

SIAM. No. 1 (1874).

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# REPORT

BY

HER MAJESTY'S CONSUL-GENERAL

IN

# S I A M

FOR THE YEAR

1873.

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*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.  
August 1874.*

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LONDON:  
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS,  
1874.

*Commercial Report by Her Majesty's Consul-  
General in Siam: 1873.*

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THREE very unfavourable seasons—the first caused by an excess, the other two by a scarcity, of rain, have had a very injurious effect on the commerce of this country. It will be seen by the Tables which accompany this Report that there is a decrease in the amounts of Rice and Sugar exported during the last year when compared with the amounts exported in 1871-72. This comparison will not, however, show what has really been the loss sustained by this country, for I have every reason to believe that a considerably larger area of land was put under cultivation in order to produce the crops of rice and sugar for 1873 than was the case in previous years. But though the rice-crop in most of the districts in which it is grown is certainly not a third of what was expected, yet owing to the very great excess of production over what is required for consumption in the country the people appear to have ample stores of food. It is also believed that the loss sustained even by the poorer cultivators is not such as to compel them to sell their buffaloes and cattle, and that they will therefore be able to retain them for the production of future crops.

The teak exported is in excess of previous years, though the want of rain allowed but a very small portion of what was ready on the banks to be floated out by the various creeks which lead into the Menam. There is, therefore, every probability that we shall see a large quantity of this valuable timber brought down to Bangkok during the rainy season of this year.

There has also been a larger amount of teel seed exported than has been the case in previous years. This country appears to have many facilities for its production, and as the demand in Europe increases with every year it may become a valuable article of export.

The import trade also shows a serious diminution in almost every article. This must always be the case when the crops in Siam are bad, as the people are too poor to pay for such articles as they require except with the produce of their last crop,

The Shipping Returns show that about one-half of both imports and exports were carried in British vessels, which far exceeded in number those of any other foreign nation.

As the Siamese Government continue to issue a coin unique as to its value, and as it is also well known that it has been very much debased of late years, it cannot be used except in this country. A new mint is now in the course of being erected, and we are promised a coin which shall be up to a certain standard.

Unless, however, this Government exercises a more complete supervision over the officers employed in their mint than has hitherto been the case, either in this or any other public business, no improvement can be expected.

THOMAS GEORGE KNOX, *Consul-General.*

*Bangkok, March 10, 1874.*

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## (No. 1.)—RETURN of British Shipping at the Port of Bangkok during the Year 1873.

*Direct Trade in British Vessels from and to Great Britain and British Colonies.*

Whence Arrived.	ENTERED.						Invoice Value of Cargoes.	Whither Bound.	CLEARED.						Invoice Value of Cargoes
	Number of Vessels.			Tonnage.					Number of Vessels.			Tonnage.			
	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Total.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Total.			With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Total.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Total.	
Singapore ... ..	60	2	62	22,243	579	22,822	£ 338,875	Singapore ... ..	55	2	57	20,937	548	21,485	£ 266,322
Hong Kong ... ..	10	6	16	5,022	2,433	7,455	70,654	Hong Kong ... ..	16	...	16	8,351	...	8,351	110,878
								United Kingdom ... ..	1	...	1	493	...	493	9,000
								Australia ... ..	3	...	3	1,194	...	1,194	10,875
Total ... ..	70	8	78	27,265	3,012	30,277	409,529	Total ... ..	75	2	77	30,975	548	31,523	397,075

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*Indirect or Carrying Trade in British Vessels from and to other Countries.*

Java ... ..	1	2	3	160	850	1,030	67	Java... ..	3	...	3	402	...	402	2,588
Saigon ... ..	...	2	2	...	1,117	1,117	...	Chinese ports ... ..	3	...	3	919	...	919	7,083
Chinese ports ... ..	1	...	1	289	...	289	39								
Total ... ..	2	4	6	469	1,967	2,436	105	Total ... ..	6	...	6	1,321	...	1,321	9,671
Grand Total ... ..	72	12	84	27,734	4,979	32,713	409,634	Grand Total ... ..	81	2	83	32,296	548	32,844	406,746

(No. 2.)—RETURN of British and Foreign Shipping at the Port of Bangkok during the Year 1873.

