

No. 82 (Statistics and Commerce), dated India Office, London, the 24th May 1883.

From—Her Majesty's SECRETARY OF STATE for India.

To—His Excellency the Most Honourable the GOVERNOR GENERAL of India in Council.

I forward herewith a copy of a letter from the Treasury, with its enclosures, and of the reply thereto, relative to the proposed establishment of a system of free interchange of official documents between the Imperial and Indian Governments.

2. With reference to the 3rd paragraph of Sir Louis Mallet's letter to the Treasury, dated 24th May, I request that such measures may be taken by your Government as shall ensure the regular transmission in future of a sufficient number of copies of all official publications to enable me to forward one to the British Museum. Under the orders contained in Lord Salisbury's despatch of 28th February 1878, No. 39, the number transmitted should be at least ten, but these orders are at present in many instances not carried out.

3. I enclose a copy of a Note by the Librarian of this Office, relative to the number of books published in India, but not registered under Act XXV of 1867, of which copies do not reach this Office at all. It will be necessary to provide in future for the regular supply of two copies of all works of this class; and any past publications of special interest or utility might also be transmitted. To some officer this duty should be specially assigned, and he should be held answerable for its being fulfilled.

Dated Treasury Chambers, the 18th April 1883.

From—LEONARD COURTNEY, Esq.

To—Her Majesty's UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE for India, India Office.

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, a printed copy of a report of a Committee on the exchange of official publications, together with a printed copy of a Circular despatch which has been addressed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's representatives abroad, relative to the interchange of official documents with foreign nations.

I am to request that My Lords may be informed whether the Indian Government desires to establish a "complete" exchange of its public documents with this country on the conditions described in the Circular in question.

EXCHANGE OF OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

REPORT.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIPS.—The Committee appointed by your Lordships' Minute of 19th November 1880, to consider the question of an exchange of Public Documents with Foreign States, have the honour to make the following Report:

2. We find that for many years past there has been a considerable exchange of Official Publications of various kinds between the British and Foreign Governments. A statement of the facts bearing on this point was laid before us by our Chairman, but as the decisions arrived at by different Departments on the various proposals made were regulated by no principle, and only tended to show the inconveniences arising from the present system, we do not think it necessary to trouble your Lordships with them.

3. The application of the Smithsonian Institute, originally made in 1873, and repeated since more than once, and which gave rise to the present inquiry, appears to be the first proposal made to this country for anything like a general exchange of Official Publications, and affords a good opportunity for placing

applications for such exchanges on some more definite footing than that laid down in your Lordships' Minute of 23rd May 1876.

4. With this object, we have obtained, through the good offices of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the best information that could be procured as to the bulk and selling price of the Official Publications of Foreign countries. We annex a summary* of the replies received from Her Majesty's representatives abroad to whom the circular† was addressed: but it is hard to form from the materials which these replies afford any trustworthy estimate of the quantity of Official Documents annually printed abroad, but we think they may fairly be put (roughly speaking) at about 1,200 volumes a year. A large number of these are not placed on sale; and even so far as they are purchaseable, their selling price cannot be ascertained with any approach to accuracy.

It may be remarked that the British Official Publications, as shown in the enclosure to the circular, Appendix A., are more costly than those of any other country, except, perhaps, those of Germany and Russia.

5. We have made inquiries of several of the principal British Public Departments as to their requirements in the way of Foreign Official Documents, and the substance of the replies received is appended.‡

6. It is evident, from the numerous applications received at the Foreign Office from Foreign Governments, that importance is attached abroad to the receipt of British Official Publications through official channels. We think, therefore, that it would be impossible altogether to decline to give the publications of the United Kingdom to Foreign States when they ask for them for their own Governments.

On the other hand, the British Museum desires to have a complete and authentic set of Foreign Official Publications, while it would also appear that the special requirements of several public departments in England are not inconsiderable. We think therefore that a reciprocal interchange is, within certain limits, desirable.

7. The scheme of the Smithsonian Institute requires each Government to furnish "a complete series of its publications, to include the documents of special bureaus or departments, as well as the general publications, of whatever nature, printed at the public expense, and also embracing all such works as are published by booksellers with the aid of grants or subscriptions from Governments." These words, taken literally, cover an extremely wide field; and we consider that a general exchange on a scale of this magnitude would be impracticable.

8. But in order to carry out the views expressed in paragraph 6 we would suggest the following scheme for an exchange of a more limited character:—

9. To the Government of any independent Foreign State which may desire it, a complete set of the English Official Publications (defined as in the following paragraph) should be supplied, on such Government undertaking to send a complete set of its own publications for the library of the British Museum.

10. A "complete" set should include, so far as this country is concerned,

- (a.) Papers of all kinds printed for or presented to either House of Parliament:
- (b.) Historical, scientific or antiquarian, works published by the Government, such as the Record Office Publications:
- (c.) Maps or charts published by Government:
- (d.) Departmental publications which are placed on sale.

The "completeness" of the Foreign series would, of course, be left to the good faith of the respective Governments.

11. In the preceding paragraph we have dealt with the question of a general, or as it may be called a national exchange; but the question of special or departmental exchanges has also to be considered. We would recommend that applications for gifts of special classes of British Official Publications, such as military and statistical works, should, within reasonable limits, be favourably entertained, but accompanied by a request that works of the same class should be supplied (if required) in return. By this means it would be possible to supply the departmental libraries of this country by direct presentation from Foreign Governments. Application, on similar terms, could moreover be made, when needful, by this country. Any requests received from Foreign States for special gifts should, we

* Appendix B.

