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No. 861.

G A M B I A.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 805.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1915.



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REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1914.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. *Revenue*.—The total revenue for the year was £86,070 12s. 7d. as compared with £96,221 13s. 11d. in 1912, and £124,995 0s. 5d. in 1913.

2. The estimated Revenue for the year was £100,888, or £14,817 7s. 5d. more than was actually received. The estimated revenue would have been obtained in the ordinary course of events. The influence of the war upon the trade of the Colony was most noticeable at an early date.

3. The amounts collected under the various heads of revenue during the years 1913 and 1914, with the several increases or decreases, were:—

Head of Revenue.	1913.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	97,691	60,525	—	37,166
Port Dues	1,987	1,816	—	170
Licences, Exoise, etc. ..	3,004	1,681	—	1,323
Fees of Court	2,681	2,924	242	—
Post Office	1,714	1,376	—	338
Rent of Government Property	507	450	—	57
Government Vessels	1	—	—	1
Interest	4,883	4,521	—	361
Protectorate	10,613	11,150	536	—
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	1,236	974	—	261
Land Sales	673	650	—	23
Total	124,990	86,067	778	39,700

4. The principal increases were in (1) Fees of Court or Office, etc., and (2) Protectorate, and are accounted for by (1) increase in Court Fees, Customs Fees, Hospital Receipts, and Colonial Registrar's Fees, and (2) by a large influx of "Strange Farmers" with consequent increases in Hut Tax and Farm Rents.

5. The marked depression in trade due to the war and the consequent reduction in Imports, account for the large falling off under the heads "Customs" and "Port" Dues, while the decreases under "Licences" and "Interest" are attributable to the same causes. There has also been a decrease under the head "Post Office," due to a falling off in the sale of stamps to dealers in Europe.

6. *Expenditure*.—The expenditure for the year was £120,921 6s. 5d., an increase of £25,712 6s. 5d. over that for 1913. The estimated expenditure was £108,375, or £12,546 6s. 5d. less than was actually incurred.

7. The following is a

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE 1910-1914.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910.. .. .	82,880	53,301
1911.. .. .	86,454	71,290
1912.. .. .	96,321	81,340
1913.. .. .	124,999	95,209
1914.. .. .	86,071	120,921

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

9. On the 31st December, 1913, assets exceeded liabilities by £137,585 3s. 5d.; a year later this excess was £102,734 9s. 7d., a decrease of £34,850 13s. 10d., chiefly due to overdrafts at the bank and at the Crown Agents.

10. Investments in Government Securities amounted on the 31st December, 1914, to £120,276 13s. 5d., which also represents their cost price as compared with £98,613 18s. 10d. invested on the 31st December, 1913.

11. The West African coinage, introduced during 1913, is current in the Colony and Protectorate. Silver is legal to any amount. English coins are also in circulation as well as a number of five franc pieces, of which latter the exchange value is three shillings and tenpence halfpenny. The Bank of British West Africa, Limited, is the only one 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, the Senior Medical Officer being president.

13. The Board of Health derives its revenue from a five-per-cent. rate levied on property, annually assessed, in the town of Bathurst, from Market and Slaughter-house fees, a Government Grant-in-aid, and from miscellaneous receipts. In 1914 the revenue comprised, local rates £1,387 6s. 7d.; slaughter-house fees, £109 5s. 3d.; grant-in-aid, £2,327 0s. 0d.; and Miscellaneous receipts £57 15s. 11d., a total of £3,881 7s. 2d., as compared with £3,758 13s. 3d. in 1913.

14. The expenditure of the Board, including personal emoluments, scavenging, lighting, upkeep of houses and carts, etc., amounted to £3,419 10s. 11d., as against £2,778 6s. 7d. in 1913.

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

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910.. .. .	1,286	1,443
1911.. .. .	2,237	2,199
1912.. .. .	2,867	2,588
1913.. .. .	3,758	2,778
1914.. .. .	3,881	3,419

16. MacCarthy Square, situated in the centre of the town of Bathurst and used as a parade and general recreation ground, is under a Board similarly constituted as the Board of Health. The upkeep of the square is provided for by a grant—£125 in 1914—from the Government.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

17. *Trade.*—The trade of the Colony during the first seven months gave every promise of reaching a record. The sudden outbreak of hostilities in August caused a large drop in imports which continued during the remainder of the year and resulted in a serious reduction.

