

## ROMANIAN–BRITISH COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES AT THE LOWER DANUBE: THE CONSULAR REPORT OF PERCY SANDERSON ON THE YEAR 1883

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**Abstract:** Researchers consider that the slight increase in commerce through Brăila and Galați after 1883 was mainly due to the reorientation of Romanian foreign trade by the dualist monarchy towards other European states. The Danube route-way regained some of its importance, although the port of Galați still suffered after the loss of the rich region of Southern Bessarabia and because of the inconvenient manner by which the town was linked to the Romanian railway system. Thus, the paper insists on the quantity and value of commercial exchanges (exports, imports), the grains, the main economic partners and the specific character of Brăila, Galați and Sulina in the Romanian economy. This study analyses the results of this fact upon the foreign commerce of the ports, as there are opinions that it had positive consequences for development of commerce and navigation at the Maritime Danube. The text proper is preceded by a short historical comment on the activity of the International Trade in the Lower Danube region.

**Keywords:** deposit ports, commerce, navigation, grain, Lower Danube.

The Danube, after the 1829, constituted the basis for the development and expansion of an international entrepreneurial network of Italians, Greeks and Jews, ship-owners and merchants, a large number of which continued successfully to own and manage ships into the 20th century.<sup>1</sup> During the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Levantine and Black Sea commerce was organized largely by entrepreneurial networks of Greek and Jewish merchants dispersed among the main world ports. The importance of the Danubian ports (Brăila and Galați)

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<sup>1</sup> Harlaftis, 2004, 91.

for the Romanian economy in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century is well known and documented by the sources and the bibliography. The paper reproduces of the *Report by Consul General Sanderson on the Trade and Commerce of Galatz for the Year 1883*<sup>2</sup>, prepared for the British authorities.

The Union of the Romanian Principalities in 1859 continued the political and economic consolidation of modern Romania, opening the national economy to the forces which would lead toward the creation of a modern agrarian and industrial state. The exports and imports of Romania, and her commercial relations with the different European countries had been from their very beginning organised on a highly individual basis owing to the initiative and according to the interests of private citizens. As time passed, the Romanian state itself began to show a major interest in its external trade; it thus began to organize more systematically its customs services and establish customs duties; it also improved its land and water communications. Romania's foreign trade relation expanded with improved methods of transportation and Romanian wares were conveyed to the Mediterranean, and beyond, consisting chiefly of Romanian bulk products such as cereals, timber and later, at the end of the century, oil products.<sup>3</sup>

Paul Cernovodeanu, an expert in Romanian-British relations, believes that the Romanian state located "between Russia and Turkey, two great powers with opposing interests in the Black Sea and the Danubian area, Romanian territory was at a strategically important commercial crossroads. It was also the close neighbour of the Hapsburg Empire, whose tendency towards political and economic domination was viewed with alarm in Bucharest. Thus, the young Romanian state found itself obliged its interests with considerable skill during the period between 1859 and 1883."<sup>4</sup>

The paper presents the evolution of the foreign trade of the Danubian maritime ports, after abolishing the system of *porto-franco* (in 1883), from the perspective of the Percy Sanderson,<sup>5</sup> the English General-Consul in Galați. In order to realise such a difficult task, which means approaching realities specific to Romanian commercial from the perspective of British Danube interests, Percy Sanderson continuously swings between the position of the officials

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<sup>2</sup> Dated March 1884, Galați.

<sup>3</sup> See a large analyse in Cernovodeanu, 1986, 189-356.

<sup>4</sup> Cernovodeanu, 1986, 371.

<sup>5</sup> His brother, Sir Thomas Sanderson was an influential person in the British policy, the Lord and Permanent Secretary to the Foreign Office. See Ardeleanu, 2008, 205.

from the Foreign Office and Board of Trade. The interest shown by the British authorities and the economic sphere for the navigation and trade at the Danube Mouths represented a constant of the Romanian-British relationship after the 1829 (Treaty of Adrianople).<sup>6</sup> The report is an extremely important source for all social aspects related to the three ports, from statistic dates about export and import, agriculture, navigation, and economic realities in the towns. This document is an alternative to the statistical sources published by the Romanian authorities and by the European Commission of the Danube, in period 1877-1883. The economic analysis, doubled by many statistical tables, is very interesting because the changes took place in the context of a new protectionist policy imposed by Romanian authorities,<sup>7</sup> which resulted in the abolishment of the privilege of free ports for Galați and Brăila.<sup>8</sup> After the Congress of Berlin (1878), the fluvial sector on which the foreign trade of Romania developed was continuously threatened by the development of Constanța, in the modernization of which the Romanian Governments was investing large amounts of capital.<sup>9</sup>

Percy Sanderson aims to present of the conditions which influenced the continuous reduction of British interest in the Lower Danube region, after the Customs Convention concluded between by Romania and Austro-Hungary, in 1875. After the 1880 the importance in the total of Romania's trade of the ports Sulina, Galați and Brăila is reduced amid increasing exchanges with Austria-Hungary. Romania had an agrarian economy, and a substantial trade with grain. Thus, this aspects influenced the character of the Romanian economy, a peripheral market dominated by the interests of the Great Powers and the frequent influence of drought.

According by the Percy Sanderson description, "the year 1883 has been on the whole an unfavourable one in respect of the crops."<sup>10</sup> The wheat from Moldavia and Wallachia was good quality in 1883, comparative with that of 1882. In Wallachia there was great variation both in the return and in

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<sup>6</sup> For the evolution of the British economic and political interests at the Lower Danube region, see Ardeleanu, 2008, 190-242.

<sup>7</sup> Băicoianu, 1904; Murgescu, 2010, 107-123. For the British policy, see Klovland, 2005, 163-197.

<sup>8</sup> For the abolishment of the privilege of free ports, see: Bahamat, 1997, 106-111; Ardeleanu, 2005, 64-70.

<sup>9</sup> Bușă, 2002, 31-90.

<sup>10</sup> British Parliamentary Papers, *Diplomatic and Consular Reports on Trade and Finance*, Galați, 1884, 715.

the quality, both of which may be described as below average. In this period, Romanian exports to Austria, from the Danubian ports consisted of grain, sheep, wool, furs, pigs, furs, vegetables, petroleum, feathers, hides, butter, milk and cheese. The relatively modest increases by the ports of Galați and Brăila export value between 1878 and 1883 were followed by another increase in times of the Romanian-Austrian Customs War (1886-1892). The large amount of revenue obtained in this period of customs dues, and the fact that the exports consist almost entirely of raw material, while the bulk of the imports are manufactured goods, are by no means favourable to the spread of freed trade principles in Romania after the 1883. Romanian policy was inclined in the direction of customs protection, in the antithetical position with the British liberal policy.<sup>11</sup>

The *Consular Report* is transcribed as such, without the annotations and comments which could make it more easily understandable by the contemporary people, perhaps less familiarised with the commercial sector from the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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<sup>11</sup> Lampe & Jackson, 1982, 159-202.

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## APPENDIX

*Report by Consul-General Percy Sanderson on the Trade and Commerce of Galați for the Year 1883.*

Source: British Parliamentary Papers, *Diplomatic and Consular Reports on Trade and Finance*, Galați, 1884, pp. 713-735.