† Appendix A.

‡ Appendix C.

think, be considered separately, and should, as a rule, be agreed to, especially in the case of States which are willing to supply special copies of their own publications.

12. Special applications from State-supported institutions, or from libraries of historic interest, should be considered on their merits.

13. But in any arrangement which may be adopted, under the two preceding paragraphs, power should, we think, be reserved to treat exceptionally special cases, in which the value of the work is very considerable or the number of copies printed unusually small, such, for example, as the Report of the "Challenger" expedition. There may also be cases in which back volumes of a work (such as those in the Master of the Rolls publications) may properly be given, where practicable, with the view of completing a collection. With reference to the "Challenger" Report, we have been given to understand that your Lordships have been pressed to present copies to various Foreign and Colonial libraries and institutions not directly connected with the State; and we therefore venture to point out that the adoption of such a course might not only create a dangerous precedent, but would be opposed to the spirit of the proposals we have thought it our duty to make, although there may be circumstances connected with these applications, with which we are unacquainted, which may appear to your Lordships sufficient to justify an exceptional treatment in each or all of them.

14. The foregoing arrangement should extend to the Colonies and India in the same manner as to Foreign States.

15. The adoption of this scheme would not, in our opinion, cause any appreciable expense, unless it should lead to a considerable increase in the number of free grants of complete sets of Parliamentary Papers in volumes, the compilation and binding of which are very costly. The extra accommodation required at the British Museum would be trifling, as the whole bulk of the Foreign, Colonial, and Indian Official Publications of a year is small, compared with the number of books (about 30,000) added annually to the National Collection, and a considerable number of these publications are already obtained under the present system. Space would probably be economised in other Departments by the discontinuance, in some cases, of the practice of receiving, merely because they are sent, some books presented by Foreign States, but of no use to the recipients. The adoption of a regular system again would probably cause an appreciable saving of trouble and correspondence in the Foreign Office. The British Museum would be relieved from the cost (about £150 per annum) of its present purchases; and whilst the existence of a complete collection at the British Museum would facilitate the labours of the heads of the Intelligence Department of the War Office and of those holding similar posts elsewhere, it would not encourage the growth of departmental libraries to a bulk in excess of strictly departmental needs.

16. As regards the actual proposal of the Smithsonian Institute, since it appears that the Government of the United States attaches considerable importance to its acceptance, and since we find that the authorities of the British Museum would be ready to accept copies of everything published by that Government, we recommend its acceptance, on the distinct understanding that the exchange should, so far as this country is concerned, be confined to published books and papers, and that nothing printed for departmental use only, whether strictly confidential or not, should be sent. The exchange in this case would be conducted in the manner described in paragraph 18.

17. Besides the case of the Smithsonian Institute there are some outstanding applications from Foreign States which have been referred to us for our consideration, and we beg to express the following opinion respecting them:—

- (a.) The note of the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires, dated 19th July 1880, forwarding certain Hungarian judicial statistics and applying for British judicial statistics in return, should, in our opinion, be disposed of by forwarding the documents asked for, and offering to exchange with the Austrian Government all works of a like nature, periodically.
- (b.) That of the Italian Ambassador, dated 18th September 1880, and relating to finance and public works, should be treated in a similar manner.
- (c.) The cases of Roumania and Servia (Foreign Office Letter to Treasury of 3rd November 1880) present no special difficulty, inasmuch as the books asked for are, in each case, for a National Library. Moreover, we think that in the case of young States such as these it would be only a graceful act to supply complete sets, as far as possible, of the Record Publications for which they specially ask.

- (d.) The case of the public library at Geneva, referred to in the Swiss Consul General's letter of November 10th, 1880, is not quite so easy of settlement, for whilst, on the one hand, it is not the National Library of an independent State, but only a Public Library of a municipal authority, and therefore has no *claim* under the rule which we have submitted for adoption; yet, on the other hand, there is some difficulty in assigning a good reason for the discontinuance of a grant which has once been conceded where there is evidence to show that it is still valued. We would recommend, therefore, that this library should be supplied, gratis, with copies of such volumes of Record Publications as are clearly in continuation of those which have already been presented; and that similar applications should (as far as practicable) be treated in the same liberal spirit.
- (e.) As regards the application (dated 21st June 1881) of the Consul General for Sweden and Norway on behalf of the "Royal Norwegian Statistical Institute," we find, on inquiry, that the Institution bearing this title is identical with the "Bureau Central de Statistique" of Christiania, which is a Government Department, and we would therefore suggest that it be treated in the same manner as the application of the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires above referred to (a).
- (f.) We observe from a letter from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office, dated October 7th, 1879, that the Netherlands Government has asked that the Netherlands Institute may be presented (1) with back copies of all English public documents relating to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, and Labuan, and (2) with all official works hereafter published on the subject of any of the British Colonies. Should this Institute be a Government Department, the Netherlands Government could, under the scheme now proposed, be supplied with a set of such of the British official publications as relate to the Colonies, for the use of that Department, upon its undertaking to supply the Colonial Office with such of its own publications relating to the Dutch Colonies as the Secretary of State for the Colonies might require.
- (g.) The French Minister of Public Instruction has applied to the Master of the Rolls for a gift of the publications of the Record Office to the "Ecole Française de Rome"; but inasmuch as these works have already been supplied to the Vatican Library in Rome, as well as to three other libraries in Paris, "Les Archives Nationales," "L'Ecole Normale Supérieure," and "La Bibliothèque de l'Institut de France," we are not prepared to recommend the presentation of another set of these expensive publications to a second library in Rome, in the absence of any special reasons being assigned for treating the "Ecole Française de Rome" with special consideration.
18. In cases in which an exchange may be agreed upon, we have ascertained that the Stationery Office would undertake to pack the papers sent from England and despatch them from time to time (perhaps once in three months) to addresses to be notified by the Foreign Office. Those sent from abroad, so far as they were comprised in the arrangement proposed in paragraphs 9 and 10, would be forwarded direct to the British Museum; while special sets or particular papers (paragraph 11) would be addressed to the department for whose use they were intended, as is now done in certain cases.