18. *Imports.*—The total value of all imports was £688,007 as compared with £1,091,129 in 1913.

Specie.—Bullion and specie were imported during 1914 to the value of £299,668, as against £471,835 in 1913.

19. The following is a table of the

CHIEF ARTICLES IMPORTED AND THE VALUE THEREOF DURING 1913–1914.

Article.	1913.	1914.
	£	£
Cotton Goods	201,797	72,416
Hardware	27,276	30,686
Kola Nuts	91,381	74,176
Rice	62,512	78,535
Spirits	17,141	4,993
Sugar	19,422	8,729
Salt	3,630	2,052
Soap	7,558	5,280
Tobacco	15,488	4,504
Wine	4,685	2,311

20. *Increases and Decreases.*—From the foregoing table it will be seen that there were increases under two heads only. One of these, hardware, has been increasing steadily during the last three years.

The numerous decreases are due largely to the reductions made in imports during the latter half of the year and to over-importation during 1913.

21. Excluding specie the percentages of imports from the various countries in 1913 and 1914 were as follows :—

	1913.	1914.
Great Britain	40·64	41·40
British Possessions	15·26	20·19
	— 55·90	— 61·59
France and French Possessions	27·55	21·63
Germany	10·25	11·58
Other Countries	6·30	5·20

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

Article.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
	£	£	£	£	£
Specie	208,544	384,784	285,223	471,835	299,668
Other articles	370,439	422,334	471,630	619,294	388,339
Total	578,983	807,118	756,853	1,091,129	688,007

23. The total value of all exports was £926,127, as compared with £867,187 in 1913.

Specie.—Specie to the value of £232,469 was exported; this was £27,688 more than in the previous year.

24. The following return gives the

**PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT AND THEIR VALUES IN
1913 AND 1914.**

Article.	Quantity.		Value.	
	1913.	1914.	1913.	1914.
			£	£
Calabashes .. packages	1,739	922	2,226	1,065
Ground-nuts .. tons	67,404	66,885	622,098	650,461
Hides No.	47,031	70,279	18,718	22,138
Ivory	1,268	110	54	17
Palm-kernels .. tons	546	495	9,026	7,815
Rubber lbs.	12,995	3,548	1,027	102
Wax lbs.	31,518	1,513	990	473

25. *Increases.*—The only increase was in hides, all of which went to the United Kingdom with the exception of a small number—280—exported to France. The increase in ground-nuts is in value only.

26. *Decreases.*—The decreases under all heads, with the one exception of palm-kernels, are partly due to the war. They would have been greater had hostilities broken out at the beginning of the year when the greater part of the exports are shipped.

27. The condition 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 1910 TO 1914.

Article.		1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
Ground-nuts	Weight. Tons.	58,456	47,931	64,169	67,404	66,865
	Value. £	387,943	437,472	502,069	622,098	650,461
Palm-kernels	Weight. Tons.	467	444	445	546	495
	Value. £	6,640	4,758	6,518	9,026	7,815

28. The percentages of exports, excluding specie, in 1913 and 1914 were :—

	1913.	1914.
Great Britain and British Possessions ..	6.72	9.92
France and French Possessions	59.10	79.34
Holland	6.03	—
Germany	24.56	6.80
Other Countries	3.59	3.94

29. *Agriculture.*—The ground-nut continues to be the only article actively cultivated for exportation; there are no indications of any other crop being adopted in the Gambia to rival it.

30. The policy of supplying nuts for seed through the Government was continued.

31. Among other crops grown by native farmers are rice and koos, or millet. The quantities raised are not sufficient for local requirements, rice in considerable quantities has to be imported.

32. Land is granted in small areas. Leaseholds may be acquired. The rent for small lots suitable for trading stations ranges from about three pounds upwards. Freehold interests in Crown lands are not granted save in exceptional circumstances. No leases are issued in the first instance for more than twenty-one years.

33. *Shipping.*—The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was 520 with a total tonnage of 571,940 tons as compared with 583 and 625,132 tons in 1913.

34. The following returns give the
**TONNAGE OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN VESSELS (a) ENTERED AND (b)
 CLEARED IN THE YEARS 1913 AND 1914.**

(a) Tonnage of Vessels Entered.

Nationality.	1913.			1914.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	185,522	264	185,786	181,871	220	182,091
Foreign ..	123,694	3,311	127,005	100,616	2,523	103,139
TOTAL ..	309,216	3,575	312,791	282,487	2,743	285,230

(b) Tonnage of Vessels Cleared.