## ROUMANIA.

## GALATZ.

*Report by Consul-General Sanderson on the Trade and Commerce of Galatz for the Year 1883.*

## SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

The total number of British vessels entering the Danube at Sulina during the year 1883 was 532, with a net register tonnage of 549,942 tons, as against 580 of 607,219 tons in the year 1882. There has thus been a falling-off during the year of 48 vessels and 57,277 tons; but when the total tonnage entering the Danube is taken into consideration, namely, 903,063 tons in 1882 and 831,486 in 1883, it will be seen that the proportion remains much the same; that is to say a trifle over 67 per cent. of the whole in 1882 and more than 66 per cent. in 1883. The bulk of the trade carried on by shipping consists of the export of cereals: the amount of shipping frequenting the Danube depends there-fore in a great measure on the crops. In 1882 the tonnage attained the highest figure that has been known, viz., upwards of 903,000 tons; the figures for 1883 are the next largest, viz., 831,486 tons; while in the years 1879, 1881, 1876, and 1878 they were respectively 797,554, 793,454, 748,363, and 700,163. These are the only instances of the tonnage exceeding 700,000 tons; and the proportions of British tonnage to the total were respectively 52 per cent. in 1879. 63 per cent. in 1881, 60 per cent. in 1876, and nearly 60 per cent. in 1878: British sailing vessels have gradually disappeared from the Danube. In 1871 there were 141 of 44,456 tons, in 1876 the number had fallen to 26 of 7,450 tons, in 1881 there only 7 of 2,328 tons, while in 1883 they have disappeared altogether. The tendency throughout is for sailing vessels to be replaced by steamers, and in a great measure for large steamers to take the place of smaller ones—a transformation which has been

rendered possible by the improvements carried out by the European Commission of the Danube, both at the Sulina mouth and in the course of the river between Sulina and Galatz. In 1871 the average tonnage of all vessels frequenting the Danube was under 230 tons, and of British vessels a trifle under 500 tons; in 1883 the average of all vessels was 576 tons, and of British vessels upwards of 1,030 tons. It is true that vessels drawing over 20 feet of water must still complete their loading in the roads at Sulina outside the port, the depth over the bar being about 20 feet; on the other hand, vessels of over 1,000 tons register can ascend the river as far as Ibraila, and during the year 1883 the ports of Galatz and Ibraila were visited by vessels of upwards of 1,200 tons net register.

It will be seen that the bulk of the shipping trading to the Danube, upwards of 60 per cent. of the whole, is under the British flag, and this proportion remains pretty constant; the next highest figure is that of shipping under the Greek flag, 87,226 tons, or about 10 ½ per cent. of the whole. There has been a gradual falling off in Greek vessels since 1879, but the diminution is entirely in sailing vessels: the steam tonnage has been increasing during the same period, the comparative figures being – sailing vessels in 1879, 805 of 147,699 tons, and in 1883, 233 of 35,714 tons. There are two regular lines of French vessels, namely the Messageries Maritimes and the Fraissinet Company. The French vessels entering the Danube in 1883 were 66 of 65,125 tons (all steamers) and showing a small but progressive increase. There were 11 sailing vessels of 2,852 tons under the Austrian flag, and 81 steamers of 43,731 tons, chiefly those of the Austrian Lloyd Company; the total Austrian tonnage, 46,583 tons, shows a slight decrease on the average of the last few years. A number of small Turkish sailing vessels still frequent the Danube. In 1883 there were 349 of 34,712 tons (a slight increase on 1882), but even these are following the general rule and giving way to steamers – a process which is still more marked in the case of Italian shipping, which was represented in 1871 by 222 sailing vessels and 3 steamers, with an aggregate of nearly 95,000 tons; while in 1883 the number of vessels was 15 sailing and 1 steamers, with a total tonnage of 5,059 tons only. German shipping shows an increase – 14 steamers of 12,777 tons, as against 12 steamers of 9,724 tons in 1882, which was then moreover the highest figure attained. By that flag for a number of years. Russian Government, and there is therefore every probability of Russian shipping showing an increase in future years: these steamers touch at the Roumanian ports, but the chief trade is carried on with Bulgaria.

The accompanying Table A. is taken from the statistics prepared in the navigation cash office of the European Commission of the Danube, and gives a comparative statement of the shipping under the different flags from 1871 to 1883.

The above figures apply solely to sea-going vessels, and the exclusive of the river trade, which is carried on in a large measure by the Austrian Danubian Company. There are also two British companies and several private firms and individuals owning tugs and lighters engaged in the river trade.

Of the 1,444 vessels of 831,489 tons which left the Danube in 1883, 1,157 of 504,831 tons loaded at up-river ports; while 287 of 326,655 tons had their cargoes sent down to them in lighters, and loaded according to their draught of water, either wholly in the port of Sulina, or partly in port and partly in the roads. Irrespective of the difficulties that might be experienced by vessels of great length in navigating in some of the curves of the river—difficulties which make it better worth their while to remain at Sulina—there will always be a certain amount of loading carried on there during the winter months, when the Danube is, as a rule, closed by ice, and a kind of grain depot is formed at Sulina consisting of a number of loaded barges.

The number of British vessels that entered Galatz in 1883 was 183, as against 145 in 1882, the respective tonnage being 155,955 tons and 113,146 tons. Of these 118 were either fully or partially loaded, but of this number 23 entered for up-river ports with part cargoes of grain in order to complete their loading for the outward voyage; so that the import at Galatz and Ibraila by British vessels is represented by 95 cargoes, as against 74 in 1882. Of this number 81 came from Great Britain, namely, 40 general cargoes, 20 coal, 21 iron—total 81—against 60 in 1882; and 3 with rice direct from Rangoon, as against 1 in 1882. The total tonnage of these vessels was 74,113 tons. Of the remaining 11 vessels 8 carried goods from Belgium (general cargoes); 2 general cargoes and 1 iron from France. The increase in the general cargoes coming from Great Britain is due in a great measure to the establishment of a line of British steamers running twice a month from Liverpool.

Freights and lighterage both ruled low during the year. Freights opened at about 4s. per quarter and rose to about 4s. 9d. to 3s. in June; thence they again gradually rose to 5s. to 5s. 1 ½ d. at the beginning of September, which was the highest point they reached; they closed at 3s. 9d. to 4s. Lighterage varied between 5d. and 8 ½ d. In some exceptional cases 10d. to 10



$\frac{1}{2}$  d per quarter were paid in the month of December. The average rate for the whole year was 6  $\frac{1}{2}$  d.

### AGRICULTURE

The year 1883 has been on the whole an unfavourable one in respect in respect of the crops: in the spring these all promised well, but the summer set in with frequent changes. The crop of barley suffered severely from rain, hail and absence of sunshine, and when the weather became settled it passed to the other extreme, the latter part of the summer being marked by drought, which continued through the autumn, and was most unfavourable to the maize crop. The returns in respect of all kinds of grain different districts, and were better as a rule in Moldavia than in Wallachia.

Wheat was on the whole, an average crop in the districts of Moldavia, and the quality good, although perhaps inferior in flour-making properties to that grown in 1882; in Wallachia, on the other hand, there was great variation both in the return and in the quality, both of which may be described as under an average. Weights ranged from 50 lbs. up to 60 lbs. per bushel, and prices from 23s. to 38s. per quarter of 480 lbs.

Barley showed a considerable falling off both in quantity and quality as compared with the 1882 crop.

Rye was an excellent crop in Moldavia, more *especially* in those districts where attention had been paid to the quality of the seed sown; but in Wallachia again the yield was but a poor one, whether in respect of quantity or quality.

Maize promised at one time to be a very fine crop, but suffered from the drought at the end of the summer and through the autumn. At one time it seemed likely that the whole crop would prove a failure, but a portion was saved by the late rains towards the end of the autumn, chiefly maize, which had been sown early and well-looked after. In many instances of late-sown maize there were literally no cobs at all, and the plant was cut as forage for cattle, the only use to which it could be turned. The quantity has been then below an average, but the quality seems to be fair.

The comparatively small amount of oats sown in this country yielded a fair average return, both as regards quantity and quality.

The crop of millet was a moderate one in Wallachia but small in Moldavia.

Rapeseed was a good deal damaged by frost, and the crop turned out a poor one.

Beans yielded a fair return, both as regards quantity and quality.

A comparative statement will be found annexed of the exports of grain from Roumanian ports through Sulina during the last five years (Table B.).

The stocks remaining on hand at Galatz and Ibraila were smaller at the end of 1883 than at the corresponding period of 1882.

The produce of the vines was not so large as in 1882, but the quality was better. Some of the vines at Cotnar, district which produces the best class of Roumanian wine, were attacked by a disease which was at one time suspected of being *Phylloxera* of a temporary character, and that the disease was not *Phylloxera*, as against which the most stringent precautions are taken, no flowers or plants being allowed to cross the Roumanian frontier.