19. In conclusion, we would recommend that all proposals from Foreign Governments or Institutions for an interchange of official publications, no matter to what department addressed (with the exception of those made to the House of Lords or Commons, should the authorities of either House wish it), should, in future, be referred to the Treasury for their Lordships' consideration before being finally accepted or rejected.

We have the honour to be,
Your Lordship's obedient Servants,
EDWARD HERTSLET, *Chairman*.
T. DIGBY PIGOTT,
JAMES HEARD PULMAN,
GEORGE HOWARD,
WILLIAM HARDY,
GEO. BULLEN.

30th October 1882.

S. E. SPRING RICE, *Secretary*.

APPENDIX A.

Circular to British Representatives Abroad, applying for information respecting the publication of Official Works by Foreign Governments, and annexing information respecting English Publications.

Foreign Office, the 31st December 1880.

My Lord,
SIR,

A Committee has recently been appointed by the Treasury to inquire into, and report upon, the question of the interchange with Foreign Governments of Parliamentary Papers and other Official Documents.

That Committee is now sitting, and as it has expressed a desire to be put in possession of information with regard to the quantity and value of the publications which have been issued annually by various Foreign States, I have to request that you will endeavour to procure this information, with regard to the State to which you are accredited, with as little delay as possible.

The object sought for is to obtain the fullest information with regard to the circumstances under which works known as "Government Publications" are issued; and as it is desirable that such information as you may be able to obtain should be forwarded to this Office in a form which will render it capable of being compared with returns which may be received from other quarters, I transmit to you herewith a blank Form pointing out the manner in which the Treasury Committee are desirous that the information should be classified.

I transmit at the same time, for your information, a return which has been prepared showing the number of volumes and the average value of the Parliamentary Papers and other Government Publications which are issued annually by this country.

I am, &c.

Information required from Foreign Governments.

	Number of papers.	Number of volumes annually.	Value if sold.	Remarks.
<i>Legislative Documents:—</i>				
Debates ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Sessional papers:—</i>				
Upper House ...	...	...	...	...
Lower House ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Journals:—</i>				
Upper House ...	...	...	...	...
Lower House ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Military Works</i> ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Naval Works</i> ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Statistical Works:—</i>				
Commercial ...	...	...	...	...
Judicial ...	...	...	...	...
Population ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Historical:—</i>				
Ancient ...	...	...	...	...
Modern ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Educational</i> ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Scientific and Works of Art</i> ...	...	...	...	...
<i>International:—</i>				
Laws ...	...	...	...	...
Treaties ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Surveys</i> ...	...	...	...	...
<i>Miscellaneous:—</i>				
Botanical ...	...	...	...	...
Geological ...	...	...	...	...
Literary ...	...	...	...	...

Abstract of English Official Publications for the year 1879.

	Number of Papers.	Value.
		£ s. d.
Parliamentary Papers—*		
House of Commons (including Bills and Command Papers)	1,008	12 12 0
Ditto Votes and Proceedings ...	...	2 10 0
House of Lords, excluding Command Papers ...	230	2 5 0
Ditto Minutes ...	...	2 10 0
	1,238	19 17 0
Naval and Military (Stationery Office Publications)	...	9 14 4
Historical (Record Office) do. do. ...	...	8 10 0
Science and Art do. do. ...	...	2 3 1
Survey (Geological) do. do. ...	...	0 13 6
Legal do. do. ...	...	1 3 8
Miscellaneous do. do. ...	...	3 15 5
Total Stationery Office Publications	138	26 0 0
Miscellaneous (British Museum Publications)	11	11 1 4
Grand Total	1,387	56 18 4

* In the case of the Parliamentary Papers the numbers represent separate documents, which, if bound, would make above 100 volumes annually.

APPENDIX B.

Information received from Foreign Governments in reply to the Foreign Office Circular of December 31, 1880.

1. ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Mr. Egerton writes from Buenos Ayres on 4th June 1881: "There is no Government printer; and each Minister and Department issue their reports and other publications through various private printing offices, no account for the same being published."

2. AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

3. BADEN.—Very complete information has been obtained from Baden in the form of the following table and explanatory appendix:

	Number of Papers.	Number of Volumes annually.	Value if sold.	Remarks.
<i>Legislative Documents:—</i>				
Parliamentary Proceedings of Upper and Lower House consisting of—				
<i>a. Protocols</i> ...	...	7 to 10 volumes each Session.	5s. per volume.	This publication is issued for each session. A session of Parliament takes place every two years.
<i>b. Supplement</i> ...	...			
containing Government Bills, Estimates, Budgets, Projects of Law, Reports of Committees, and Resolution of Houses.				
Journal of Laws and Decrees	2	2	3s. to 5s. each.	Annual subscription.
Official Gazette	...			
<i>Special Journals of different Departments of Government.</i>	7	7	...	
<i>Military Works</i> ...	...	...	...	
<i>Naval Works</i> ...	...	...	...	
<i>Statistical Works:—</i>				
Commercial and Home Administration.	...	6 to 7	...	
Judicial { Civil law ...	...	1 qto. vol.	2s. 9d.	
{ Criminal law ...	...	1 do.	1s.	
Population ...	...	...	...	
<i>Historical:—</i>				
Ancient ...	...			
Modern ...	4	1	5s. a vol. if bought separately.	To subscribers 2s. 6d. to 3s. 3d. a volume.
<i>Educational</i> ...	...	No official publications.		
<i>Scientific and Works of Art</i>		Do. do.		
<i>International:—</i>				
Laws ...	...			
Treaties ...	...	Published in the Official Gazette,		
<i>Surveys</i> ...	...	...	...	Topographical map not yet completed.
<i>Miscellaneous:—</i>				
Botanical ...	...	...	...	{ No publications actually issued by the Government, but several named in Appendix are edited or supported by officials connected with the Government.
Geological ...	...	...	...	
Literary ...	...	...	...	

Appendix to Information respecting official Publications of Baden.

Legislative Documents.

The reports of Parliamentary proceedings published sessionally consist of two parts :

1. Protocols ;
2. Supplement, or annexes ;

the latter contain the Government Bills, including the Financial Statements, Estimates and Budgets ; the Projects of Law elaborates in the Chambers themselves ; Reports of Committees, and the proposed laws in the form which they may have received, from resolutions of the Houses.

The results of Parliamentary labours are not published as Acts of Parliament, but when they have received the sovereign's sanction, are published as laws decreed by the sovereign, with the co-operation of his Parliament, in the Journal of Laws and Decrees for the Grand Duchy issued in single numbers as occasion may require.

The numbers of such journals issued in one year would form a quarto volume of varying size, sold at Carlsruhe at an average price of from three to five marks a volume.

Besides this paper there is the State Advertiser for Baden, recording official nominations and intelligence of a temporary value ; annual price three to five marks a volume.

The following periodical papers are also issued by different departments of the Government for the use of their subordinate offices and districts :

1. The Direction of the State Domains.
2. The Supreme Council of Schools and Education.
3. Direction of State Railways.
4. Ditto of Roads and Rivers.
5. By the Taxation Board,
6. Do. Customs and Duties Board.

Statistical Works.

1. Statistical information on the internal administration of the Grand Duchy of Baden, published in quarto by the Ministry of Commerce, appears in unstitched numbers, each dealing with a separate subject. Shop price of each number of last issue, 3 marks to 8.50 marks, according to size and contents.

2. Statistical returns for the Annual Reports of the National Commissioners on Internal Administration, published by order of the Ministry of the Interior, one volume yearly, price one mark.

3. Annual reports of the Ministry of Commerce, formerly two volumes a year, now one volume every two years. Price of latest publication, three to five marks.

4. *Statistical Journal*, by Ministry of Commerce, one volume annually at three marks.

5. *Statistical Returns*, by same Ministry, in separate unstitched numbers (octavo).

6. Statistics of Forest Cultivation, one volume yearly, price three marks.

7. Annual Reports of Railway and Steam-boat traffic in the Grand Duchy of Baden, by order of Ministry of Commerce, one volume yearly, price 5.60 marks.

8. Court and State Handbook, containing, besides registry and names of officials, a resumé of the latest statistical information.

9. Survey of Civil Law and its administration in Baden.

10. Do. of Criminal Law do. do.

These two works are published annually by order of the Ministry of Justice in quarto volumes, the first 2.70 marks, the second 1 mark a volume.

Historical Works.

History of the Upper Rhine, published by the Office of National Archives, and issued in periodical numbers, four forming a volume, and one volume issued each year, deals both with ancient and modern subject-matter.

Each single number 1.40 marks, 1 single volume 5 marks, and a considerable diminution of price allowed to subscribers and purchasers of several volumes.

Surveys.

The new topographical map of the Grand Duchy on a scale of 1—25000 is in preparation by the Topographical Department of the Grand Duchy of Baden in 170 sheets.

2. Survey of boundaries of the Grand Duchy of Baden, prepared by the Cadastral Board, still incomplete.

Miscellaneous.

In addition to the works above enumerated, several publications of a semi-official character are periodically issued or superintended by persons connected with Government offices.

- a. Journal of Baden Judicial Administration, Herr Wieland, yearly price 8 marks.
- b. Annals of the Grand Ducal Courts of Law, Dr. Bosshirt, 1 vol. yearly, 12 marks
- c. Surgical Reports from Baden, Dr. Robert Volz, 1 vol. yearly, 8vo., 4.80 marks.
- d. Veterinary Reports. Journal of the Baden Veterinary Society, Lydtin, 1 vol. yearly, 8vo., 5 marks.
- e. Weekly Journal of the Agricultural Society of Baden, by the Society, yearly 1 vol., qto., 2 marks.
- f. Annual Reports of the Grand Ducal Meteorological Board, annually 1 No., price 1.50 marks.
- g. Baden Industrial Journal, by the Chamber of Trade and Industry, 1 vol. yearly, 3 marks.