Nationality.	1913.			1914.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	185,399	234	185,633	184,076	229	184,305
Foreign ..	123,521	3,187	126,708	99,666	2,739	102,405
TOTAL ..	308,920	3,421	312,341	283,742	2,968	286,710

Total Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.

British ..	370,921	498	371,419	365,947	449	366,396
Foreign ..	247,215	6,498	253,713	200,282	5,262	205,544
TOTAL ..	618,136	6,996	625,132	566,229	5,711	571,940

Of the total number of vessels entered and cleared at Bathurst during the year, 223 were British (40 sailing and 183 steam) and 297 foreign (88 sailing and 209 steam). The aggregate tonnage of British vessels was 160,852 tons more than that of foreign vessels. The excess in 1913 was 117,706 tons.

35. The following is a

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION, TONNAGE, AND NATIONALITY OF ALL VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED DURING 1913 AND 1914.

Nationality of Vessels.	1913.			1914.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	370,921	498	371,419	365,947	449	366,396
French ..	74,495	1,775	76,270	70,222	1,161	71,383
German ..	60,626	—	60,626	48,176	—	48,176
Russian ..	—	—	—	12,470	—	12,470
American ..	—	428	428	—	755	755
Norwegian ..	20,426	—	20,426	22,008	—	22,008
Portuguese ..	—	4,295	4,295	—	3,346	3,346
Danish ..	24,040	—	24,040	12,474	—	12,474
Swedish ..	11,740	—	11,740	10,762	—	10,762
Greek ..	33,278	—	33,278	22,322	—	22,322
Dutch ..	—	—	—	22	—	22
Spanish ..	2,736	—	2,736	—	—	—
Italian ..	18,460	—	18,460	1,816	—	1,816
Uruguayan ..	1,414	—	1,414	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	618,136	6,996	625,132	566,219	5,711	571,940

36. A comparative statement showing the total quantity and value of, and revenue collected on, spirits during the last five years, is given in Appendix A.*

III.—LEGISLATION.

37. Sixteen Ordinances were passed during the year. The most important of these were :—

No. 5.—An Ordinance to Regulate Copyright.

No. 9.—An Ordinance to amend the law in relation to Perjury.

No. 11.—An Ordinance Further to Amend the Wild Animals, Birds, and Fish Preservation Ordinance 1901.

No. 12.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Construction and Interpretation of Ordinances and Notices, and to the proving thereof in evidence and to other like matters.

No. 16.—An Ordinance to prohibit Trading with the Enemy.

IV.—EDUCATION.

Schools.

The Anglican school was founded by the Government in the early days of the settlement, and is maintained by the Church of England congregation. Others have been established by the Mohammedans, by the Roman Catholic and by the Wesleyan Missionary Societies. Each of these denominational schools is under a European superintendent. The Government does not maintain any schools, but 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. Further Grants-in-aid are provided under the Education Ordinance and based on the average attendance of pupils and on the results of examinations held by the Government Inspector of Schools.

39. In Bathurst there are five affiliated schools, the Roman Catholic and Wesleyan bodies having two each, one for boys and one for girls, and the Anglican Church one. The numbers of pupils on the registers during 1914 were:—

Schools.	No.
Roman Catholic	413
Wesleyan	681
Anglican	215

There is another school belonging to the Wesleyan denomination, at MacCarthy Island, which had 100 pupils on the register.

40. The only secondary and technical education is provided by the Wesleyan Church, which has a non-affiliated secondary school and a technical and industrial school for boys in Bathurst. The latter school is in receipt of an annual grant of £300 from the Government and is examined once a year by a Government nominee.

41. The Mohammedan School, which had 100 pupils on the roll during the year, is managed by a Board of leading Mohammedans and is presided over by the Inspector of Schools. Elementary subjects in English and Arabic are taught and the Koran is studied. Thirty-four pupils were presented for examination during 1914 of whom only nine passed.

42. The total number of children attending the schools during the year was 1,512, as compared with 1,295 in 1913. The increase is due to the decline in trade, due to the war and consequent return to Bathurst of traders and trading clerks who would otherwise be with their families at small trading stations where there are no schools.

43. The subject of Elementary Hygiene and Sanitation is compulsory in Standards VI and VII of the schools. One pound and five shillings was provided by the Government for prizes to teachers who were successful in obtaining hygiene certificates.