### EXCHANGES, & C.

The exchange on London has followed much the same course as in former years, the variations being between 24 fr. 90 c. and 25 fr. 23 c. for three months' bills, and up to 25 fr. 30 c. for bills at night. The premium on gold ranged between 1 ½ and 5 per cent. The exchange and the premium on gold naturally rule highest during the winter, when there is little or no export by the Danube and bills have to be met for goods imported, and it is at time that the most frequent complaints are made of the country being ruined by an excess of imports over exports and of gold leaving Roumania. A reference to the published statistics shows however an import of gold and silver, both coin and bullion, during the years 1879, 1880, 1881, and 1882, with no corresponding export ; and it is remarkable that, since its institution, the National Bank of Roumania has never changed its rate of discount, which has been 4 per cent. throughout. This bank was formed in the year 1880 with a capital of 30,000,000 fr., of each and their present value is about 1,450 fr. The bank has the power of issuing notes, which are a legal tender in all transactions with the Government, and are payable on presentation either in gold or national silver money, and the only restrictions on their issue are that they must be covered by securities easily realisable, and that a stock of silver or gold bullion must be held by bank equivalent to one-third of the total issue. Its business is declared in the statutes to be the discounting and dealing in bills of exchange, the discounting of Treasury bonds up to a limit of 20 per cent. of the paid-up capital, dealing in bullion and making advances in account

current; on the other hand, it is debarred from lending money on mortgage or on shares of industrial companies of having any interest in such undertakings, from dealing in its own shares, and from acquiring landed property beyond what is absolutely necessary for its offices. Any profit that may be made by the bank over and above 7 per cent. on transactions in which a higher rate has been charged for loan and discount must be paid over the Treasury, and after a 6 per cent. dividend has been paid to the shareholders 20 per cent. of the balance is placed to reserve, the remainder being thus apportioned—20 per cent to the Government, 15 per cent. to the prosperously hitherto ; the rate of discount has been maintained at 4 per cent., and it is in a great measure owing to its operations that a law was passed some time since reducing the legal rate of interest to 5 per cent. in respect of all deferred payments forming the subject of a suit or action at law.

Gold peaces representing values of 20 fr. have been coined during the past year; some difficulty was however experienced in getting them accepted abroad at the full values they represent.

### ROUMANIAN FOREIGN TRADE

Formerly it was almost impossible to form an opinion respecting the foreign trade of this country; but latterly the question of the relative values of imports and exports is one that has been much discussed, and elaborate statistics have been published showing the course of Roumanian foreign trade during the years 1881 and 1882, with some details respecting former years as far back as 1871, from which the accompanying Table C. has been made out. It will be seen that the total trade did not exceed 277.000.000 fr., or about 11.000.000l. sterling, up to the end of the year 1875, but that in 1876 it suddenly advanced to 402.000.000 fr. , or about 16.000.000l. sterling; and that in 1882 it was 514.000.000 fr. , or upwards of 20.000.000l. sterling. Up to and inclusive of the year 1876 the value of the exports exceeded that of the imports; but from and after 1877 the reverse has been the case. In examining these statistics the exceptional conditions of the years 1876, 1877, and 1878 must be taken into consideration. In 1876 the harvest was an abundant one, and the stock of maize of the year 1875 was a very large one. The political horizon was dark: it was felt that a war might be, in all probability, to close the outlet by the Danube. Every effort would be made by the holders of corn to dispose of their stocks and this would be increased in consequence of the precautions taken by dealers in foreign goods to lay in larger stocks in view

of the uncertainty of their being able to procure them later on, at any rate, by what was the cheaper route, viz., the Danube. Galatz and Ibraila were free ports at the time, and goods arriving by water paid no customs dues until they were disposed of beyond the customs dues immediately on their passing the Roumanian frontier. In the year 1877 the war broke out between Russia and Turkey. The Danube was closed at the commencement of the season of the navigation, thus checking exports by this route; and the railways were so encumbered by troops and the passage of warlike stores that great difficulties were experienced on the land side also. The imports would, however, be increased by the warlike and commissariat stores, and the many necessities required for both the Russian and the Roumanian armies, as well as by the different matters which the officers of the 1878 the Danube was reopened, and an opportunity was afforded of replenishing the stocks of such foreign goods as could be most profitably imported by sea, stocks which had probably been exhausted during until her troops had been finally withdrawn. Allowing for these exceptional circumstances, which will in a great measure account for the large addition to the foreign trade of Roumania in the years 1876, 1877 and 1878, and for the excess of imports over exports in the two latter years, we still find that in the succeeding years the imports exceed the exports; and the volume of the foreign trade is nearly double what it was some 10 or 12 years ago. An argument on the vexed question as to whether an excess of imports over exports is a sign of strength or shows an element of weakness would be out of place in a report of this nature, but the following considerations will suggest themselves. Few people with a knowledge of this country will deny that its material prosperity has largely increased during the last five or six years. One proof of this may be found in the fact that loans have been easily raised at 5 per cent., as against 7, 7 ½, and 8 per cent. in former years; and that the price of these 5 per cent. loans has steadily risen from the present value being between 93 per cent. and 94 per cent., after interest taken by the Roumanians themselves in financial, commercial, and industrial enterprises; and more serious endeavours are being made that activity would continue in the face of constant loss. Under these circumstances, those who in this country maintain that an excess of dispute the accuracy of the statistics as published; and seeing the years 1880 to 1882, it is quite possible that with all the care that has been taken some slight errors may have crept in; but these are hardly likely to be of sufficient importance to affect the general position. Taking the years 1879 to 1882 inclusive, we find respectively an excess of 15,000,000 fr., on an export

of 239,000,000 fr. 36,000,000 fr. On 219,000,000 fr., 69,000,000 fr. On 206,000,000 fr. and 24,000,000 fr. on 245,000,000 fr. It seems probable that the value of the goods exported is taken at their price in the country itself, while goods imported would in all probability be valued at the full amount of their cost price and freight; and if this be the case, the profit made on his goods by the exporter would appear under the head of excess of imports over exports, and 1882, representing as they do  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. and 10 per cent. on the values of exports. In the years 1880 and 1881 loans were issued— in the former at 6 per cent. loan paying off peasant freeholds; and in the latter a 5 per cent. loan part of which was applied to the construction of railways. A position of these loans would be taken abroad, and the proceeds come to Roumania in the shape of imported goods. The year 1881 was, moreover, one in which the price of cereals ruled high, and the exports of maize through Sulina alone was upwards of 3,500,000 of quarters, of fully a third more than in any other year.

As regards the imports, the most important items are given below, with the values as published for the year 1882: —

	Francs.
Textile fabrics, including cottons, woollens, silk, velvet, cordage, &c	86,000,000
Metals and metal goods	47,000,000
Hides, leather and leather goods	38,000,000
Timber, wood and articles made from wood	15,500,000
Colonial goods	14,500,000
Glass, pottery, and porcelain	9,000,000
Wine and spirits	6,000,000
Oil, wax, and goods of like nature	6,000,000
Paper, cardboard, &c.	5,500,000
Coal, petroleum, &c	5,000,000

There also appear under the head of imports:-

	Francs.
Animals, chiefly horses from Russia	5,500,000
Animal food products, chiefly fish, both fresh and salted	3,500,000
Grain and flour	5,000,000

The chief items' of export are:-

	Francs.
Grain and flour	198,000,000
Animals, cattle, sheep and pigs	11,000,000
Animal, food products, chiefly cheese and fish nearly	4,000,000
Fruit and vegetables, under which bead oilseeds are classed	8,000,000
Hides, &c, chiefly greasy over	5,000,000
Wood	6,500,000
Petroleum, &c.	2,000,000

The transit trade is classed separately; the values are returned at 3,300,000 fr. for 1880, 4,500,000 in 1881, and 1,700,000 fr. in 1882. and the chief items are grain and flour, textile fabrics and salt.