Nationality.	ENTERED.									Value of Cargoes.	Nationality.	CLEARED.									Value of Cargoes.
	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.					With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.			
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.			Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	
British ...	73	27,734	...	19	4,979	...	84	32,713	...	£	British ...	81	32,296	...	2	548	...	83	32,844	...	£
Danish ...	2	718	...	4	1,046	...	6	1,764	...	409,634	Danish ...	6	1,771	...	...	...	...	6	1,771	...	406,746
Dutch ...	6	1,610	...	3	1,278	...	9	2,918	...	3,840	Dutch ...	9	3,327	...	...	...	...	9	3,327	...	10,921
French ...	3	1,182	...	11	3,353	...	14	5,165	...	1,739	French ...	12	5,058	...	...	...	...	12	5,058	...	14,628
German ...	3	2,557	...	7	2,144	...	15	4,731	...	14,000	German ...	16	5,683	...	...	...	...	16	5,683	...	46,459
American ...	1	359	...	...	...	...	1	359	...	1,948	American ...	2	609	...	...	...	...	2	609	...	41,012
Siamese ...	157	55,049	...	...	...	...	157	55,049	...	385,269	Siamese ...	137	49,875	...	...	...	...	137	49,875	...	4,376
Junks ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31,010	Junks ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	431,672
Total ...	252	90,445	...	34	12,316	...	286	102,761	...	847,979	Total ...	263	98,015	...	2	548	...	265	98,666	...	965,913

BANGKOK.

(No. 3.)—RETURN of Foreign Shipping engaged in the Direct and Indirect Trade at the Port of Bangkok during the Year 1873.

ENTERED.							CLEARED.						
Nationality of Vessels.	Direct Trade.		Indirect Trade.		Total.		Nationality of Vessels.	Direct Trade.		Indirect Trade.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Danish .. ..	..	..	6	1,764	6	1,764	Danish .. ..	..	..	6	1,771	6	1,771
Dutch .. ..	1	270	8	2,648	9	2,918	Dutch .. ..	7	2,628	2	699	9	3,327
French .. ..	2	692	12	4,473	14	5,165	French .. ..	6	2,644	6	2,414	12	5,058
German .. ..	..	..	15	4,731	15	4,731	German .. ..	..	..	16	5,082	16	5,082
American .. ..	..	..	1	338	1	338	American .. ..	..	..	2	609	2	609
Siamese .. ..	157	55,049	..	..	157	55,049	Siamese .. ..	137	49,875	..	..	137	49,875

STAT.

RETURN of Exports from the Port of Bangkok, during the Year 1873.

Furnished by S. Bateman, Commissioner of Customs.

