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No. 805.

GAMBIA.

REPORT FOR 1913.

(For Report for 1912, see No. 767.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty,
August, 1914.



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THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House
Bathurst, Gambia,
18th July, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1913, together with a Report thereon which has been prepared by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. W. T. Campbell.

The Report is somewhat late, owing, Mr. Campbell explains, to his absence on leave until April of this year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

EDWARD J. CAMERON,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, London.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1913.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. *Revenue.*—The total revenue for the year was £124,995 0s. 5d., an excess of £38,540 19s. 8d. and £28,773 6s. 6d. over the two previous record years, 1911 and 1912, respectively.

2. The estimated revenue for 1913 was £85,450, or £39,545 less than was received.

3. The following table gives the amounts collected under the various heads of revenue during the years 1912 and 1913 with the several increases or decreases :—

Head of Revenue.	1912.	1913.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	72,852	97,691	24,839	—
Port Dues	1,311	1,987	676	—
Licences, Exoise, etc. .. .	2,064	3,004	940	—
Fees of Court	1,746	2,681	935	—
Post Office	4,624	1,714	—	2,910
Rent of Government Pro- perty	400	507	107	—
Government Vessels	1	1	—	—
Interest	3,167	4,883	1,716	—
Protectorate	8,910	10,613	1,703	—
Miscellaneous Receipts .. .	634	1,236	602	—
Land Sales	512	673	161	—
Total	96,221	124,990	31,679	2,910

4. The principal increases were in (1) Customs, (2) Licences, (3) Interest, (4) Protectorate, and are accounted for by (1) the increased wealth of the natives due to the record ground-nut crop, which created a greater demand for dutiable articles, more especially kola-nuts, sugar, spirits and tobacco—the increased consumption, it may be noted, of these imports is not wholly on the part of the natives of the Colony and Protectorate, since a large percentage of these commodities find their way over the borders to French territory; (2) a larger number of spirit licences, several being issued to new firms; (3) an increase in Investments, and (4) by a greater number of Traders' Licences issued, Farm Rents received, and Court Fines levied in the Protectorate during the year.

5. The only decrease, which amounted to £2,910, under the head of Post Office, was due to a falling off in the sale of stamps. Dealers have apparently completed their purchases of the new issue.

6. *Expenditure.*—The expenditure for the year was £95,209, or £13,869 more than that for 1912. The estimated expenditure was £104,942, or £9,733 more than was actually incurred.

7. The following is a

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE 1909-1913.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1909.. .. .	72,675	56,237
1910.. .. .	82,880	63,301
1911.. .. .	86,454	71,390
1912.. .. .	96,221	81,340
1913.. .. .	124,990	95,209

It will be seen that the increase in the year's revenue over that of 1912 was more than the total increases of the years 1910, 1911 and 1912.

8. There was no important change in taxation during the year.

9. On the 31st December, 1912, assets exceeded liabilities by £107,731 10s. 0d.; twelve months later the excess was £137,585 3s. 5d., an increase of £29,853 13s. 5d.

10. Surplus funds invested in Government securities, the cost price of which was £94,090 2s. 3d., amounted on the 31st December, 1913, to £98,613 18s. 10d. as compared with £94,775 10s. 9d. invested on the 31st December, 1912. There was also a sum of £39,000 on deposit with the London County and Westminster Bank. There is no public debt at present.

11. The West African coinage was introduced during the year and is current in the Colony and Protectorate. Silver is legal tender to any amount. English coins are also in circulation as well as a number of five franc pieces. The exchange value of the latter is three shillings and ten pence halfpenny. There is only one bank, that of British West Africa, in the Colony. The average rate of exchange for bills drawn on London during 1913 was one per cent.

12. The Board of Health is the only municipal board in the Colony. It is composed of official and non-official members and is presided over by the Senior Medical Officer.

13. The revenue of the Board of Health is derived from a five per cent. rate, increased from three per cent. during the year, annually assessed, in the town of Bathurst, from market and slaughter-house fees, a Government grant-in-aid, and from miscellaneous receipts. In 1913 these were:—local rates, £1,306 13s. 0d.; market and slaughter-house fees, £93 19s. 6d.; grant-in-aid, £2,228; and miscellaneous receipts £130 0s. 9d.; a total of £3,758 13s. 3d., as compared with £2,867 16s. 7d. in 1912.

14. The expenditure of the Board, including personal emoluments, scavenging, lighting, upkeep of houses and carts, etc., amounted to £2,778 6s. 7d., as against £2,588 13s. 3d. in 1912.