The trade with Austria first rose sensibly in the year 1876; but the proportion between imports and exports remained tolerably even, and the increased volume of trade may be attributed to the opening of the principal lines of railway connecting the two countries, and to the increased facilities in their commercial relations afforded by the Convention signed in 1875, and ratified in the following year. In 1877 the imports from Austria increased enormously; the Danube route was closed during the war which lasted throughout this year. The mere fact of the country being at war would, as before mentioned, tend to swell the imports into a non-manufacturing country, such as Roumania, and from geographical position the bulk of these imports would come through Austria; it is more than probable that a certain proportion of these imports came indirectly from other countries, and have been entered in the Custom-house returns as coming from the place from which they were last forwarded. Firstly, because there might be difficulty in tracing them back to the place of their true origin; and secondly, because it might be found advantageous in certain instances to bring them directly under the conditions of the commercial convention with Austria. But there is at times a distinct advantage in procuring goods from the nearest market; and irrespective of any special efforts that may be made by the Austrian manufactures to produce goods specially adapted to the taste and requirements of the Roumanian market, the fact of a special class of goods having been introduced and given even limited satisfaction, is sufficient to make it very difficult to displace them in this country, even by a cheaper and better article. There was some slight falling off in the imports from Austria in 1878, and in 1879 they were reduced from 180,000,000 fr., the largest figure

they have reached, to 125,000,000 fr.; in 1881 and 1882 they were set down as 135,000,000 fr., or about one-half of the total imports into the country.

The most important items of Austrian imports as stated for the year 1882, are as follows:

	Francs.
Boots, shoes, and leather goods	19,300,000
Woollen goods	13,300,000
Ready-made clothes	8,100,000
Furniture and wooden goods	7,500,000
Iron and steel, other than arms and machinery	6,300,000
Timber	6,200,000
Hides, green and tanned	5,700,000
Sugar	5,200,000
Paper, cardboard, &c	4,600,000
Cotton goods	3,700,000
Wines and spirits	3,800,000
Arms	2,700,000
Machinery	2,600,000
Sacking, drills, &c.	2,400,000
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	Francs.
Matches	2,400,000
Copper and brass	1,900,000
Glass	1,600,000
Agricultural implements	1,600,000
Cordage	1,500,000
Haberdashery, classed as of the commonest character	1,500,000
Felt and felt goods	1,300,000
Silk goods	1,300,000
Pottery and porcelain	1,300,000
Cotton twist	1,000,000
Coal	1,000,000
Furs	1,000,000
Woollen twists	500,000

The fluctuations, as compared with the imports in 1881, show an increase in quantity and in value in leather goods, woollens, wood and furniture, iron and steel goods, sugar, paper, wine and spirits, arms, agricultural

implements and common haberdashery; a decrease both in quantity and value in hides, cotton goods, sacking and drills, glass, cordage, silk, furs, and cotton and woollen twists: in ready-made clothes, timber, and felt goods there was a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value; in pottery and porcelain the value increased, while the quantity remained about the same; and in machinery the quantity increased, while the value remained about the same.

The exports to Austria consist of grain, pigs, sheep, wool, furs, petroleum, vegetables, green, hides, feathers, milk, butter, cheese, & c.; and the chief items of increase were in grain (wheat, barley, and rye) and in pigs.

The trade with Great Britain comes second in importance in respect of imports, and of the total of imports, and of the total of imports and exports combined. Great Britain is, however, credited with taking the largest amount of Roumanian exports ; and although this is very likely the case, the figure set down as the value of exports to Great Britain is probably exaggerated from the fact that many British vessels, on leaving Roumanian ports, can only give as their destination the port at which they expect to receive orders ; and as these ports are, for the most part, Malta, Gibraltair, or Falmouth, the export must necessarily be entered in the books of the Roumanian Custom-house as to Great Britain, while in some cases no doubt it is eventually carried to some other country.

Referring to Table C., it will be seen that the import trade progressively increased from the year 1871 till it reached 57,000,000 fr. in 1880, whence it fell to 51,000,000 fr. in 1881, and to 45,000,000 fr. in 1882, but falling off here, as shown by statistics, is more apparent than real, as the standard for the valuation of cotton goods was reduced in 1881; the imports were really larger both 1881 and 1882 than in 1880; between 1871 and 1876 there great fluctuations in the export trade; in 1877 the closing of the navigation of the Danube checked the exports, and between 1878 and 1882 these have risen from 40,000,000 to 98,000,000 fr. The conclusion of the commercial convention with Roumania in the year 1878 has no doubt increased the volume of trade: the true exports to Great Britain are probably less than the figures here set down for the reason above stated, while, as was mentioned in the remarks on the trade between Austria and this country, there is reason to believe that some few British goods imported by the land route may come to be entered in the Roumanian returns under the head of one of the countries through which they may have passed on their way. The



chief items of import from Great Britain, and their value in 1882, may resumed as follows : —

Articles.	Quantity.	Value
	Tons.	Francs.
Cotton piece goods .....	2,311	10,250,000
Cotton twist .....	2,468	7,600,000
Woollen piece goods .....	353	7,000,000
Iron and steel, other than arms and machinery ..	12,822	6,400,000
Sacking and drills .....	909	2,000,000
Coal .....	37,655	1,700,000
Felt and felt goods .....	64	1,500,000
Agricultural machinery .....	1,257	1,300,000
Rice .....	2,635	1,000,000
Iron and steel .....	4,025	800,000
Coffee .....	367	800,000
Hides and leather .....	152	700,000
Vegetable oils .....	511	500,000
Copper and grass .....	107	500,000

The other items are leather goods, flax, hemp and jute twists, pepper, raw cotton, glass ware, zinc, tea, spirits, starch ,resin, tar, and pitch, pottery and porcelain, & c. Comparing the values with those of the year 1881, there is an increase in quantity and in value in coal, felt, agricultural machinery, rice, iron and steel, hides and leather, and vegetable oils; a decrease in cotton piece goods, cotton twist, woollen piece goods, iron and steel goods, coffee, and copper and brass. The exports to Great Britain are almost entirely grain, such as maize, barley, wheat, oil seeds, rye, and haricot beans.

During the years 1871 to 1882 the trade with France seems to have varied in value, as regards the imports, between 10,000,000 fr. and 39,000,000 fr. in 1877, or excluding this and 1878 as exceptional years, 23,000,000 fr. in 1881 and 1882. As regards exports, and again excluding 1877, when the Danube was closed, and there were but 6,000,000 fr .worth of export, the variations are between 10,000,000 fr. and 32,000,000 fr.: in 1882 the total trade shows a value of 50,000,000 fr., the highest figure which has been reached. The principal articles of import are: —

## Value in 1882.

	Francs.
Woollen piece goods and haberdashery	2,400,000
Iron and steel goods	1,900,000
Silk goods	1,600,000
Sugar	1,600,000
Leather goods	1,500,000
Ready-made clothes	1,500,000
Hides and leather	1,300,000
Furniture and wooden articles	1,300,000
Medicines	1,300,000
Coffee	1,000,000
Artificial flowers, &c	1,000,000
Candles	500,000

and paper, hosiery, copper, and brass, preserved meats, olive oil, cottons, wine, asphalte, pottery and porcelain, and glass ware; there was also a certain amount of silver imported, viz., to the value of 3,500,000 fr. in 1882, and upwards of 5,000,000 fr. in 1881. There was an increase in the year 1882, as compared with 1881, in the following articles: iron and steel goods, sugar, hides and leather, furniture and wooden articles, medicines, artificial flowers, and copper and brass; the falling off has been in ready-made clothes, coffee, candles, paper, preserved meats, olive oil, and cottons. The exports to France consist of grain and wool, the export of the latter being to the value of 1,800,000 fr. in 1881, and 1,300,000 fr. in 1882.