Description.	To Hong Kong.		To Singapore.		To China.		To Europe.		Java.		To the Coast.		Total.		
	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	
Rice ... ..	468,800	Dollars. 633,788	265,144	Dollars. 381,869	53,866	Dollars. 61,168	21,958	Dollars. 62,571	23,220	Dollars. 61,230	4,252	Dollars. 6,269	836,733	Dollars. 1,321,915	255,190
Paddy ... ..	23,171	19,503	5,313	6,571	1,983	1,094	...	...	270	279	...	...	29,567	26,793	8,583
Sugar ... ..	22,255	87,021	46,852	259,740	4,765	17,434	11,987	42,300	...	...	417	2,673	86,066	401,088	88,560
Sapan wood ... ..	48,693	95,678	3,727	5,391	12,105	27,523	115	207	...	...	2,134	2,836	66,801	129,635	27,007
Pepper ... ..	6,103	77,449	4,313	48,677	2,837	36,942	420	4,800	...	...	...	...	13,673	167,768	34,951
Teel-seed ... ..	8,640	27,657	6,940	19,699	...	...	33,539	105,513	...	...	...	...	49,339	152,862	31,847
Peas ... ..	3,592	7,493	7,904	16,410	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,492	23,848	4,965
Tin ... ..	2,398	90,877	2,136	54,034	233	9,333	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,807	151,244	82,143
Mussels ... ..	11,625	74,878	1,056	9,903	3,030	20,411	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,711	105,192	21,915
Hemp ... ..	1,190	11,806	...	...	28	253	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,318	12,059	2,512
Hides ... ..	2,533	19,490	11,982	100,688	45	293	59	540	...	...	...	...	11,609	121,015	25,211
Horns ... ..	539	5,777	1,994	15,242	...	...	796	4,553	...	...	...	...	3,379	25,877	4,391
Teak planks ... ..	20,849	124,675	1,000	1,350	40,600	49,318	...	...	...	...	...	...	62,419	175,343	36,629
" timber ... ..	1,052	20,810	...	...	63,880	72,994	...	...	...	...	...	...	64,962	93,804	19,442
Rosewood ... ..	51,096	156,560	485	850	11,384	18,293	...	...	...	...	315	190	66,580	135,193	32,692
Clean cotton ... ..	2,588	12,911	...	...	1,287	15,578	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,875	31,499	6,569
Uncleaned cotton ... ..	2,157	11,523	...	98	950	7,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,135	18,621	5,779
Takrahays-seed ... ..	260	191	...	...	256	252	...	...	...	...	...	...	516	443	62
Carlamums ... ..	4,568	109,511	1,171	18,166	229	3,757	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,965	131,324	27,880
Gamboge ... ..	97	1,137	475	22,285	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	572	24,322	4,879
Stidac ... ..	...	...	6,309	70,869	...	81	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,316	70,953	14,581
Turtle-shell ... ..	8	63	...	...	14	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	117	39
Ivory ... ..	73	11,768	67	10,942	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140	22,710	4,831
Lotus-seed ... ..	444	3,533	417	4,908	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	861	7,516	1,572
Bees'-wax ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shark'-fins ... ..	19	303	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	303	63
Ebony ... ..	747	1,818	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	747	1,818	322
Bean-cake ... ..	1,035	473	...	...	1,050	1,050	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,085	1,522	347
Mangrove-bark ... ..	4,010	2,511	...	...	2,794	2,583	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,804	5,397	1,124
Salt ... ..	...	...	5,638	1,210	...	...	...	2,000	507	3,493	702	11,226	2,419	504	
Pla heng (dried fish) ... ..	...	...	7,030	42,251	2,096	15,313	...	583	3,585	...	...	9,222	61,149	12,739	
Pla salit ... ..	...	...	9,453	53,625	...	...	...	5,286	18,684	...	...	11,719	72,309	15,043	
Salt meat ... ..	205	1,250	390	1,344	1,292	3,100	...	72	256	...	...	1,349	10,222	2,277	
Raw silk ... ..	...	...	1,088	113,138	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,088	113,138	23,770
Garlic ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	66	13
Onions ... ..	...	...	2,092	2,360	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,092	2,360	491

BANGKOK.

Description.	To Hong Kong.		To Singapore.		To China.		To Europe.		Java.		To the Coast.		Total.		
	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	Piculs.	Value.	
		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.	£
Basil-seed ... ..	...	...	841	2,690	...	...	...	...	45	180	...	...	886	2,870	597
Iron pans ... ..	...	...	6,600	10,710	...	...	...	...	20	480	...	...	6,620	11,190	2,381
Indigo ... ..	...	...	105	315	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105	315	65
Tallow ... ..	...	...	237	1,315	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	237	1,315	274
Gum Benjamin . . .	...	...	333	4,675	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	333	4,675	974
Sundries . . . . .	...	51,175	...	52,178	...	11,153	...	...	...	348	...	18,812	...	136,666	28,472
Salt fish (pla too) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	{	121,637,915 }	...	...	...	226,389	47,164
Mexican dollars . . .	...	41,400	...	645,226	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	686,626	143,047
Total ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,613,832	962,256

6

SIAM.

RETURN of Imports at the Port of Bangkok, during the Year 1873.

Furnished by S. Bateman, Esq., Commissioner of Customs.