44. The income of the affiliated schools during the year was £1,580 6s. 3d., as compared with £1,615 14s. 6d. in 1913. 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. This school, which is situated in Bathurst, had seventeen pupils on its books during the year; of these two were in the last year of their apprenticeship. The work includes masonry, carpentry and joinery, painting, glazing, and general blacksmithing. The school is a Wesleyan institution, but all the pupils do not belong to that denomination. The institution does useful work and deserves every support.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospitals.

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

47. A European medical officer is usually stationed at MacCarthy Island 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 of the hospital. There is one ward for Europeans and three wards for native patients. Fifty-one in-patients and 1,323 out-patients were treated during the year.

48. There is a building for contagious diseases about two miles from Bathurst. The Colony was free from any epidemic during the year. Smallpox appeared in some parts of the Colony and Protectorate.

49. The medical staff consists of a Senior Medical Officer and five other Medical Officers, one of whom is 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 includes four trained nurses (Europeans) and a number of native dispensers, dressers, and nurses.

51. During the year 556, compared with 554 in 1913, in-patients were treated in the Bathurst hospital. There were 55 deaths, of which one only was that of a European. Of these deaths 10 and 8 were due to diseases of the digestive and respiratory systems respectively. The total number of out-patients treated was 9,799, compared with 8,134 in 1913.

Home for Destitute and Afflicted Persons.

52. Fourteen males and five females were admitted to this institution during the year. The home also serves as a hospital for such cases as the Senior Medical Officer may consider would be more comfortably attended to than in the General Hospital.

Government Savings Bank.

53. At the end of the year there were 561 accounts, as against 501 in 1913, 470 in 1912, 456 in 1911, and 428 in 1910, in this institution, which is under the Receiver General. The balance remaining on deposit was £5,464 0s. 11d., as compared with £5,553 10s. 7d. in 1913. The balances at the end of the years 1912, 1911, and 1910 were £5,267 11s. 6d., £5,037 6s. 7d., and £5,261 16s. 10d., respectively. During the year the sum of £3,014 4s. 4d. was deposited, while £3,231 1s. 11d. was withdrawn. The interest payable was £129 1s. 1d.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Police.

54. The Police Force consists of one Superintendent of Police, an Assistant Superintendent, both of whom are Europeans, and 88 non-commissioned officers and men.

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

55. There were 133 prosecutions by the police during the year as against 175 in 1913.

Prisons.

56. There were 40 convicted prisoners remaining in Bathurst Gaol on the 1st January, 1914, and 124 were admitted during the year; 110 were discharged on, and 17 before, the expiration of their sentences. Five sentences were remitted. One prisoner escaped from lawful custody. On the 31st December, 31 prisoners remained in gaol. The 17 prisoners discharged before the expiration of their sentences were sentenced to imprisonment in default of payment of fines and debts. In each case full settlement was made before the prisoners were discharged. Two prisoners who bore exemplary characters while in gaol were released on licence. One prisoner who was sentenced to death had his sentence commuted to one of 10 years' imprisonment with hard labour.

57. The health of the prisoners remained satisfactory throughout the year. There was not a death among the prisoners.

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

1910	..	..	..	..	..	..	23.78
1911	..	..	..	..	..	..	26.24
1912	..	..	..	..	..	..	27.50
1913	..	..	..	..	..	..	35.74
1914	..	..	..	..	..	..	29.79

Criminal Statistics.

59. There were 27 cases tried in the Supreme Court as compared with 19 in 1913. Among the cases tried two were for murder, which resulted in a conviction for manslaughter in one case and murder in the other. In one charge of manslaughter a conviction was recorded. These and two other charges, one of returning within limits from which an order of banishment was issued and another of cattle stealing, all arose within the Protectorate.

60. Cases arising in the Colony and dealt with by the Court, included 13 charges of burglary and larceny, in which there were eight convictions, and one charge of demanding money with menaces. Four persons were charged with other offences against property, two convictions being recorded, and four persons, of whom three were convicted, were charged with miscellaneous offences.

The Colony and Protectorate continue to be somewhat remarkable for the small number of serious crimes committed.

61. In the Police Court 459 cases were disposed of. This is a small increase of two over the year 1913. A large number of these cases related to summonses taken out by the Board of Health under the Public Health Ordinance of 1912.