15. The revenue and expenditure of the Board of Health during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1909	1,047	1,181
1910	1,286	1,443
1911	2,237	2,199
1912	2,867	2,588
1913	3,758	2,778

16. MacCarthy Square is under a Board similarly constituted as the Board of Health. The square is situated in the centre of the town and is used as a parade ground by the West African Frontier Force, and as a general recreation ground. The upkeep of the square is provided for by a grant—£125 in 1913—from the Government.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

17. *Trade.*—The trade of the Colony continued to flourish during 1913 and exceeded that of any previous year.

18. *Imports.*—The total value of all imports was £1,091,129, as compared with £756,853 in 1912.

Specie.—Bullion and specie to the value of £471,835 were imported during the year, as against £285,223 in 1912.

19. The following is a table of the

CHIEF ARTICLES IMPORTED AND THE VALUE THEREOF DURING 1912–1913.

ARTICLE.	1912.	1913.
	£	£
Cotton Goods	124,345	201,797
Hardware	23,021	27,276
Kola Nuts	86,111	91,381
Rice	85,763	62,512
Spirits	10,959	17,141
Sugar	5,785	19,422
Salt	2,589	3,630
Tobacco	9,011	15,488
Wine	2,685	4,585

20. *Increases and Decreases.*—From the foregoing table it will be seen that there were increases, mostly substantial ones, under each head with the exception of rice, the importation of which decreased to the value of £23,251. This may be accounted for by the importation in 1912 of an excessive quantity and the larger amount of native corn. planted during the season 1912, being available for consumption.

21. Excluding specie the percentages of imports from the various countries in 1912 and 1913 were as follows :—

	1912.	1913.
Great Britain	42	40·64
British Possessions	18	15·26
France and French Possessions	— 60	— 55·90
Germany	22	27·55
Other Countries	13	10·25
	5	6·30

22. The growth of the import trade during the last five years will be seen in the following table :—

Article.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Specie ..	146,620	208,544	384,784	285,223	471,835
Other articles	257,940	370,439	422,334	471,630	619,294
Total ..	404,560	578,983	807,118	756,853	1,091,129

23. *Exports.*—The total value of all exports was £867,187, as compared with £735,172 in 1912.

Specie.—Specie to the value of £204,781 was exported. This is £8,202 more than the value of the previous year's export.

24. The following is a

RETURN OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT AND THEIR VALUES IN
1912 AND 1913.

Article.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1912.	1913.	1912.	1913.
Calabashes .. packages	2,572	1,739	£ 3,340	£ 2,226
Ground-nuts .. tons	64,169	67,404	502,069	622,098
Hides .. No.	49,107	47,031	15,117	18,718
Ivory .. lbs.	1,236	1,258	172	54
Palm-kernels .. tons	445	546	6,518	9,026
Rubber .. lbs.	4,355	12,995	409	1,027
Wax .. lbs.	30,830	31,518	1,164	990

25. *Increases.*—These occurred in (1) ground-nuts. The previous record exportation, in 1912, was exceeded by 3,235 tons in weight and £120,029 in value; (2) Hides. This increase was in value only; (3) Palm-kernels. It is satisfactory to find a considerable increase under this head. Such increase is not likely to continue while ground-nuts are a more profitable article of export; (4) Rubber and Wax show an increase, but the trade thereon still remains small and there are no indications of any great improvement.

26. *Decreases.*—Calabashes, mostly exported to the Colony of Sierra Leone, and hides are the only articles of export showing a decrease during the year. Although hides decreased as regards numbers there was an increase in their value. This may be accounted for by native fellmongers paying more attention to curing.

27. The development of the ground-nut and palm-kernel trade during the last five years is shown in the following :—

RETURN SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF GROUND-NUTS AND PALM-KERNELS EXPORTED DURING THE YEARS 1909 TO 1913.

ARTICLE.		1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Ground-nuts	Weight. Tons.	53,644	58,456	47,931	64,169	67,404
	Value. £	323,231	387,943	437,472	502,069	622,098
Palm-kernels	Weight. Tons.	389	467	444	445	546
	Value. £	3,526	5,640	4,758	6,518	9,026

28. The percentages of exports, excluding specie, in 1912 and 1913 were :—

	1912.	1913.
Great Britain and British Possessions	9·00	6·72
France and French Possessions	76·00	59·10
Holland	9·00	6·03
Germany	3·64	24·56
Other Countries	2·36	3·59

29. *Agriculture.*—The ground-nut still continues to be the only article actively cultivated for exportation and is likely to continue so while in good demand and until some more easily grown crop for which there is a market is discovered by the local non-strenuous agriculturist.