The trade with Turkey has diminished of late years. This may, to some extent, be due to the transfer of the Dobroudscha. The highest figure reached was, during the 12 years shown in the table, imports to the value of 21,000,000 fr., exports 49,000,000 fr.: a total of 70,000,000 fr. in 1879. The value of the imports and exports in 1882 were 15,000,000 fr. and 17,000,000 fr. a total of 32,000,000 fr. The principal articles imported were in 1882: —

	Francs.
Hides, raw and tanned (chiefly tanned)	2,500,000
Carobs, figs, almonds, &c.	1,500,000
Olive oil	1,000,000
Tobacco	500,000

and raw and carded, cotton, wool, coffee, fish, dried fruits, & c. The exports consist of grain, timber, butter, milk, eggs, greasy wool, & c.

The trade with Germany seems to be increasing yearly, and is for the most part composed of imports into this country, which have risen from a value of 5,000,000 fr. to 32,000,000 fr., excluding the exceptional year 1877. During the year 1882 the value of the imports was 30,000,000 fr., of the exports 6,000,000 fr.; a total of 36,000,000 fr. The principal articles of import in 1882 were: —

	Francs.
Woollen piece goods and haberdashery	6,800,000
Iron and steel articles, with the exception of machinery	3,000,000
Cotton piece goods and haberdashery	2,800,000
Silk goods and goods of other material, mixed with silk	1,300,000
Furs	1,100,000
Jewellery	1,100,000
Machinery	900,000
Ready-made clothes	900,000
Leather goods	700,000
Military weapons	600,000
Furniture and wooden articles	500,000

and copper and brass, rough iron and steel, hosiery, umbrellas and parasols, woollen twists, sacking, and drills, & c., for smaller values. There was also, during the year 1882, an import of silver from Germany to the value of nearly 2,200,000 fr. The exports consisted almost entirely of grain and a few pigs.

The trade with Russia, although by no means large at present, shows a tendency to increase. In the years 1877 and 1878 the imports were large, comparatively speaking, from causes already alluded to. During the year 1882 the value of the imports was 9,000,000 fr. of the exports 8,000,000 fr., both

above a normal average. The trade is chiefly that which would naturally be carried on with a neighbouring country. Thus in 1882 the chief items of import were: —

	Francs.
Horses	3,200,000
Fish, fresh and preserved	300,000
Sheep, goats, &c.	500,000
Spirits and alcohol	400,000

and carriages, fish roe, cordage, leather goods, hosiery, furniture and wooden articles, & c. The imports consisted of

	Francs.
Timber	1,900,000
Furs, half prepared	1,600,000
Fish, fresh and preserved	1,600,000

and grain, iron and steel goods, rock, salt, & c.

The imports from Italy are chiefly rice, leather, petroleum, and fruit. In 1882 rice was the only article of importation that reached a total value of 500,000 fr. The exports were almost entirely grain.

The chief articles of import from Greece are hides and leather, olive oil, and fruit. In 1882 the value of the hides and leather imported was about 2,850,000 fr., of olive oil and olives about 1,000,000 fr. Corn and timber are the principal articles of export to Greece.

Belgium imports are chiefly iron, steel, and glass ware. In 1882 the values of these were respectively 1,300,000 fr. and 620,000 fr.; there was also a small quantity of machinery imported ; the exports consist of grain.

The total value of the imports under the head of "Textile fabrics" was returned at 85,907,000 fr. in 1882 as against about 93,000,000 fr. in 1880, and 98,500,000 fr. in 1881; the value of British imports under this head being set down as 41,662,032 fr. in 1880, 33,476,495 fr. in 1881, and 28,957,275 in 1882. A glance at the accompanying (Table D.) will show the proportion of British imports in respect of the principal items, and the countries with which there is the largest amount of competition. It will be seen that the bulk of the cotton twist and cotton piece goods and of the jute cloth comes from Great

Britain; in cotton prints and velvets, muslins, and woollen piece goods, Austria and Germany take a large share; in the commoner kinds of woollen piece goods the largest import is from Austria; while the import of the finer kinds is for the most part divided between Great Britain, Germany, Austria, and France. Nearly half of the felt goods imported come from Great Britain, and the bulk of the remainder from Austria. The import trade in ready-made clothes (an extraordinary large item), cordage and drills, is almost entirely in Austrian hands; silks and band woollens mixed with silk come from France, Austria, and Germany, and cotton haberdashery mostly from Germany and Austria.

The value of the goods imported under the head of metals was 47,046,540 fr. in 1882, as against 48,628,354 fr. in 1881, and 47,523,393 fr. in 1880; and the British imports represented a value of 9,268,236 fr. in 1882, of 9,575,832 fr. in 1881, and of 8,541,738 fr. in 1880. Details respecting the principal items will be found in Table E. By far the larger part of the tin plates and sheet iron, and rather more than half the iron and steel, rough and in bars and rails, came from Great Britain; in the latter instance the competition being chiefly with Germany and Austria. A fair proportion of copper and brass, iron utensils, and hard-ware and machinery were of British import, but the bulk of the trade is in Austrian hands; nails come chiefly from Germany, Austria, and France, and agricultural implements almost entirely from Austria.

Great Britain has but a small share in the leather trade: the total imports under this head are returned at 30,258,644 fr. in 1880, at 36,500,119 fr. in 1881, and at 38,350,417 fr. in 1882; British imports for the same periods being 434,610 fr., 521,877 fr., and 1,002,938 fr. This trade is almost entirely in Austrian hands. A remarkable figure is the large amount of the trade in ready-made boots and shoes. (See Table F.).

As regards colonials, the imports were in 1880 to the value of 13,069,708 fr., in 1881 12,905,643 fr., and in 1882 14,465,343 fr.; the British imports, 1,137,933 fr. in 1880, 1,246,787 fr. in 1881 and 1,139,113 fr. in 1882. The principal items of British import are coffee (which comes also from France, Austria, Turkey, and Germany) and tea (which is also procured from Germany, Austria, France and Russia). The bulk of the sugar comes from Austria. (See table G.)

Rice is not included under this head : the imports were in 1880 about 3,821 tons of which 2,183 tons came from Great Britain and 1,145 tons from Italy; in 1881 4,160 tons, 2,400 tons from Great Britain and 1,440 tons from

Italy; and in 1882 4,387 tons valued at 1,535,000 fr., Great Britain 2,635 tons and Italy 1,510 tons.

Glass and pottery comes chiefly from Austria, sheet glass from Belgium, and cement from France. (See table H.)

The imports of coal are stated at 36,611 tons in 1880, 66,828 tons in 1881, and 62,023 in 1882 ; the relative quantities being 15,922 tons, 37,392 tons and 23,783 tons from Austria, and 18,718 tons, 28,509 tons, and 37,655 tons from Great Britain: these figures are probably under the mark, so far as the import of British coal is concerned.

The statistics of the European Commission of the Danube give the following as the imports of British coal through Sulina, a portion of which would, however, go to the Russian ports of Reni and Ismail, and to Bulgarian ports on the Danube.

	Tons
1880	59,701
1881	75,483
1882	105,450
1883	108,672

This may be accounted for by the fact that coal is not liable to duty, and that this ports of Galatz, Ibraila, and Toultscha were free ports during the years 1880, 1881, and 1882, in addition to the port of Sulina, which still retains this privilege; on the other hand, the valuation seems high.

Of the remainder of the import trade it need only be mentioned that Austria imported to the extent of upwards of 13,500,000 fr. of the 15,500,000 fr. set down under the head of timber, wood, furniture and wooden articles, and for upwards of 4,500,000 fr. of the 5,500,000 fr. represented by paper, & c.; while of the 6,157,000 fr. set down as the value of oil, & c., imported, the principal figures are 1,309,000 fr. Austria, 1,171,000 fr. Turkey, 650,000 fr. France, 583,000 fr. Greece, 549,000 fr. Great Britain, and 140,000 fr. Russia. The trade in live animals would naturally be with the bordering countries.

