Woolen Ware

Table listing various woolen ware products such as Palls, Star fibre, and other items with prices per dozen.

CURED MEATS, ETC.

Table listing various cured meat products including Lard, Compound, and other items with prices per lb.

Smoked Meats

Table listing various smoked meat products such as Hams, Breakfast bacon, and other items with prices per lb.

DRUGS

Table listing various drug products including Alum, Glycerine, and other items with prices per lb.

LEATHER

Table listing various leather products such as Harness, Union oak, and other items with prices per lb.

FUEL

Table listing various fuel products including Coal, Pennsylvania anthracite, and other items with prices per ton.

Cordwood

Table listing various cordwood products including Tamarac, Pine, Spruce, and other items with prices per cord.

seen a series of ornaments of which precious stones were remarkable not only for their size and their brilliancy, but also for their number. Never at any epoch has there been so great a profusion of rich jewelry, the price of which would be represented by millions of francs. In one of the show-cases was the largest diamond in the world, and which its owners, who form a society, have named the "Jubilee." This unique stone exceeds all its predecessors, since, in addition to its great weight of 239 carats. It is of an absolute purity of water and its cutting presents no error. It is even so perfect and so regular that if it be placed upon the truncated point of its base it will hold itself in equilibrium. Not a cloud troubles the limpidity of its fire, and not a flaw diminished its value. The faultless harmony of its proportions, and its almost supernatural brilliancy, which seems to engen-

der light, both surprise and charm every beholder. This phenomenal stone was found in the diamondiferous strata of Jagersfontein, near the city of Kimberley, in South Africa. This is, as is well known, in the vicinity of the celebrated exploitations of De Beers. The finest diamonds known up to the present have been the "Regent," the "Orloff," the "Great Sancy," etc. The "Regent" weighs but 136 carats and has a slight flaw upon one of its edges; the "Orloff," which belongs to the Czar, weighs 133 carats, but its colour is nearly yellow and its cutting is defective; the "Great Sancy" weighs 102 carats. There is also the "Koh-i-Noor," which belongs to the crown of England and weighs 106 carats. Its color is slightly grayish.—La Nature.

New Zealand has adopted penny postage, taking effect the first of the year.

"See that fellow over there with the pretty side whiskers?" "Yes." "Well, he got up and left the audience the other night when the orator said he wanted to talk to the plain people."—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Bigger—Yes, sir. I'm dealing in gut-edged investments now. Bliton—What are they? Bigger—Gold mines. There's money in them. Bliton—You're right. I lost a lot of my money in some of them.—Philadelphia Press. "Doctor, I'm afraid something serious is the matter with my husband." "Indeed, Mrs. Billus? What are the symptoms?" "I braced myself this morning and told him I wanted \$5 to spend for Christmas presents, and he handed me \$10."