Description.	From Singapore.		From Hong Kong.		From China.		From Europe.		From Java.		From Coast.		Total Quantity.	Total Value	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		Dollars.	¢
Shirtings, white ... .. pieces ...	113,271	Dollars. 214,063	...	Dollars. ...	...	Dollars. ...	...	Dollars. ...	...	Dollars. ...	...	Dollars. ...	113,271	244,068	50,847
" grey ... .. " ...	93,117	202,424	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93,117	202,424	42,172
" figured ... .. " ...	31,996	61,677	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31,996	61,677	13,516
Coloured piece goods ... .. " ...	80,701	112,397	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80,701	112,397	23,416
Turkey red cloths ... .. " ...	19,004	25,990	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,004	25,990	5,414
Long cloths ... .. " ...	11,427	34,426	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,427	34,426	7,172
Linen ... .. " ...	500	1,680	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	1,680	350
Prints and chintzes ... .. " ...	6,455	7,630	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,455	7,630	1,589
Jaconets and muslins ... .. " ...	2,370	2,455	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,370	2,455	511
Madapollans ... .. " ...	16,330	14,930	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,330	14,930	3,110
Cambrics ... .. " ...	26,032	26,800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,032	26,800	5,353
Miscellaneous piece goods ... .. " ...	101,101	66,556	1,300	572	2,500	1,718	...	...	...	...	...	...	104,901	69,516	14,458
Woolen goods ... .. " ...	5,788	28,790	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,788	28,790	5,905
" bolts ... .. " ...	819	5,760	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	819	5,760	1,240
" corsegs ... .. " ...	74,143	731,582	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74,143	731,582	122,413
" packages ... .. " ...	559	48,597	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	559	48,597	10,124
" white ... .. " ...	760	62,232	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	760	62,232	13,173
" coloured ... .. " ...	500	32,724	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	32,724	7,648
Hardware ... .. " ...	419	15,350	423	11,610	228	5,025	805	14,035	19	375	10	3,331	510	36,725	7,648
Earthenware ... .. " ...	...	...	4,428	21,905	3,950	20,910	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,914	46,224	9,713
Crockeryware ... .. " ...	364	12,819	123	2,851	...	...	337	6,866	78	1,418	...	...	8,845	42,515	8,919
Glassware ... .. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,438	40,971	6,836
Iron ... .. " ...	3,305	11,117	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	302	33,382	4,996
Steel ... .. " ...	1,729	6,331	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,660	18,466	3,185
Machinery ... .. " ...	119	10,385	...	...	...	...	102	3,657	...	...	...	...	1,729	5,231	1,089
Brass and copperware ... .. " ...	226	16,572	918	70,590	119	9,884	47	1,775	...	...	...	...	221	14,072	2,321
Copper sheathing ... .. " ...	490	10,831	579	16,692	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,310	99,191	20,450
Jewellery ... .. " ...	53	45,562	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	45,562	10,117
Ship chandlery ... .. " ...	998	15,661	37	504	...	...	115	2,202	...	...	...	...	1,160	15,367	3,856
Liquors ... .. " ...	24,709	55,207	1,605	4,697	...	...	5,354	10,724	11,575	24,727	...	...	48,163	95,445	19,884
Fancy goods ... .. " ...	295	30,840	322	24,506	192	7,350	171	4,892	10	1,630	79	5,461	999	75,069	15,614
Sundries ... .. " ...	541	43,355	274	25,416	110	5,234	98	4,198	28	1,947	283	13,285	1,330	99,845	20,801
Thread, gold ... .. " ...	...	...	36	5,167	133	5,937	...	...	...	...	...	...	169	11,124	2,325
" silk ... .. " ...	2	256	78	13,918	68	6,207	...	...	...	...	...	...	148	19,651	4,101
" cotton ... .. " ...	169	7,885	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	169	7,885	1,638
Silk piece goods ... .. " ...	2,186	12,317	16,061	123,458	1,430	10,124	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,677	145,899	30,391

BANGKOK.