A fair idea may thus be formed of the foreign trade of Roumania during the year 1882. The statistics of the total trade in 1883 have not yet been published, but it is probable that they will show an increase of trade with Austria and Germany, and a corresponding diminution with other countries, in consequence of a cheap through tariff which came into operation last year

on the Austrian and German lines of railway; heavy goods can thus be transported at a much cheaper rate than heretofore, and British trade may suffer seriously in consequence, the iron and steel trade especially, from competition with Silesian districts.

Allowing that goods can be carried to their destination at an equal rate of freight, whether by land or sea, the Danube ports are now at a disadvantage in consequence of the continuation of a tax called the per cent. tax. This tax took its origin from a proposed voluntary contribution by all merchants importing goods by sea of per cent. on their value, in order to form a fund for the repair of roads, the building of quays and such undertakings as might facilitate their trade operations; in the year 1863 a law was passed making this contribution compulsory on all goods imported and exported under the name of the per cent. tax, and in 1868 and 1874 regulations were published providing for the application of the funds raised by this tax to the improvement of the different Danube ports, each within the limits of the sums there encashed. So long as Galatz and Ibraila remained free ports this tax but little felt, but these privileges were abolished at the commencement of the year 1883, the per cent. tax being retained. Now that strong competition has set in with Austria and Germany in consequence of the reduced through rates on their lines or railway (the system of which has been extended by opening of the line across the Carpathians, connecting the Roumanian line at Ploesti with the Hungarian at Cronstadt), and that notwithstanding a reduction in the freights of shipping, the importers of British goods feel that they gave difficulty their own. Attention has been directed to this tax, and it is calculated that it represents.—

	F. C.
On a ton of cotton yarns	7 50
“ T cloths and dyed cottons . . . . .	10 00
“ bleached cotton goods . . . . .	12 50
“ cotton prints . . . . .	22 50
“ white shirtings and fine cotton goods . . . . .	45 00

by which amount the whole of the import and export trade by the Danube is burdened, while there is no corresponding impost on goods arriving by land. Moreover, it is not as though the ports themselves derived advantages in any way corresponding to the amount levied yearly; frequent complaints are made that remain much in the same primitive state as some 10 or 12 years ago,

attention having been more directed to railways which benefit other towns, and which, being carried out for the most part now by the Government, and so being provided for by loans, have to be paid for as much by the Danube ports as by those parts of the country which reap the immediate benefit. In the year 1880 the relative order of importance of the chief Custom-houses in respect of the amount and value of clearances of goods imported was as follows: -

	Tons.	Francs.
1. Bucharest .....	21,897	78,627,000
2. Galatz .....	31,992	38,976,000
3. Itykany ( on the frontier between Moldavia and the Bucovina) .....	54,432	27,338,000
4. Jassy .....	3,605	15,187,000
5. Turnu Severin (on the Danube) .....	7,552	15,087,000
6. Ibraila .....	14,453	13,930,000
7. Predeal (in the Carpathians) .....	17,749	11,044,000
8. Crajova .....	2,735	9,645,000

In 1881 and 1882 the order was as follows:--

	1881.		1882.	
	Tons.	Francs.	Tons.	Francs.
1. Bucharest	20,099	8,670,000	24,629	77,152,000
2. Itykany	69,936	33,648,000	72,012	31,463,000
3. Galatz	51,312	32,702,000	50,932	31,162,000
4. Jassy	4,494	18,386,000	6,728	17,183,000
5. Predeal	43,825	14,845,000	32,221	16,338,000
6. Ibraila	13,655	12,517,000	26,713	14,842,000
7. Turnu Severin	8,706	9,916,000	7,981	10,333,000
8. Crajova	3,712	9,263,000	3,551	9,300,000
9. Vereiorova (the junction of the Roumanian and Austrian lines of the Danube)	16,100	7,876,000	21,700	8,568,000

The comparison shows that the quantity of goods imported by Galatz has increased, but the value has decreased during the last two years, which for by the different basis taken for the valuations. As regards Ibraila, the quantity remained much the same in 1880 and 1881, but nearly doubled in 1882; this increase was no doubt owing to the fact that the rate of freight by steamer is the same to Galatz and to Ibraila, while the transport by rail from Galatz to towns in the interior, more especially to Bucharest, is considerably higher.



There was no striking difference in values, which would seem to imply that the bulk of the imports consisted of heavy and relatively cheap goods. Itykany, Predeal, and Vereiorova, the junctions of the different railways connecting Roumania with Austrian territory, all gained in importance. An endeavour has been made to ascertain in a general manner, and in anticipation of the official returns, the amount of the imports through Galatz in 1883, but the figure obtained do not appear sufficiently reliable to be taken as a basis of comparison. A table is annexed of the imports in 1882 through the principal Custom-houses of goods which form the chief items in the British import trade. (See table I.) Great complaints are also made at Galatz that the export trade is adversely affected by the comparatively high rates ruling on the Roumanian line of railway, so that grain and timber are sent not only by Austrian lines but also to Odessa, in a preference to Galatz.

No official statistics have as yet been published of the exports from Roumania during the year 1883, and such figures as it has been possible to obtain of the export and import trade of Galatz during that year do not appear reliable. The accompanying Table K. gives the exports other than grain and flour from the Roumanian ports on the Danube through Sulina in 1883, the figures being taken from the statistics of the European Commission of the Danube. The imports of coal through Sulina in 1883 are given at 108,672 tons from Great Britain and 1,307 tons from France; a portion of this would, however, go to Russian and Bulgarian ports on the Danube.

### GENERAL REMARKS.

The maintenance of the free ports was, no doubt, attended with certain anomalies; the towns were enclosed and shut off, as it were, from the rest of the country, and every article included in the Custom-houses tariff had pay duty or passing the barriers, no matter what was its true origin. This would naturally act as a check to any industry being carried within the limits of the free ports, and a petition was presented by some of the inhabitants of Toultscha requesting that the town might no longer be included in this class. A law was passed at the beginning of 1883 abolishing the privileges of a free port in the case of all towns except Sulina (the circumstances of which are peculiar), and it was at first understood that this law would come into operation on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April. As the navigation of the Danube would probably be open for at least a week or two prior to that date, importers did their best to anticipate the action of this law by giving comparatively large orders for goods

to be sent out by the first opportunity. But the date was changed to that of the opening of the navigation, and considerable confusion ensued in consequence of the Custom-house authorities being unprovided with sufficient ware house accommodation, and they were landed from the vessels. A law has been passed providing for the building of bonded warehouses by the Government and regulations have been published in respect of the bonding of imported goods. These regulations appear to be of a fairly liberal nature; but the commencement year, and the small temporary sheds that have been erected are utterly inadequate to full the purpose. Trade in general seems likely to be adversely affected at Galatz, and the trade with Bulgaria will probably suffer severely for an indefinite period without being subject to customs dues: these towns formed therefore a kind of depot for certain goods for the Bulgarian market, to which they could be sent in small quantities as a demand sprang up. Now, in default of sufficient and defined warehouse room at the disposal of the Custom-house authorities, the attempt to declare goods in bond is fraught with so much uncertainty and risk in respect of certain classes of goods that it is for the most part preferable to clear them, and there being no drawback allowed on re-export, the price of these goods in the Bulgarian market is enhanced by the amount of the Roumanian custom dues which have been paid on them; a fact which the Russians appear to have taken into consideration when they decided to increase the operations of their Navigation Company on the Danube. The treatment, moreover, to which goods have been subjected by the Custom-house officers at Galatz during the past year—such, for instance as the cutting of bales of cotton in half to see if there be any tobacco concealed in them—is scarcely calculated to develop trade.