62. The total number of cases reported from the Protectorate was 267, which is a decrease of 332 on the previous year. This is accounted for by the returns for 1914 being incomplete as regards one province. There is an absence of cases of ordinary crimes coming before the native tribunals in the Protectorate.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

63. The last census of the Colony and Protectorate (1911) gave the former a population of 7,700 and the latter one of 138,401, a total number of 146,101 inhabitants. This has been increased by an annual influx of "strange farmers."

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

Births—1914.

District.	Males.				Females.				Totals
	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	
Bathurst	—	130	1	4	—	135	3	1	274
British	—	7	—	—	—	2	—	—	9
Kombo	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	4
Ceded	—	9	—	—	—	10	—	—	19
Mile									
MacCarthy Island									
Total..	—	148	1	4	—	149	3	1	306

Deaths—1914.

District.	Males.				Females.				Totals
	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	White	Black	Mulatto	Asiatics	
Bathurst	1	173	2	4	—	115	1	1	297
British	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	8
Kombo	—	7	—	—	—	6	—	—	13
Ceded	—	8	—	—	—	6	—	—	14
Mile									
MacCarthy Island									
Total..	1	192	2	4	—	131	1	1	332

65. 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 1910-1914.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Deaths over Births.	Excess of Births over Deaths.
1910	363	385	22	—
1911	306	318	12	—
1912	303	336	33	—
1913	292	335	43	—
1914	303	342	39	—

66. The death-rate in the Colony showed an increase, being 26·14 per 1,000 as against 21·42 in 1913. The increase may be attributed to the increased rainfall, which was double that of 1913, when the death-rate was the lowest recorded during the last ten years.

67. The number of Europeans, including females, residing in the Colony and Protectorate during the year was 149 including 56 officials. Eight Europeans including two officials were invalided to Europe. No European official died during the year.

68. Twenty-six marriages were registered during the year 1914. The number is the same as that for 1913, as against twenty in each of the two preceding years. Eight marriage licences were issued in 1914, as compared with ten in 1913, three in 1912, and eight in 1911.

69. There were 1,267 vaccinations performed at Bathurst and 921 in the Protectorate during the year.

70. 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 valuable services of Dr. Kennan as Senior Sanitary Officer, which were shared with the Colony of Sierra Leone, were severed during the year as that officer, who did much to promote the sanitation of Bathurst, is now required to devote the whole of his attention to Sierra Leone. The officials of the Board of Health consist of a Town Warden, an Assistant Town Warden, an Inspector and four Assistant Inspectors of Nuisances, a Market Clerk, a Cemetery Keeper, a Groom, four Lamplighters and 40 labourers. The latter are increased to 60 during the rainy season.

71. In the Protectorate sanitation is attended to as far as possible by the Travelling Commissioners, who are guided by special Sanitary Instructions. Prizes are given to the cleanest village in each Province.

Climate.

72. During the rainy season, June to October, the climate of the Cambia is damp and oppressive and is more generally felt than in other places with heavier rainfalls owing to the difference to be found during the remaining months of the year, which comprise the dry season.

73. A Meteorological Station of the second class is maintained in Bathurst. The highest shade temperature recorded during the year was 101°, and the lowest 53°. The rainfall was 48·91 inches.

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

Bathurst.

Month.	Temperature.					Rainfall.	Wind.
	Mini- mum on Grass.	Shade maxi- mum.	Shade mini- mum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	General Directions.
January .	—	90	60	30	75.0	—	North-west.
February.	—	93	60	33	76.3	—	"
March ..	—	101	60	41	80.5	—	"
April ..	—	100	60	40	80.0	—	"
May ..	—	95	62	33	78.5	—	Variable.
June ..	—	99	64	35	81.5	2.98	"
July ..	—	90	38	22	79.0	3.76	"
August ..	—	87	63	24	75.0	27.86	North-west.
September	—	90	63	27	76.5	11.34	"
October ..	—	95	66	29	80.5	2.59	"
November	—	90	60	30	75.0	.38	"
December	—	86	53	33	69.5	—	"
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	48.91	—
Average	—	93.0	61.5	31.4	77.2	—	—

MacCarthy Island.