30. The policy of arranging seed nuts to be supplied through the Government was continued and no doubt tended towards larger areas being placed under cultivation.

31. The amount of cereals, such as rice, koos, or millet, grown was not more than sufficient for local consumption.

32. Land is granted in small areas; the leasehold may be acquired. The rent for small lots suitable for trading stations ranges from about three pounds upwards. A decision was come to during the year not to dispose of freehold interests in Crown lands save in exceptional circumstances. No leases are issued in the first instance for more than twenty-one years.

33. The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was 583, with a total of 625,132 tons, as compared with 556, and 583,458 tons in 1912.

34. The following returns give the

TONNAGE OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN VESSELS (a) ENTERED AND (b)
CLEARED IN THE YEARS 1912 AND 1913.

(a) *Tonnage of Vessels Entered.*

Nationality.	1912.			1913.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	180,272	379	180,651	185,522	264	185,786
Foreign ..	106,190	3,387	109,577	123,694	3,311	127,005
TOTAL ..	286,462	3,766	290,228	309,216	3,575	312,791

(b) *Tonnage of Vessels Cleared.*

Nationality.	1912.			1913.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	180,835	397	181,232	185,399	234	185,633
Foreign ..	107,944	4,054	111,988	123,521	3,187	126,708
TOTAL ..	288,779	4,451	293,230	308,920	3,421	312,341

Total Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.

British ..	361,107	776	361,883	370,921	498	371,419
Foreign ..	214,134	7,441	221,575	247,215	6,498	253,713
TOTAL ..	575,241	8,217	583,458	618,136	6,996	625,132

Of the total number of vessels entered and cleared at Bathurst during the year, 226 were British (37 sailing and 189 steam) and 357 foreign (99 sailing and 258 steam). The aggregate tonnage of British vessels was 117,706 tons more than that of foreign vessels. The excess in 1912 was 140,308.

35. The following is a

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION, TONNAGE AND NATIONALITY OF ALL VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED DURING 1912 AND 1913.

Nationality of Vessels.	1912.			1913.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	361,107	776	361,883	370,921	498	371,419
French ..	80,536	1,230	81,766	74,495	1,775	76,270
German ..	52,940	2	52,942	60,626	—	60,626
Russian ..	2,296	—	2,296	—	—	—
American ..	—	609	609	—	428	428
Norwegian .	14,141	—	14,141	20,426	—	20,426
Portuguese .	—	4,158	4,158	—	4,295	4,295
Danish ..	14,124	1,232	15,356	24,040	—	24,040
Swedish ..	13,526	—	13,526	11,740	—	11,740
Greek ..	31,244	—	31,244	33,278	—	33,278
Dutch ..	2,937	—	2,937	—	—	—
Spanish ..	—	210	210	2,736	—	2,736
Italian ..	—	—	—	18,460	—	18,460
Belgian ..	2,390	—	2,390	—	—	—
Uruguayan .	—	—	—	1,414	—	1,414
TOTAL ..	575,241	8,217	583,458	618,136	6,996	625,132

III.—LEGISLATION.

36. There were no legislative measures of great importance carried during the year. Thirty-four Ordinances, many of which were amending ones, were passed.

IV.—EDUCATION.

37. The Government does not maintain any schools, of which there are four in the Colony. One of these is established by the Mohammedans and the others by the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Wesleyan Missionary Societies. The schools of each of these three denominations is under a European Superintendent. The Government contributes £150 per annum towards the salary of each Superintendent. A grant is also made towards the salaries of the teachers in the Mohammedan School and the provision of prizes therein. Under the Education Ordinance further grants-in-aid are provided. These are based on the average attendance of pupils and on the results of examinations held by the Government Inspector of Schools.

38. There are four affiliated schools in Bathurst, of which the Roman Catholic and Wesleyan bodies have two each, one for boys and one for girls, and the Anglican Church has one. The number of pupils on the registers during 1913 were

Schools.	No.
Roman Catholic (2)	408
Wesleyan (2)	641
Anglican (1)	88

The Wesleyan denomination has another school at MacCarthy Island, which had 66 pupils on the register.