Serious endeavours have been made lately to improve the agriculture of the country. Credit establishments have been formed for making advances to farmers, and annual exhibitions have been instituted in the different districts, where prizes are given for the best exhibits of cattle and agricultural and industrial products; in many cases these are supplemented by agricultural contests the introduction of a better class of seed in the return of the rye crop of late years are encouraging in this respect. A company has been formed with the view of resuscitating the silk industry, which had fallen into decay, although cocoons, both in the raw and manufactured state, used at one time to form an important element in the Roumanian export trade to France and to Italy. The petroleum deposits are now being worked on more scientific principles in several quarters with promising results. A match factory and

tanneries have been established; a company has been formed for the manufacture of paper; endeavours are being made to improve the quality of Roumanian wine; an establishment for making brandy has been founded during the past year has produced very creditable specimens; in fact an activity is displayed throughout was not observable prior to the Russo-Turkish war; but alongside of this activity the theory of protection has taken a very strong hold. The Co-operative Society, to which allusion was made in a former report by Acting-Consul General Vecqueray was started with the avowed attention of including foreign trades and combating any monopoly of trade by the Jews. An exhibition of fairly successful character was held under its auspices at Bucharest during the year 1883; but it has now developed a programme of a most protective and restrictive character. It must be admitted that it would be advantageous if a greater amount of system were introduced into commercial transactions of Roumania – If, for instance, less were done by word of mouth and more consigned to writing; at the same time the tendency seems rather to be towards over-legislation in matters of detail, the effect of which is to surround commercial transactions with a mass of formalities causing irritation and delay. It is, moreover a sign of the times how frequently, when legislation on commercial matters is brought on in the Chambers, one at least of the members seems to be moved by an irresistible impulse to propose the introduction of a clause reserving the exercise of the particular occupation treated of for Roumanians exclusively. The method in which the stamp laws are administered has also given rise to frequent complaints, delay, and vexation, being caused by a demand on the part of the authorities, Custom-house, and others, for the production of receipts for taxes, contracts &c., which have no immediate bearing on the business to be transacted. It must be remarked however that so far as Galatz is concerned, these demands have been chiefly observable in the case of goods for export, and they may therefore be attributed, for the most part, to a desire to raise the full amount of revenue under the stamp laws, and to a want of that appreciation of the value of time in commercial transactions, only to be obtained from an experience in such matters which the Roumanians have had no opportunity of gaining at present. The larger amount of revenue obtained lately under the head of customs dues, and the fact that the exports consist almost entirely of raw material, while the bulk of the imports are manufactured goods, are by no means favourable to the free-trade principles in this country; and, with the example of neighbouring

States before them, the current of public opinion is likely to set still more strongly in the direction of protection rather than in the opposite sense.

**Galatz, March, 1884.**

[illegible]

Table B – Freights.

	1879		1880		1881		1882		1883	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Danube ports to United Kingdom ... ..	4	9	4	6	5	1	4	11	4	2
Sulina ... ..	3	8	3	6	4	1	4	1	3	4
Lighterage to Sulina ... ..	0	8	0	6	0	7	0	7	0	6
Highest freight, Danube to United Kingdom	6	0	5	6	6	9	6	0	5	1
Lowest ... ..	4	2	3	3	3	3	4	0	2	9

Export of Cereals from Roumanian Danube Ports through Sulina  
(taken from the Returns of the Danube Commission)

		1879	1880	1881	1882	1883
Wheat	Quarters	1.288.647	1.286.253	444.917	942.370	1.284.725
Barle	“	826.293	1.219.505	1.026.014	2.381.071	1.472.390
Oats	“	17.884	117.216	59.584	30.851	16.562
Rye	“	223.220	270.049	150.175	375.633	363.028
Maize	“	2.495.704	1.215.416	3.528.886	2.656.149	2.296.079
Rapeseed	“	86.754	29.810	83.027	98.354	32.535
Millet	“	13.730	15.329	18.933	32.960	17.448
Linseed	“	4.429	810	1.980	2.101	618
Beans	“	70.011	97.043	89.905	112.455	65.632
Flour	Cwts	174,800	204,780	188,632	125,522	921.370

AVERAGE Prices of above Free on Board at Galatz.

		1879	1880	1881	1882	1883
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Wheat	Quarters	32 6	36 0	38 0	37 6	30 9
Barley	"	18 0	16 0	19 0	18 0	19 11
Oats	"	16 5	14 0	14 0	13 0	13 10
Rye	"	19 9	27 6	28 0	26 0	23 11
Maize	"	23 0	22 0	29 0	30 0	23 0
Rapeseed	"	38 8	43 0	40 0	41 0	48 2
Beans	"	30 6	28 0	35 0	33 0	33 10
Flour	"Cwts	13 2	14 6	16 6	15 0	12 6

Table C.—ROUMANIAN Foreign Trade.

In Millions of Francs.

	1871.			1872.			1873.			1874.			1875.			1876.		
	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.
Austria ..	37	50	87	39	81	120	39	69	108	49	55	104	40	39	79	79	74	153
Great Britain ..	15	27	42	21	14	35	22	17	39	33	13	46	25	24	49	27	40	67
France ..	10	32	42	16	14	30	14	14	28	16	10	26	16	24	40	28	32	60
Turkey*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	40	52	7	37	44	8	49	57
* Germany ..	5	2	7	7	3	10	6	1	7	6	..	6	5	..	5	15	1	16
Russia ..	3	3	6	4	2	6	3	4	7	3	2	5	2	2	4	4	4	8
Italy ..	1	2	3	..	2	2	..	3	3	1	4	5	..	2	2	1	5	6
Greece†	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgium‡	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other countries	22	22	44	22	22	44	22	22	44	22	22	44	22	22	44	22	22	44
Total ..	83	178	261	110	167	277	98	159	257	123	135	258	101	145	246	166	236	402

\* Returns for 1871 to 1873 included under "Other countries."

† Returns for 1871 to 1876 included under "Other countries."

‡ Returns for 1871 to 1876 included under "Other countries."

## ROUMANIAN Foreign Trade—continued.

In Millions of Francs.

	1877.			1878.			1879.			1880.			1881.			1882.		
	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.	Import.	Export.	Total.
Austria .. ..	180	90	270	168	67	235	125	69	194	126	88	209	135	72	207	135	75	210
Great Britain ..	37	12	49	53	40	93	50	38	88	57	56	113	51	82	133	45	98	143
France .. ..	88	6	94	16	19	35	15	18	33	18	28	46	23	19	42	23	27	50
Turkey .. ..	8	17	25	14	51	65	21	49	70	13	35	48	16	16	32	15	17	32
Germany .. ..	40	..	40	20	1	21	18	2	20	24	1	25	32	2	34	30	6	36
Russia .. ..	27	5	32	28	5	33	10	6	16	6	5	11	6	4	10	9	8	17
Italy .. ..	1	1	2	1	7	8	1	8	9	1	3	4	2	5	7	2	4	6
Greece* .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	8	5	2	7	5	2	7
Belgium† .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	4	1	5	3	1	4
Other countries ..	7	10	17	7	27	34	14	49	63	3	4	7	1	4	5	2	7	9
Total .. ..	336	141	477	307	217	524	254	239	493	255	219	474	275	207	482	269	245	514

ROUMANIA.

\* Returns for 1877 to 1879 included under "Other countries."

† Returns for 1877 to 1879 included under "Other countries."



## GALATZ.

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Table D.—TEXTILE Fabrics: Imports in 1882, Value 85,907,010 fr.