4. BAVARIA.—The Official Publications of Bavaria are described in the following Table and Memorandum.

	Number of Papers.	Number of Volumes Annually.	Value if Sold.	REMARKS.
<i>Legislative Documents :—</i>				
Debates ...	Varies...	Average number, 2 vols. Upper Chamber ; 4 vols. Lower Chamber.	Not sold, but supplied gratis to H. M. Legation.	The greater portion of these papers refer to matters of purely local interest.
Sessional Papers :—				
Upper House ...				
Lower House ...				
Journals :—				
Upper House ...	Varies...	Seven	£. s. d. 1 3 0	.....
Lower House ...				
Publication of Laws and Official Gazettes, &c.				
<i>Military Works</i> ...	"	Two	0 6 2	Gazette of Ministry of War and Official Army List.
<i>Naval Works</i> ...	"	None	.....	.....
<i>Statistical Works :—</i>				
Commercial ...	"	Varies	.....	One vol. of Statistics per quarter and General Statistics, as there is matter for publication.
Judicial ...	Varies...	One	£. s. d. 0 3 0	.....
Population ...				
		Included in Commercial	...	.....
<i>Historical :—</i>				
Ancient ...	} See following memorandum.		£. s. d. 0 2 3	.....
Modern ...				
<i>Educational</i> ...	Varies...	One	0 2 3	.....
<i>Scientific and Works of Art</i> ...	"	Varies	.....	.....
<i>Miscellaneous :—</i>				
Geological ...	3 vols. have been published	1 report per quarter	£. s. d. 13 0 0	.....
Veterinary ...				

Extract from an Explanatory Note by the BAVARIAN MINISTER for FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

With regard to the different official publications of Bavaria, first may be placed those current compilations in which the laws, ordinances, and general directions of the ministries and several departments are published. They are:—

1. The Official Gazette of Laws and Ordinances (annual subscription 5 marks).
2. The Gazettes of the different departments—
 - a. Of the Ministry of Justice (annual subscription, 3.75 marks, inclusive of inland postage for Bavaria).
 - b. Of the Ministry of the Interior (annual subscription, 2.25 marks).
 - c. Of the Ministry of Public Worship and Education (annual subscription, 2.25 marks).
 - d. Of the Ministry of Finance (annual subscription, 2.50 marks).
 - e. Of the Ministry of War (annual subscription, 3.20 marks).
 - f. Of the Board of Railways and other means of communication (annual subscription, 2 marks).
 - g. Of the Board of Customs and indirect taxation (annual subscription, 2.50 marks).

All these publications are issued according to requirement, and form annual volumes of various sizes.

3. The shorthand writers' reports and the protocols of the transactions in the two Chambers of the "Landtag," and the printed annexes of the same (drafts of laws and explanations relative to them, reports of the Parliamentary Committees, &c., &c.)

Then publications are also issued according as there is matter to be printed, and form on an average 2 vols. of transactions of the Upper Chamber, and 4 vols. of the Lower. These are distributed "gratis" only.

Further can be mentioned.

4. The Handbook of the Court and Kingdom, and the Military Handbook (army list with rank, and localization of the forces, &c.) which of late have been published almost every year, and which cost, the former 5 marks, the latter 3 marks).

5. Of statistical publications may be mentioned:—

a.—The annual Reports of the Ministry of Justice. Judicial Statistics, Civil and Criminal (price 3 marks per annual volume).

b.—The publication of the Bavarian Statistical Bureau, and the statistics of the Kingdom of Bavaria.

6. Scientific publications which are issued at the instance and with a subvention of the Government, and which might be taken into consideration in the question of an exchange.

a.—The publications of the Royal Academy of Sciences, consisting of records, reports of sittings, and speeches of members of the Academy.

The records and reports of sittings are divided into three classes, viz., the philosophical-philological, the mathematical-physical, and the historical class, which as a rule publish annually one volume in three parts.

The philosophical-philological class has just published the 15th vol. of its transactions, and has finished the 6th vol. of its reports of sittings up to 1880.

The mathematical-physical class has completed the 12th vol. of its transactions and has begun for 1881 the first part of the 11th vol. of its reports of meetings.

The historical class has published the 15th vol. of its transactions, and together with the first class has completed the 6th vol. of its report of sittings.

Speeches are made by members of the academy in two public meetings on the 28th of March and the 25th of July in each year.

b.—The references and investigations in Bavarian and German history, published by the historical commission and which are now complete in nine vols.

c.—Three vols. of the geognostical description of the Kingdom of Bavaria, text and maps, which are to be bought of J. Perthes in Gotha, and of which the 1st vol. (Alps and neighbouring country) costs 96 marks, the 2nd vol. (mountains on the eastern frontier of Bavaria), 108 marks, and the 3rd vol. (the "Fichtelgebirge" with the Franconian forest and neighbouring country to the west) 70 marks.

5. BELGIUM.—From information received from Belgium, it appears that a conference was held at Brussels in August 1880 on the subject of "Les Echanges Internationaux." Besides Belgium, the following States were represented on it:—Austro-Hungary, Denmark, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Russia, and Sweden. The delegates agreed upon a Draft Convention, the countries agreeing to which would bind themselves to exchange mutually, under a systematic system managed by a special Bureau, all publications falling under the following three categories:—

- (1.) Such official and parliamentary documents as are published in the country.
- (2.) Works published under direction of Government, and paid for or subsidised by it.
- (3.) Publications of learned societies, universities, etc., so far as Government can procure them.

It is clear that this scheme covers a much wider field than that of the reference to the present Committee.