39. The only secondary and technical education in the Colony is provided by the Wesleyan Church, which has a non-affiliated secondary school, in Bathurst, for boys and a Technical and Industrial School. The Government gives an annual grant of £300 to the latter school, which is examined once a year by a Government nominee.

40. A Board of leading Mohammedans manages the Mohammedan School, which had 85 pupils on the roll during the year. The Board, formerly under the Chairmanship of the Governor, is now presided over by the Inspector of Schools. The pupils in this school are taught elementary subjects in English and Arabic and the study of the Koran. The total number of pupils presented for examination at the annual general examination was 37, of whom only 8 passed.

41. The total number of pupils attending all the schools during the year was 1,295, as compared with 1,452 in 1912. The decrease is probably due to the prosperity of the Colony, which enables traders to take their children to places in the Protectorate where there are no schools.

42. The subject Elementary Hygiene and Sanitation is compulsory in Standards VI and VII of the schools. The Government provided £10 for prizes to teachers successful in obtaining hygiene certificates.

43. The irregular attendance of pupils at the various schools causes education to be carried on with difficulty. While children in the Colony are not more keen in attending school than is the case elsewhere parents are, perhaps, not so alive to the advantages of education.

44. The income of the affiliated schools during the year was £1,615 16s. 4d., as compared with £1,846 3s. 9½d. in 1912. This income is derived from school fees, contributions by owners and Government grants. The expenditure on buildings, repairs, school materials, salaries, and miscellaneous expenses equalled the revenue.

INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

45. There were seventeen pupils on the books of this school, which is situated in Bathurst; of these, four were in the last year of their apprenticeship. The value of work performed during the year was £179 4s. 9d. The work included masonry, carpentry and joinery, painting, glazing, and general blacksmithing. The institution is a Wesleyan one, but all the pupils do not belong to that denomination, there being 7 Anglicans, 1 Roman Catholic and 1 Mohammedan on the rolls. The boys in the school show an improvement in being more willing to work and showing a greater desire for future employ-

ment on leaving. The obtaining of good posts by ex-pupils has acted as an incentive. Two ex-pupils returned to the Colony after undergoing a course of instruction in motor work and obtained employment under the Government. The institution is doing useful work for Bathurst. It is to be regretted that it does not receive greater support to enable it to turn out more than two or three trained youths annually.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

46. There are two hospitals, one of which is at Bathurst and the other at MacCarthy Island. In the former accommodation is found for four first-class, eleven second-class and ten third-class male patients. There is also accommodation for seventeen female patients, including two cots for children. Four rooms are provided in addition for cases requiring isolation. The wards for males and females are in separate buildings.

47. The MacCarthy Island Hospital is in the charge of a European Medical Officer from October to June. During the remainder of the year, when there is only a small population on the island, a Native Dispenser is in charge. There is one ward for European and three wards for native patients. Thirty-four in-patients and 1,314 out-patients were treated during the year.

48. A contagious diseases hospital, situated about two miles from Bathurst, is also maintained. There was no epidemic in the Colony during the year. Small-pox, of which there were two cases only in Bathurst, was prevalent in a mild form in the Protectorate.

49. The Medical Staff consists of a Senior Medical Officer and five other Medical Officers, one of whom is the Medical Officer of Health at Bathurst. These are all members of the West African Medical Staff.

50. In addition to the Medical Officers, the hospital staff comprises four trained nurses (Europeans) and a number of native dispensers, dressers and nurses.

51. During the year 554, compared with 529 in 1912, in-patients were treated in the Bathurst hospital. There were 62 deaths.

52. The total number of out-patients treated was 8,134, compared with 7,895 in 1912.

53. Of the 62 deaths 14 were due to pneumonia and 10 to tetanus, while phthisis and peritonitis were responsible for four and three deaths respectively.

Home for Destitute and Afflicted Persons.

54. Seven males and one female were admitted to this Institution during the year. The Home also serves as a hospital for certain cases which the Senior Medical Officer may consider would be more comfortably attended to than in the General Hospital.

Government Savings Bank.

55. This institution, under the Postmaster General, continued to progress. At the end of the year there were 561 accounts, as against 501 in 1912, 470 in 1911, and 456 in 1910. The balance remaining on deposit was £5,553 10s. 7d., as compared with £5,267 11s. 6d. in 1912. The balances at the end of the years 1911 and 1910 were £5,037 6s. 7d. and £5,261 15s. 10d., respectively. During the year the sum of £3,662 11s. 0d. was deposited, while £3,359 15s. 0d. was withdrawn. The interest payable was £127 7s. 11d.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

56. The Police Force consists of a Superintendent of Police and an Assistant Superintendent, both of whom are Europeans, and 88 non-commissioned officers and men. The strength of the force was increased during the year by eight men. The alteration in the composition of the force, made in 1912, by which the ranks of corporal and lance-corporal were introduced has been successful, as was anticipated by the Superintendent, in improving the organization and discipline.