Principal Items.	Total.	Great Britain.	Austria.	Germany.	
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Woollen twist ... ..	831,000	3,000	495,000	327,000	...
Common piece goods and carpets...	1,460,000	176,000	1,155,000	28,000	89,000 Bulgaria.
Woollen piece goods—					
Undyed, not including coloured flannels ... ..	11,750,000	3,000,000	7,000,000	1,500,000	...
Not included in the above, with exception of shawls and lace ... ..	11,965,000	3,700,000	2,620,000	3,463,000	1,747,000 France. 361,000 Bulgaria
Felt and felt goods ... ..	3,279,000	1,487,000	1,332,000	254,000	...
Raw cotton ... ..	590,000	140,000	84,000	...	138,000 France
Cotton twist ... ..	7,675,000	7,060,000	568,000	...	340,000 Turkey
Doubled yarns ... ..	752,000	510,000	182,000	...	...
Dyed cotton yarns ... ..	644,000	77,000	460,000	101,000	...
Common cotton piece goods—					
Unbleached ... ..	2,387,000	2,210,000	138,000	...	...
Bleached and dyed ... ..	5,136,000	3,228,000	844,000	904,000	...
Cotton prints and velvets ... ..	7,622,000	4,185,000	2,019,000	1,190,000	...
Muslin, tulle, &c. ... ..	1,521,000	486,000	425,000	446,000	150,000 Switzerland
Cotton haberdashery ... ..	1,895,000	79,000	798,000	955,000	...
Flax and hemp twist ... ..	438,000	169,000	143,000	...	...
Cordage ... ..	1,753,000	21,000	1,287,000	...	330,000 Russia
Jute cloth ... ..	2,170,000	1,723,000	365,000	...	...
Common drills ... ..	1,370,000	95,000	1,160,000	95,000	...
Woollen goods mixed with silk ... ..	547,000	40,000	200,000	204,000	101,000 France
Silks ... ..	1,993,000	11,000	593,000	583,000	751,000 ..
Ready-made clothes ... ..	9,887,000	34,000	8,122,000	770,000	718,000 .. 150,000 ..

Table E.—METALS: Imports in 1882, Value 47,046,540 fr.

Principal Items.	Total.	Great Britain.	Austria.	Germany.	
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Jewellery ... ..	1,900,000	...	768,000	970,000	...
imitation ... ..	605,000	...	335,000	...	200,000 France
Watches, clocks, &c. ... ..	903,000	...	...	...	580,000 Switzerland
Copper, brass, &c. ... ..	3,241,000	445,000	1,870,000	420,000	...
Iron and steel, rough bars, rails, &c. ... ..	5,114,000	2,653,000	917,000	1,607,000	...
Sheet iron ... ..	846,000	689,000	111,000	...	...
Tin plates ... ..	1,460,000	1,334,000	100,000	...	...
Iron utensils and hardware ... ..	6,077,000	1,180,000	2,751,000	840,000	967,000 Belgium
Heavy iron goods ... ..	1,176,000	254,000	315,000	121,000	450,000 France
Nails ... ..	2,011,000	235,000	485,000	737,000	257,000 .. 181,000 Belgium 110,000 Bulgaria
Agricultural implements ... ..	1,980,000	204,000	1,606,000	130,000	...
Machinery ... ..	3,222,000	1,325,000	2,595,000	930,000	187,000 Belgium
Arms ... ..	3,426,000	...	2,787,000	619,000	...
Silver ... ..	3,700,000	...	...	2,260,000	3,500,000 France

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## ROUMANIA.

Table F.—HIDES, Leather, &amp;c.: Imports in 1882, Value 38,350,417 fr.

Principal Items.	Total.	Great Britain.	Austria.	Germany.	
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Hides, green ... ..	914,000	96,000	145,000	...	{ 406,000 France. 180,000 Turkey. 51,000 Greece. 2,969,000 Turkey.
„ tanned ... ..	10,275,000	639,000	2,972,000	361,000	{ 2,795,000 Greece. 335,000 Italy. 133,000 France.
Leather, fine ... ..	3,351,000	9,000	2,600	533,000	{ 146,000 „ 172,000 Turkey (Bul- garia).
Furs ... ..	2,360,000	4,000	950,000	1,145,000	{ 66,000 Russia. 353,000 France.
Leather goods, except gloves and boots	6,803,000	200,000	5,615,000	272,000	{ 119,000 Russia. 117,000 Turkey (Bul- garia).
Gloves ... ..	498,000	2,000	362,000	29,000	{ 98,000 France.
Boots and shoes ... ..	14,137,000	52,000	13,389,000	355,000	{ 269,000 „ 82,000 Turkey.

Table G.—COLONIALS: Imports in 1882, Value 14,465,343 fr.

Principal Items.	Total.	Great Britain.	Austria.	Germany.	
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Sugar ... ..	6,900,000	12,000	5,252,000	217,000	{ 1,393,000 France. 481,000 „
Coffee ... ..	2,213,000	826,000	362,000	188,000	{ 296,000 Turkey. 36,000 France.
Tea ... ..	303,000	123,000	39,000	72,000	{ 24,000 Russia. 55,000 Turkey.
Pepper, &c. ... ..	296,000	150,000	11,000	22,000	{ 42,000 France. 1,504,000 Turkey.
Oranges, lemons, figs, almonds, &c.	2,070,000	...	...	...	{ 292,000 Greece. 106,000 Italy.
Tobacco ... ..	2,253,000	...	994,000	...	{ 83,000 France. 715,000 Russia. 510,000 Turkey.

Table H.—GLASS, Pottery, and Porcelain: Imports in 1882, Value 8,798,120 fr.

Principal Items.	Total.	Great Britain.	Austria.	Germany.	
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Cement ... ..	1,000,000	278,000	...	...	635,000 France.
Common pottery ... ..	960,000	101,000	640,000	53,000	...
China and porcelain ... ..	794,000	5,000	516,000	70,000	182,000 France.
Sheet glass ... ..	858,000	115,000	94,000	5,000	601,000 Belgium.
Glass ware ... ..	2,047,000	28,000	1,520,000	186,000	185,000 France.

Table I.—IMPORTS in 1882 through the Principal Custom-houses of Goods which form the Chief Items in the British Import Trade.

	Bucharest.	Izmany.	Galatz.	Jassy.	Predeal.	Ibraila.	Turnu Severin.	Craiova.	Vereforova.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Cotton piece goods ...	1,352	430	513	630	7	66	31	82	9
" twist ... ..	582	85	569	91	18	469	126	266	9
Woollen piece goods ...	666	227	45	148	315	17	23	41	10
Iron and steel goods ...	3,667	3,181	12,386	346	219	3,008	916	582	1,326
Sacking and drills ...	337	84	240	49	62	509	28	29	41
Coal ... ..	310	...	7,461	...	9,525	4,834	...	...	10,174
Felt and felt goods ...	53	21	...	9	36	...	1	3	6
Machinery ... ..	810	1,236	553	110	77	530	114	66	260
Rice ... ..	215	...	2,164	192	...	786	81	...	...
Iron and steel ... ..	1,501	1,757	1,997	...	672	333	291	165	830
Coffee ... ..	78	144	195	28	...	268	26	18	...
Hides and leather ...	395	145	366	200	126	145	44	73	26
Vegetable oils ... ..	166	149	214	137	25	254	126	69	31
Copper and brass ...	212	46	23	30	16	147	20	26	57
Tea ... ..	10	9	9	4	...	...	...	...	...

Table K.—EXPORTS other than Grain from Roumanian Ports through Sulina in 1883.

		Galatz.	Ibraila.	Toultscha.	Up-river Ports.	Sulina.	Total.
Wood, rafts ...	Number ...	5	...	...	...	...	5
" planks ...	" ...	1,496,734	40,663	...	...	...	1,537,397
" timber ...	Cubic feet ...	1,236,000	89,000	...	...	423,000	1,738,000
Tar ...	Cwt. ...	400	145	...	240	...	785
Cheese ...	" ...	120	4,400	260	...	...	4,780
Butter ...	" ...	...	103	...	...	...	103
Hides ...	Bales ...	155	64	...	...	...	219
" ...	Tons ...	29	...	...	...	...	29
Wool ...	Bales ...	749	250	...	...	...	999
" ...	Tons ...	66	...	252	...	...	318
Rags ...	" ...	54	144	...	...	...	198
Salt ...	" ...	46	...	...	...	...	46
Petroleum ...	" ...	...	3	...	...	...	3
Old iron ...	" ...	95	322	...	...	...	417
Bones ...	" ...	45	147	...	...	...	192
Horn and hoofs ...	Cwt. ...	26	8	...	...	...	34
Broken glass ...	" ...	100	50	...	...	...	150
Wine ...	Barrels ...	16	355	...	...	...	381
Sundries ...	Packages ...	12,545	1,139	...	...	...	13,684
" ...	Tons ...	370	1,809	165	64	...	2,408