The information asked for in the Foreign Office Circular has, however, not been given by Belgium; and although a Bibliographical list of all the periodical publications of that country has been received, it is not possible to draw any trustworthy conclusion from it as to the strictly official publications, or to distinguish the works which would fall under either of the three categories quoted above, or which are merely private speculations.

The British Museum buy a selection of the Belgian official publications, which in 1880 and 1881 together cost 5*l.* 3*s.*; some others are presented. The Foreign Office buy them to the amount of nearly 4*l.* 10*s.* annually.

6. BRAZIL.—No information.

7. CENTRAL AMERICA.—Her Majesty's Minister at Guatemala writes that "No Parliamentary Papers or other official documents of any value are published by the Governments of Central America."

8. CHILE.—No information.

9. CHINA.—No information.

10. COLOMBIA.—The following works are published by the Columbian Government:—

- (a.) The Official Gazette (Diario Oficial) appearing three or four times a week.
- (b.) The yearly Report of each of the seven Secretaries of State.
- (c.) The Report of the Attorney (Procurador) General.
- (d.) The Budget for the year.
- (e.) The Report of the Accountant General.
- (f.) Code of Laws passed yearly by Congress.
- (g.) Annals of the University.
- (h.) "The Agriculturist."

None of these are for sale except the "Diario Oficial" and the "Agriculturist," which are subscribed for like newspapers, and cost respectively 3*l.* and 1*l.* a year.

11. DENMARK.—The information in this case is given under the head of the several publishing departments. Many of the works are given to or exchanged with Foreign States or their departments, generally through the medium of the Royal Library at Copenhagen.

(a.) *Publications of the Ministry of the Interior.*

- (1.) Annual collection of Laws and Ordinances of general interest, cost price, 1 krone.
- (2.) Records of Registration of Trade Marks, price 1 krone yearly.
- (3.) Annual Report on the working of the life boats; not sold.
- (4.) Annual Report on the working of the Stud Commissioners; not sold.
- (5.) Annual Report of the Council of Veterinary Surgeons; not sold.
- (6.) Annual Report of the Inspectors of Work; not sold.
- (7.) Report on the Working of the Danish State Railways.
- (8.) Annual Summary of the Statistics of the Danish Postal Establishment; not sold.

(9.) Report on Greenland, price 6 kroner, yearly.

(b.) *Military works.*—About 9 volumes annually.

(c.) *Naval works.*—No number given, but apparently some eight or ten volumes annually.

(d.) The Ministry of Justice publishes a "Legal Gazette," in which all Laws and Orders in Council appear, and a "Ministerial Gazette," containing all administrative notices, orders, &c. Also a report on Prisons once in five years.

(e.) The Ministry of Public Instruction mention School Programmes, University Annals, &c., but it appears doubtful whether they are, strictly speaking, official.

(f.) The following works are published by the Statistical Bureau:

- (1.) Statistical Tables (in quarto).
- (2.) Statistical Reports (in octavo).
- (3.) Summary of Statistical Reports (in quarto).

The "Statistical Tables" are divided into different parts, viz.:

- Section A.—Statistics of the population.
- " B.—Statistics of Crimes.
- " C.—Statistics of Agriculture.
- " D.—Statistics of Imports and Exports.

One volume of Section "D" is published yearly, containing Imports and Exports, the Mercantile Navy, the Navigation, &c., of the preceding year. Of the other sections one volume is generally published every fifth year, with the exception of the volume containing the result of the general Census, which is only taken every 10th year.

During the last three years, five volumes of Sections A., B. and C., have been published.

Generally, one or two volumes of "Statistical Reports" are published yearly, containing various shorter articles, which are not adapted for the volumes of the "Tables."

Three volumes of "Statistical Reports" were published in 1879 and 1880.

Eight numbers of the "Summary of Statistical Reports," containing tables referring to administration and economical matters of the country, have been published in Danish; the series will be continued every third year. Two numbers in French have been published in 1874 and 1878, respectively.

The cost price is generally 3 kroner for a volume of "Statistical Tables," and 2 kroner for the "Statistical Reports" and "Summary of Statistical Report," which price is much below the real value.

This enumeration appears not to be complete. No financial publications are included in it, yet some such are referred to incidentally in some of the papers received in answer to the Foreign Office Circular.

12. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—No information.

13. EGYPT.—In reply to the Circular, a list has been received of which the following is a translation:

Official Publications of Egypt.

	How often published.
<i>Official Documents, Laws, Decrees, &c.:</i>	
Bulletin of laws and decrees ...	Monthly.
Collection of Official Documents ...	"
The "Moniteur Egyptien," an official gazette ...	Daily.
"El Wakaié el Makieb," Arabic translation of the preceding ...	"
<i>Judicial Documents:</i>	
Collection of the decisions of the Court of Appeal ...	Yearly.
Official gazette of judicial notices ...	Daily.
<i>Statistical Works:</i>	
Administrative:	
Report on the Post Office ...	Annual.
Working of the Railways and Telegraphs ...	"
Commercial:	
Bulletin of the Foreign Trade of Egypt ...	Every three months.
" of the traffic on the Suez Canal ...	"
Navigation returns for the Egyptian ports ...	Annual.
<i>Historical:</i>	
Occasional volumes, published by order of the Minister of Public Instruction.	.....
<i>Works on Science and Art:</i>	
Bulletin of the "Institut Egyptien" ...	Annual.
" " "Société Khédiviale de Géographie" ...	Every three months.
Journal of the Egyptian Agricultural Society ...	Every two months.