Month.	Temperature.					Rainfall.	Wind.
	Mini- mum on Grass.	Shade maxi- mum.	Shade mini- mum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	General Directions.
January .	—	98	60	38	79.0	0.30	North.
February.	—	105	65	40	85.0	—	"
March ..	—	109	67	42	88.0	—	"
April ..	—	113	70	43	91.5	—	"
May ..	—	114	68	46	91.0	—	"
June ..	—	109	—	—	—	2.62	"
July ..	—	102	—	—	—	3.09	"
August ..	—	96	—	—	—	14.23	"
September	—	96	—	—	—	7.39	"
October ..	—	99	—	—	—	2.61	"
November	—	102	55	47	78.5	0.80	"
December.	—	98	50	48	74.9	—	"
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	30.44	—
Average	—	102.5	62.1	43.4	83.8	—	—

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal.

74. The fortnightly mail service between Liverpool and Bathurst improved as regards the outward mails. The homeward continued to be irregular, sixteen steamers, out of a total of twenty-one, being behind time. Additional mails are occasionally forwarded to England via Dakar, and to a few Continental ports by trading steamers.

75. Internal communication is maintained by a Government steamer and by vessels and launches belonging to the principal trading firms, which carry passengers and freight. During the trading season communication is frequent.

76. During the year a petition was received praying that the number of post offices, of which there are two, established at Bathurst and MacCarthy Island respectively, be increased. The matter was under consideration, but the outbreak of the war and the resultant decrease of revenue prevented any extension of postal facilities.

77. The following general return shows the volume of business transacted during 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.
	£	£		£
1910	1,624	864	124,835	6,053
1911	2,811	818	128,265	14,386
1912	*4,624	995	135,269	16,211
1913	1,715	844	157,324	20,947
1914	1,376	754	129,951	19,732

* New issue of Postage stamps.

The falling off in revenue was chiefly due to the falling off in the sale of stamps, which realized £761 9s. 0d. during the first half of the year, as against £281 4s. 10d. during the second half, to dealers abroad.

78. The "Cash on Delivery" service is provided for.

Telegraph and Telephone Services.

79. The only telegraph station in the Colony is one belonging to the African Direct Telegraph Company, Limited, in Bathurst. The ordinary rate to the United Kingdom is three shillings and twopence per word. Deferred cables, at half rate, may be despatched.

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

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

81. No public works of importance were completed during the year. The construction of Denton Bridge, at Oyster Creek, was proceeded with, as was the scheme for providing Bathurst with a pipe-borne water supply from Lamin. The survey of the River Gambia was discontinued. The sanitation of Bathurst was improved by the continued vigilance of the Board of Health.

82. The principal events during the year were the departure early in the year of Sir Henry Galway, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., on promotion to the Governorship of South Australia, and the arrival of his successor, E. J. Cameron, Esquire, C.M.G. Sir Henry Galway's departure was viewed with regret by the community.

W. T. CAMPBELL,
Colonial Secretary.

Bathurst Gambia,
14th April, 1915

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE TOTAL QUALITY AND VALUE OF, AND REVENUE COLLECTED ON, SPIRITS DURING THE YEARS 1910 TO 1914.

Year.	Quantity in *gallons.	Imports in gallons at 100° Tralles.	De-clared value.	Revenue derived from Duties.	Duty chargeable.	Explanation.
1910	48,500	—	£ 7,129	£ 8,188	From 24th April 1908, 4s. 2d. the imperial gallon, or part thereof, upon spirits except perfumes of or under standard strength, of greater strength, 1d. per degree. Provided in the case of spirit other than Whisky and Brandy under standard strength, an abatement shall be allowed at the rate of 1d. for every degree of strength below 50 degrees down to a minimum of 30 degrees, after which no further abatement shall be allowed.	Value of Spirit Imports amounted to 1·27 per cent. of whole in-ward trade including specie.
1911	62,727	—	8,512	10,518	Do.	Value of Spirit Imports amounted to 1·05 per cent. of whole in-ward trade including specie.
1912	72,158	—	10,960	11,887	Do.	Value of Spirit Imports amounted to 1·44 per cent. of whole in-ward trade including specie.
1913	114,270	—	17,364	18,131	Do.	Value of Spirit Imports amounted to 1·56 per cent. of whole in-ward trade including specie.
1914	26,780	11,471	4,991	4,823	Do	Value of Spirit Imports amounted to 0·72 per cent. of whole in-ward trade including specie.

* The quantity shown is that actually taken into consumption in each year.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE GAMBIA BLUE-BOOK REPORT 1914.