Description.	From Singapore.		From Hong Kong.		From China.		From Europe.		From Java.		From Coast.		Total Quantity.	Total Value.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		Dollars.	¢	
Silk crape ...	...	Dollars.	10,905	Dollars.	...	199	Dollars.	...	...	...	...	...	10,404	Dollars.	21,136	
"  clowis .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,307	
Opium ...	580	341,661	33	18,455	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	613	860,119	75,021	
Coal .	1,003	9,750	200	2,000	...	...	600	2,772	...	...	...	...	1,803	14,232	3,025	
Gunnies ...	123	2,537	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	123	2,537	528	
Mats ...	901,213	21,494	6,715	709	109,775	4,681	...	...	26,960	8,308	123,950	5,764	1,163,618	44,046	9,176	
Mat rags ...	34,775	1,003	474,074	10,553	1,227,533	28,477	...	...	...	...	104,117	17,419	1,841,699	57,452	11,969	
Fire crackers ...	132	1,123	2,037	1,414	42	937	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,231	20,471	4,265	
Tea ...	...	...	811	7,185	9,048	39,911	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,859	47,096	9,811	
Jess paper ...	...	...	4,825	27,185	433	2,336	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,258	29,521	6,130	
"  sticks .	...	...	5,601	20,194	661	2,443	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,262	22,637	4,716	
Gold paper .	...	...	224	2,265	307	2,389	...	...	...	...	...	...	531	4,654	969	
Paper ...	34	974	5,116	18,723	966	4,309	161	3,113	...	...	...	...	6,267	27,119	5,649	
Muskets ...	972	21,797	...	...	...	...	60	1,500	...	...	...	...	1,682	26,297	5,478	
Medicine ...	129	4,917	916	21,608	69	1,359	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,104	30,944	6,446	
Umbrellas ...	69	6,782	564	9,124	1,459	15,516	5	436	...	...	...	...	2,037	31,837	6,637	
Garlic, salt .	...	...	219,475	83,712	1,590	843	...	...	...	...	...	...	251,365	34,055	7,091	
...	...	...	258	439	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	258	439	91	
Gold leaf ...	...	...	21	46,909	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5,800	25	52,709	10,831	
Silver ware .	...	...	32	25,483	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	29,990	6,248	
Vermicelli .	...	...	...	...	6	4,302	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,208	29,211	6,092
Tobacco ...	336	5,042	1,837	22,304	201	2,093	...	...	...	399	4,302	...	2,423	33,643	7,009	
Flour ...	8,263	12,146	2,616	3,408	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,879	15,554	3,240	
Fruit ...	164	421	773	2,827	250	919	...	...	530	1,621	...	...	1,737	5,718	1,191	
Vegetables .	...	...	810	7,096	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	810	7,096	1,473	
Cloth boxes .	4,640	3,071	34,555	22,707	5,325	3,535	...	...	...	...	...	...	44,520	29,313	6,107	
Tiles ...	...	...	623,245	16,382	369,704	9,393	...	...	...	...	...	...	991,919	25,777	5,495	
Biscuits ...	294	8,532	...	...	...	...	65	1,005	...	...	...	...	359	9,337	1,966	
Matches ...	1,337	38,177	...	...	...	...	100	1,500	20	640	...	...	1,457	40,317	8,399	
Candles ...	8,718	22,720	...	...	...	...	510	1,450	...	...	...	...	9,223	24,170	5,033	
Cutlery ...	50	2,028	55	1,718	...	...	21	731	...	...	...	...	126	4,537	937	
Lead ...	469	2,220	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	469	2,320	462	
Tin ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,663	82,234	2,663	17,132	
Lamp oil ...	6,524	45,568	572	4,321	190	1,319	...	...	131	917	...	...	655	4,553	7,732	
Betel-nut ...	8,996	15,334	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,606	3,620	10,602	18,934	3,942	
Paris goods .	43	10,682	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	10,682	2,100	
Molasses ...	88	290	2,554	8,535	200	316	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,842	9,031	1,892	
Raw silk ...	6	1,143	...	...	4	1,204	...	...	...	...	4	1,010	13	3,387	706	
Mexican dollars	20	30,972	43	55,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68	85,972	16,669	
European goods, via Singapore .	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,644	39,434	...	...	...	...	3,644	39,434	8,223	
Total ...	...	2,633,274	...	936,598	...	225,609	...	102,926	...	42,517	...	147,638	...	4,083,956	88,7623	