57. One non-commissioned officer and six men are stationed in the Protectorate.

58. There were 175 prosecutions by the police during the year, as against 157 in 1912. This considerable difference is not due to an increase of crime, but to the increase in the force, and to its greater efficiency and vigilance.

Prisoners.

59. The only prison in the Colony is situated in Bathurst. On the 1st January, 1913, there were 26 convicted prisoners remaining in gaol, while 150 were admitted during the year: 116 were discharged on, and 15 before, the expiration of their sentences. Three prisoners had their sentences remitted, while two died in hospital, forty prisoners remained on the 31st December. The fifteen prisoners discharged before the expiration of their sentences were imprisoned in default of payment of fines and debts. These were paid before the defaulters were released.

60. The health of the prisoners continued satisfactory.

61. The daily average number of prisoners during the last five years was as follows:—

1909	..	..	..	..	..	..	20·68
1910	..	..	..	..	..	..	23·78
1911	..	..	..	..	..	..	26·24
1912	..	..	..	..	..	..	27·50
1913	..	..	..	..	..	..	35·71

Criminal Statistics.

62. In the Supreme Court 19 cases were tried, as compared with 22 in 1912. These included one charge of attempted murder, which resulted in conviction, and three charges of manslaughter, in only one

of which was a conviction recorded. These cases came from the Protectorate; the remaining ones dealt with by the Supreme Court arose in the Colony. The latter comprised two cases of cattle stealing, resulting in one conviction, six cases of larceny, four of offences against property and two of miscellaneous offences (perjury and attempted escape from custody). These all resulted in conviction.

63. The small amount of serious crime in the Colony and Protectorate is again satisfactory.

64. The number of cases, 457, in the Police Court show an increase of 136 over the previous year. This excess is accounted for under offences against revenue laws, etc., and against the Public Health Ordinance of 1912, under which a number of summonses were issued for contravention of the sections of the Ordinance dealing with mosquito larva.

65. From the Protectorate 599 cases were reported, an increase of 133 over 1912. This difference is explained by 203 cases being reported from MacCarthy Island, 158 more than last year. The majority of these cases were breaches of regulations framed under the Protectorate Ordinances.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

66. The last census, taken in 1911, in the Colony and Protectorate gave the former a population of 7,700 and the latter one of 138,401, a total of 146,101 inhabitants. This number may be increased by 7,000 to allow for the migration of strange farmers from neighbouring territories during the years 1912 and 1913. This addition gives a total of 153,101 (approximate).

67. The numbers of births and deaths registered in each of those parts of the Colony to which registration applies, together with the total number therein for the year, are shown in the following table:—

Births--1913.

District.	Males.				Females.				Totals
	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	
Bathurst	—	115	7	—	—	128	3	1	254
British									
Kembo	—	7	—	—	—	4	—	—	11
Ceded									
Mile	—	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	7
MacCar-									
thy Island	—	13	—	—	—	7	—	—	20
Total..	—	138	7	—	—	143	3	1	292

Deaths—1913.

District.	Males.				Females.				Totals
	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	
Bathurst	2	144	4	3	—	124	5	—	282
British									
Kombo	—	8	—	—	—	3	—	—	11
Ceded									
Mile	—	12	—	—	—	5	—	—	17
MacCar-									
thy Island	—	16	—	—	—	8	—	1	25
Total ..	2	180	4	3	—	140	5	1	335

The causes of the deaths of the two Europeans who died were fracture base of skull and revolver shot wound.

68. The following is a

COMPARATIVE RETURN SHOWING THE BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTERED
IN BATHURST, BRITISH KOMBO, THE CEDED MILE AND MACCARTHY
ISLAND DURING THE FIVE YEARS 1909-1913.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Excess of Births over Deaths.
1909	339	330	—	9
1910	363	385	22	—
1911	306	318	12	—
1912	303	336	33	—
1913	292	335	43	—

69. The death-rate in Bathurst showed an improvement. The number of deaths was the lowest recorded during the last ten years. The reduced number of deaths may be attributed to some extent to the late onset of the rains and the exceptionally low rainfall during the year. This resulted in freeing the town of Bathurst from the accumulation of standing water in low-lying places. Sanitary improvements and increased vigilance on the part of the sanitary authorities also greatly assisted in lowering the death-rate, which was 21.42 per 1,000.