WORK CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE FOR THE COLONY
OF THE GAMBIA DURING 1914.

Economic Investigations.

No samples of economic products were received for examination from the Gambia in 1914. During the year, however, the Technical Information Bureau of the Imperial Institute took action with a view to finding fresh markets for certain products from British West Africa, the disposal of which had been interfered with by the outbreak of the war, and two of the products dealt with, viz., ground-nuts and palm-kernels, are largely represented in the export trade of the Gambia.

In view of their commercial importance in West Africa generally, palm-kernels were first dealt with. Hitherto these kernels had been chiefly exported from British West Africa to Germany, there to be worked up into oil and feeding-cake, and large quantities of the oil were subsequently shipped to England. There was, however, no reason why this industry should not be transferred to such great oil-seed crushing centres as Hull and Liverpool, and the question was brought to the notice of British firms by the publication of full information on the subject in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute" (Nos. 3 and 4 of 1914) and by the issue of a circular to oil-seed crushers. As a result the kernels are now being treated on a large scale by oil-seed crushers in the United Kingdom, and a future market for them, independent of Germany, appears to be assured.

Similar action was also taken by the Bureau with reference to ground-nuts, which form the chief export from the Gambia. A circular on "New Markets for Indian and Colonial Ground-Nuts and their Products," for distribution to oil-seed crushers, was in preparation at the close of the year.

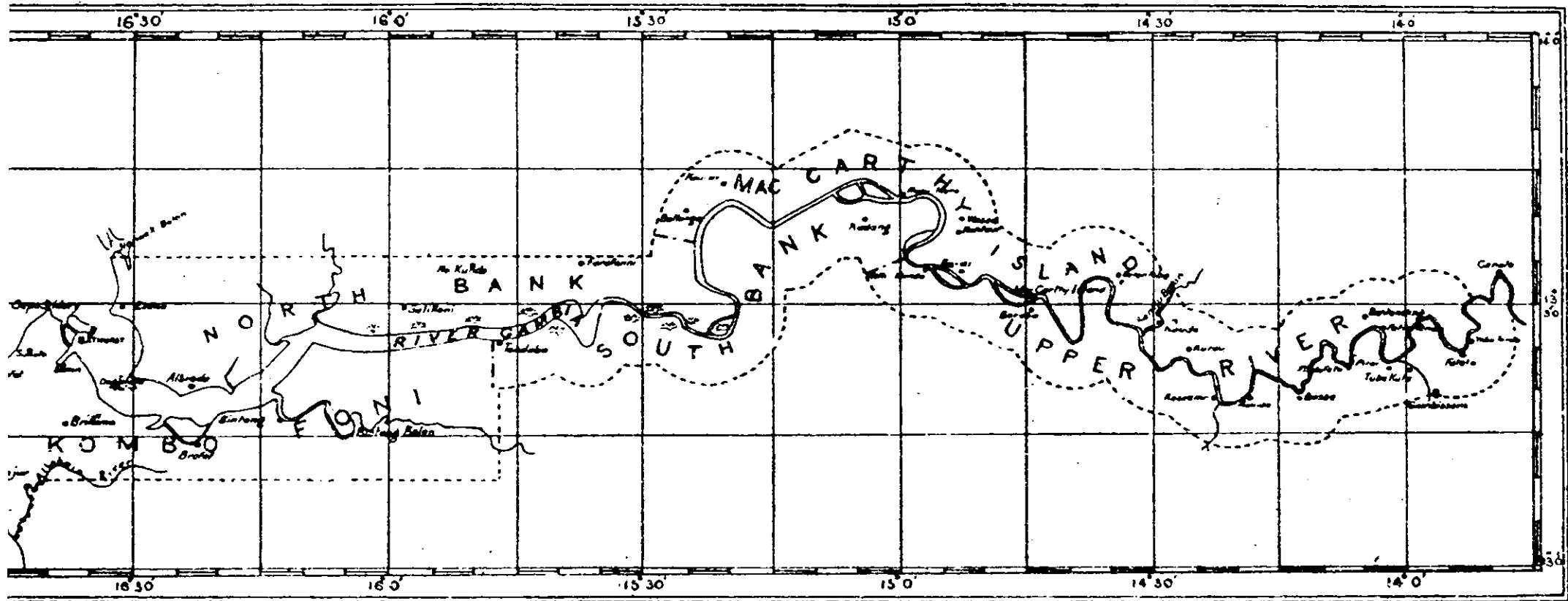
Gambia Court.