14. FRANCE.—The information from France is arranged according to the Departments from which the several works emanate. The books are not offered for sale except where specially stated to be so.

a. Chamber of Deputies (the Senate is not referred to):

"Annales Parlementaires" full reports of the proceedings of the Chamber, with the bills, reports, resolutions, &c., an uncertain number of volumes each session.

b. Ministry of the Interior:

Report of the Census of France, appearing quinquennially.

Map of France on scale $\frac{1}{1000000}$, about 70 sheets a year; sold, through Hachette, at 75c. a sheet.

c. Ministry of Finance:

17 volumes annually of Financial papers, including the budget and the final accounts of Revenue and Expenditure.

17 of statistical tables, trade returns, &c.

Occasional extra volumes.

d. Education and Fine Art:

Annual Report on Primary Education, with occasional volumes on superior education.

Periodical "Journal des Savants" with occasional (?) volumes of "Archives des Missions," "Revue des Sociétés savantes," and "Documents Inédits."

"Journal General" and "Bulletin de l'Instruction Publique."

e. Ministry of Justice:

Two annual volumes of the laws of France; one of the Bulletin of the Ministry and annual reports on the administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in France.

This Department now exchanges books with some British Colonies, and would like to do so with England.

f. Ministry of War:

Revue Militaire de l'Etranger (2 vols. yearly, costing 12 francs); Annuaire Militaire (1 vol., 10 francs); Journal Militaire Officiel (4 vols., 18 francs); annual account of military pensions; maps of France on scales $\frac{1}{800,000}$ and $\frac{1}{2,000,000}$, 4 francs a sheet; and occasional volumes of the "Mémorial du Dépôt de la Guerre," a collection of remarkable works of the present century on military subjects.

g. Ministry of Marine and Colonies:

About 10 volumes annually of statistics and reports. A limited number of copies only are printed to meet the requirements of the Ministry. Other works are published by independent publishers, the department subscribing for the number of copies it requires.

15. GERMANY.—Under this head are included the publications of the Prussian State as well as those of the Imperial German Departments. In this case also the information is given according to the Departments responsible for the publications. It is summarized in the following statement:

Statement of Officials Publications and Documents issued by the various Departments of the German and Prussian Governments.

	Number of Papers.	Number of Volumes annually.	Value, if sold.
1. Imperial German Department of the Interior during 1880	4,182	26	Mks. pfg. 2,200 2 (subscription) 24 75
2. Imperial German Admiralty	9	25	
3. Imperial German Postal and Telegraph Departments	153	5	30 0
4. Prussian Ministry of State, maps, about 140 sheets yearly, say	...	14	86 50
5. Prussian Ministry of Finance, numbers doubtful; it is supposed that the figures given are totals for a number of years, and the annual production is estimated very roughly at	...	3	43 0
6. *Prussian Ministry of Education Public Worship, and Medicine, during 1879-80, number of works published about	...	19	81 40
7. Prussian Ministry of the Interior. a. Upper House of Prussia, session 1879-80	319	5	33 5
b. Lower House of Prussia, year 1879	448	7	41 15
c. Prussian Statistical Department for year 1879	5	5	35 0
d. Printed List of Periodicals and other documents is issued by the Statistical Department	...	...	...
8. †Prussian Ministry of Justice	...	...	...
9. Prussian Ministry of War, about	30	16	4 to 7
10. Prussian Ministry of Agriculture, Woods and Forests	...	6	20 to 30
11. Prussian Ministry of Public Works, about	7	9	134 0

* Casual publications not included. This Department often subsidises private editors on condition of obtaining a certain number of copies gratis; these are then employed for presentation or exchange. The Department is prepared to arrange with British Institutions or Governments for exchange, regard being had to what each may give, without laying down any general rule of exchange.

† The statistics of the Prussian Ministry of Justice are not printed every year, and are not publicly sold; they relate merely to reports of proceedings in the Sessional Courts. Those published in 1878 comprised 16 papers, those for 1876-77 25 papers.

N. B.—In the foregoing list of prices the totals of the various Departments have generally been taken, but in some cases the prices are considerably reduced when "Abonnements" of the publications are taken.

16. GREECE.—No information.

17. HAYTI.—No official publications.

18. HESSE DARMSTADT.—In the following list those to which no prices are annexed are not on sale:

	Volumes annually.	Price, if sold.
Proceedings of the two Chambers of Parliament, published each session in two parts—"Protocols" and "Annexes."	Uncertain	s. d.
Annual Reports of the Chamber of Commerce	6	.....
Reviews of Administration of Justice in Hesse	2	.....
Statistical Review and Reports	2	3 0
Programmes, &c., of the Universities and Higher Schools, say	10	.....
Industrial Journal and Agricultural Magazine	2	6 0
Grand Ducal Official Gazette, in two parts	2	5 0
Maps of the Duchy and adjacent part of the Rhine, all published, in 37 sheets, ... ..	.....	1 6 to 2 10 each
Miscellaneous	3	2 3 for 2

19. ITALY.—The information received is given under the head of the several Departments, but no totals of prices can be given, as many of the works mentioned are not on sale.

Department publishing.	Approximate Number of Volumes yearly.
Foreign Affairs—the "Green Book" and collection of Treaties	3
Senate, Discussions and Reports	4
Chamber of Deputies, Discussions and Reports	7
Interior	2
Finance	11
Public Works	12
Statistical, Agriculture and Commerce	19
Grace and Justice	28
War	11
Marine	4
Total	101

The Minister of Grace and Justice says he will always be ready to exchange with Her Majesty's Government the publications of his Department, even those which are not on sale.