70. An endeavour was made to reduce the infantile mortality. A class of native women was formed, and a Medical Officer delivered simple lectures, with illustrations, on elementary dressing and midwifery. The class unfortunately was not successful, owing to the members failing to attend the lectures on the grounds that they had work to do and duties to perform in the Protectorate. Dr. Chartres, the Senior Medical Officer, continued his endeavours by publishing a pamphlet dealing with the precautions to be taken regarding

confinements and the rearing of infants. The pamphlet was issued in the English, Joloff, and Mandingo languages and distributed in the Colony and Protectorate.

71. The number of Europeans, including females, residing in the Colony and Protectorate during the year was 173. Of these 53 were officials and 120 non-officials. Six, including three officials, were invalided to Europe during the year. Two Europeans, of whom one was an official, died.

72. Twenty-six marriages were registered, as against 20 in each of the preceding years. Ten marriage licences, seven more than in 1912, were issued.

73. There were 1,529 vaccinations performed at Bathurst and 2,480 in the Protectorate during the year.

74. The sanitation of Bathurst is attended to by the Board of Health, of which the Senior Medical Officer is Chairman and the Colonial Engineer and Superintendent of Police are ex-officio members. Six other members are appointed annually by the Governor. The services of a Senior Sanitary Officer are shared with the Colony of Sierra Leone. The officials of the Board consist of a Town Warden, an Assistant Town Warden, an Inspector and four Assistant Inspectors of Nuisances, a market clerk and a cemetery keeper, a groom, six carters, four lamp-lighters and forty labourers. The latter are increased to sixty during the rainy season.

75. In the Protectorate, where the Travelling Commissioners are guided by special Sanitary Instructions, prizes are given to the cleanest village in each Province. An improvement is to be found as regards sanitation in some villages but it will be a great number of years before the subject is adequately dealt with by a people the great majority of whom are not great believers in hygiene.

Climate.

76. The climate of the Gambia during some months of the dry season, which lasts from November to May, is pleasant. During the remaining months, known as "the rains," the conditions are similar to those experienced on the West Coast of Africa. Although these may not be quite so severe they are felt to be more trying, owing to the greater contrast between the dry and wet periods, than is the case elsewhere.

77. A Meteorological Station of the second class is maintained in Bathurst. During the year the highest shade temperature recorded in Bathurst was 104° and the lowest 57°. The rainfall was 23·68 inches, the lowest recorded for a number of years, as compared with 33·99 inches in 1912.

78. The following are the
METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS FOR BATHURST AND MACCARTHY ISLAND
RESPECTIVELY.

Bathurst.

Months.	Temperature.				Mean.	Rainfall. Amount in inches.	Winds. General Directions.
	Mini- mum on Grass.	Shade maxi- mum.	Shade mini- mum.	Range.			
January .	50	100	59	41	79.5	0.13	North.
February.	53	98	60	38	79.0	—	"
March ..	52	100	63	37	81.5	—	Variable.
April ..	52	104	62	42	83.0	—	"
May ..	53	93	57	36	75.0	—	"
June ..	60	98	68	30	83.0	2.23	North-west.
July ..	66	90	68	22	80.0	3.00	East.
August ..	67	90	69	21	79.5	10.69	Variable.
September	66	95	69	26	82.0	6.08	"
October ..	60	94	69	25	81.5	1.55	"
November	60	98	67	31	82.5	—	"
December	60	95	64	31	79.5	—	"
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	23.68	
Average	58.2	96.2	64.6	31.6	80.5	—	

MacCarthy Island.

Months.	Temperature.				Mean.	Rainfall. Amount in inches.	Winds. General Directions.
	Mini- mum on Grass.	Shade maxi- mum.	Shade mini- mum.	Range.			
January .	—	106	59	7	82.5	0.06	North-west.
February.	—	110	60	50	85.0	—	"
March ..	—	110	60	50	85.0	—	"
April ..	—	112	67	45	89.5	—	Variable.
May ..	—	112	65	47	88.5	1.31	"
June ..	—	114	73	41	93.5	4.49	"
July ..	—	112	65	47	88.5	6.25	"
August ..	—	103	72	31	87.5	9.46	"
September	—	Station		closed.	No	Record.	
October ..	—	Station		closed.	No	Record.	
November	—	104	64	40	84.0	—	Variable.
December.	—	103	60	43	81.5	0.43	"
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	22.00	
Average for 10 months		108.6	64.5	44.1	86.5	—	

VIII.--POSTAL TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal.