The Gambia is represented in the Public Exhibition Galleries of the Imperial Institute by a Court containing exhibits illustrating the resources, products, and industries of the country.

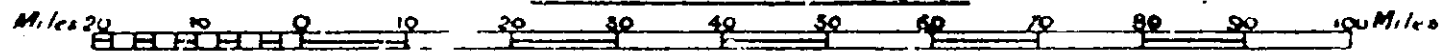
The Court received no new exhibits during 1914. The improvements carried out in the neighbouring West African Courts necessitated certain rearrangements of the Gambia exhibits. Small stands and other fittings have been added and labels printed.

An official lecturer has recently been appointed to deliver short lectures on the countries of the Empire and their resources, these lectures being followed by visits to the courts in the galleries.

GAMBIA.



— Scale 20 miles to One Inch —

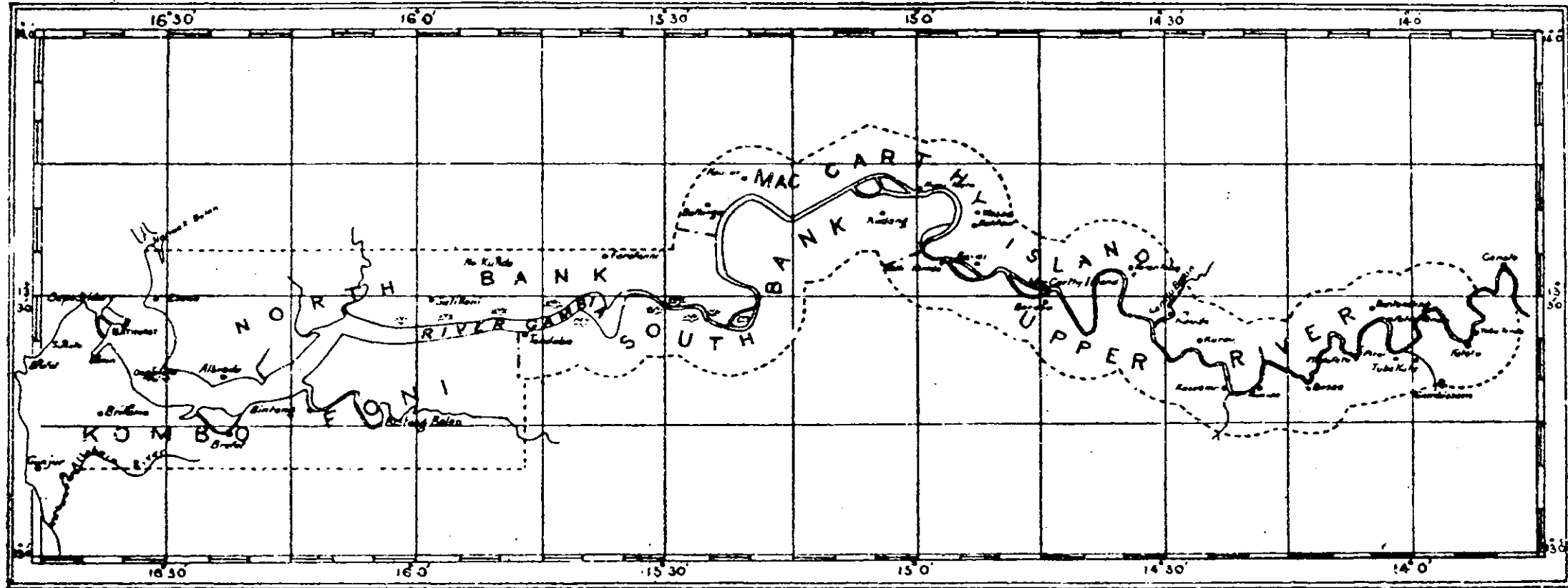


Reference

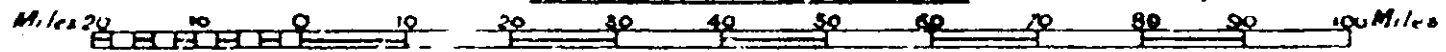
Anglo-French Boundary shown — — — — —

Provinces — — — — —

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.
826	Mauritius	1913
827	British Honduras	"
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913-1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913-1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913-1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914-1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914-1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914-1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914-1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"
860	Jamaica	1914-1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-3 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.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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