79. There is a fortnightly mail service between Liverpool and Bathurst. The homeward service is most irregular. Mails are occasionally forwarded to England *via* Dakar and some continental post by trading vessels.

80. Internal communication is maintained by steamers or launches owned by trading firms. During the trading season these vessels make frequent trips up and down the river and are ready to convey passengers and freight.

81. There are two Post Offices established in the Colony, at Bathurst and MacCarthy Island respectively.

82. The revenue was reduced to about the normal amount owing to the requirements of dealers for the new Georgian issue of postage stamps having been satisfied.

83. The following return shows the volume of business transacted during each of the last five years :--

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Total Number of Letters Parcels, &c., dealt with.	Total Value of Money and Postal Orders issued and paid.
	£	£		£
1909	2,325	820	110,682	4,848
1910	1,625	864	124,835	12,626
1911	1,811	818	128,265	14,386
1912	4,624	995	135,269	16,211
1913	1,714	843	157,324	20,947

The "Cash on Delivery" service is provided for.

Telegraph and Telephone Services.

84. There is one telegraph station, belonging to the African Direct Telegraph Company, Limited, in Bathurst. The ordinary cable rate to the United Kingdom is three shillings and twopence per word. There is a deferred cable service, by which messages may be sent at half rate.

85. There is no inland telegraph. Most Government Offices, some official quarters, the Bank of British West Africa and Government House at Cape St. Mary are connected by telephone.

IX.--MILITARY FORCES.

86. The Gambia Company of the West African Frontier Force contains the only regular troops in the Colony. The Company forms a detached command and is inspected periodically by the Inspector General.

87. The Gambia Artillery, a Volunteer Force, was disbanded during the year.

X.--GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

88. The year was remarkable for being the most prosperous on record as regards the revenue received and the volume of trade.

89. No public work of great magnitude was completed. The construction of the Denton Bridge over Oyster Creek was proceeded with and a commencement made with the scheme for supplying Bathurst with a pipe-borne water supply from Lamin. These works made fair progress considering the scarcity and inefficiency of local labour. The Survey of the River Gambia was also continued. The Board of Health maintained its crusade against mosquitoes and did not relax its efforts to prosecute the occupiers of insanitary premises. Reclamation work at Half Die and other places in Bathurst was continued. The Public Works Department completed the new Post Office, erected various new buildings, and carried on its efforts to renovate and preserve ancient ones.

90. The constitution of the Colony remained unchanged.

91. Peace and contentment continued to reign in the Colony and Protectorate and, as regards the latter, showed that the natives appreciated the work, carried out in isolation and under many difficulties, of the Travelling Commissioners.

W. T. CAMPBELL,

Colonial Secretary.

Bathurst, Gambia,

6th July, 1914.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE GAMBIA BLUE-BOOK REPORT 1913

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR
1912 FOR THE COLONY OF THE GAMBIA.

Minerals.—Fifteen small samples of clay obtained in the course of boring operations at Kossoun, Upper River Gambia, and a specimen of ironstone gravel dredged from the river at the same place were forwarded for examination. The clays, which varied in colour from cream to ochreous, might be suitable for the manufacture of bricks and coarse pottery in the Colony, but the samples were too small for technical trial. Larger samples were requested for this purpose. The ironstone gravel would be of no value for export, but might be suitable for local use by natives as an iron ore.

Poisonous Plants.—Specimens of a fruit which had caused poisoning symptoms when eaten were insufficient for chemical examination, but were identified at Kew as the immature fruits of a species of *Datwia*, probably *D. fastuosa*. This determination agreed with the poisoning symptoms described, which were those produced by solanaceous alkaloids.

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING THE YEAR
1913 FOR THE COLONY OF THE GAMBIA.

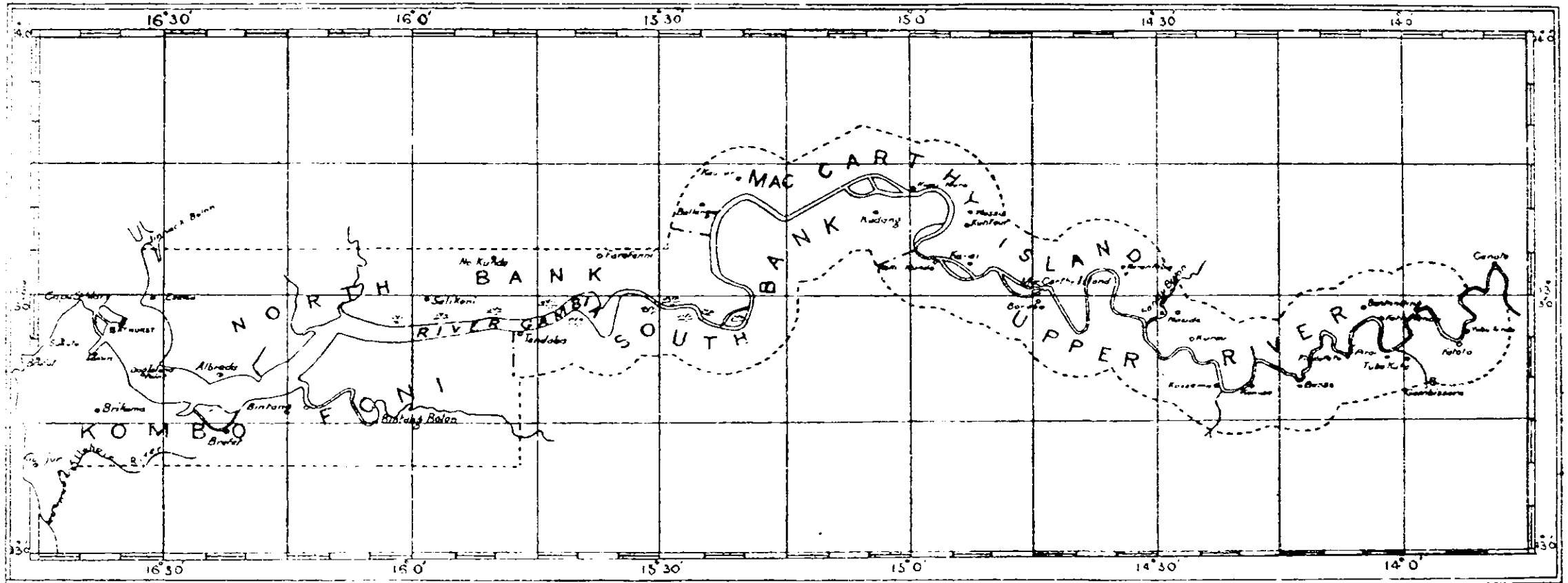
In continuation of the examination of a number of clays from the Gambia, alluded to in last year's report, further samples of two of the clays, of which large supplies were stated to be available, were furnished during 1913 in order that technical trials might be made and the value of the materials definitely determined.

A sample of yellow clay was found to be very plastic and easily worked, but it contained a quantity of gritty and ochreous material. The pottery made from it had not a smooth surface, and its light brick-red colour was disfigured in places by fragments of the ochreous constituent which had burnt to a yellowish-brown colour. The clay could be used in the crude condition for the manufacture of coarse earthenware, but it would be much improved by washing.

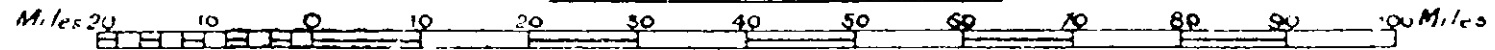
A sample of purple clay was also examined. It contained very little grit, and when thoroughly mixed with water gave a plastic material which could be readily worked. The clay after firing was of a light mauve tint, somewhat disfigured by reddish spots due to the presence of ochreous particles.

Both these clays could be used locally in the Gambia for the manufacture of bricks, tiles and earthenware, but they could not be remuneratively exported to Europe.

GAMBIA.



— Scale 20 miles to One Inch —



Reference

Anglo-French Boundary shown -----

Provinces -----

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
771	Ashanti	1912
772	Nyasaland	1912-1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911-1913
777	Swaziland	1912-1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912-1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912-1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912-1913
787	Uganda.. .. .	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago.. .. .	1912-1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912-1913
794	St. Lucia	"
795	St. Vincent	"
796	Bermuda	1912
797	Ceylon	"
798	Gibraltar	"
799	St. Helena	"
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
801	Seychelles	1913
802	Ceylon	"
803	Bermuda	"
804	Weihaiwei	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon.. .. .	Mineral Survey.