The Minister of the Interior says that in return for the publications of his Department he would be glad to receive the Judicial Statistics, Statistics of the United Kingdom, and the Reports on Prisons and Reformatory Schools; also "Miscellaneous Statistics." Query, the "Statistical Abstract."

The Statistical Department send certain works to the British Board of Trade, Local Government Board, Customs and Inland Revenue, as appears from specimens of the "Banderole" sent.

20. JAPAN.—The following statement has been received from H. M. Minister:—

	Number of Papers.	Number of Volumes annually.	Value, if sold.
Legislative Documents—			s. d.
Debates	51	.....	.....
Bills and Regulations	44	.....	.....
Military Works	57	.....	7 6
Naval Works ... ..	.....	9	.....
Statistical Works—			
Commercial	16	.....	2 3
Judicial	5	.....	8 9
Population	1	.....	.....

A number of educational works for the Cadets of the Naval College has also been published, the value of a complete set being 2*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*

21. MONTENEGRO.—No information.

22. MOROCCO.—No information.

23. NETHERLANDS.—In the Netherlands there is a State printing office, whence separate papers can be purchased at the rate of two cents a sheet. The information is given under the heads of the separate departments:—

- (1.) Two Houses of the States General. Full reports of the debates are published, and with them a supplement containing reports and other papers laid before the Houses; the proceedings and the supplement form about eight volumes yearly, and can be subscribed for at 15 florins (25*s.*) a year, or the "Proceedings" alone can be obtained for 6 florins. The laws and decrees of the year are published in an annual volume (the "Staatsblad") costing 2½ florins.
- (2.) Ministry of the Interior. Seven annual volumes, costing together 5 florins, and occasional works, mostly relating to art, at the rate of about one a year; price 1 to 7 florins.
- (3.) Department of Finance (Statistical and Revenue). About eight volumes yearly, costing 13 florins; also in the last three years there have been seven occasional publications.
- (4.) Ministry of Justice. Three publications, costing 3 florins.
- (5.) Colonial; (a) In the Netherlands: Two volumes (10 florins) annually, and occasional publications at the rate of about one a year. (The general Colonial Report is included in the Parliamentary Papers.) (b) In the Colonies: About 18 volumes a year in Java, costing, say, 70 florins; and annual Official Gazettes of Surinam and Curacao.
- (6.) Marine Department. Two volumes annually 2½ florins), and about 20 miscellaneous publications in the last five years.
- (7.) War Department: Three volumes annually, and a few occasional publications.
- (8.) Department of Waterstaat (Works), Trade and Industry: Twelve volumes annually of which three are not in circulation, and the rest cost 12 florins; and about four occasional volumes a year (mostly not in circulation) relating to canals and other water communication.

The gift of the House of Commons papers to the Library of the States General is much appreciated.

24. PERU.—No information.

25. PORTUGAL.—Information promised, but not yet received.

26. ROUMANIA.—An Official Gazette, two volumes a year, costing 29*s.*, contains laws, parliamentary reports, &c.; about eight volumes of statistics are also printed yearly, but are not sold. Historical, scientific, &c., works, are published by the Roumanian Academy, a Government institution, which sends copies to the British Museum; it is very anxious to have copies of the Record Office Publications.

27. RUSSIA.—There is a permanent Special Commission for Official Publications; it states that the number of volumes published annually is about 300, and the selling price nearly 77*l.*

28. SAXONY.

	Volumes annually.	Price (Shillings).
Parliamentary Reports and Papers ... say	1	9
Army List ...	1	3
Statistical, Railways and Mining ...	4	44
Maps ... say	2	6
Laws and Ordinances ...	1	4
TOTAL ...	9	66

Also a few occasional publications.

29. SERVIA.—(Information stated to be not quite complete.)

	Volumes annually.	Price (Shillings).
Legislative: Proceedings of Skuptschina ...	1	Not fixed.
Military Works (in 1880) ...	12	<i>s. d.</i> 19 6
Statistical: Commercial and Population (published in 1880 by Ministry of Finance).	2	4 2
Educational ...	1	0 8
Total ...	16	?

30. SIAM.—No official publications.

31. SPAIN.—The information cannot be given, owing to the absence of any rule or system of publication.

32. SWEDEN and NORWAY.—The information as supplied for these two countries is given in the two following tables; but it is clear from the price that the 100 volumes of Swedish educational works could be bound up into at most half that number of volumes. Making this correction, Sweden would publish about 150 volumes yearly, valued at about 16*l.*; and Norway 58 volumes, worth 5*l.* 7*s.*

Swedish Official Publications for the year 1879.

	Number of papers.	Number of Volumes annually.	Value if sold.
			Kronr. Ore.
<i>Legislative Documents:—</i>			
Debates ...	104	8	10 14
Sessional Papers ...	247	14	20 96
Collection of Statutes ...	130	1	8 00
Military Works ...	31	8	11 75
Naval Works ...	33	23	35 21
<i>Statistical Works:—</i>			
Commercial ...	49	15	27 10
Judicial ...	6	5	10 10
Population ...	3	3	3 00
Historical ...	4	4	15 00
Educational ...	100	100	65 15
Scientific and Works of Art ...	51	11	63 00
Surveys ...	2	2	2 75
<i>Miscellaneous:—</i>			
Geological ...	6	6	10 00
Literary ...	1	1	5 50
Handbooks ...	3	3	7 50

Official Publications, Norway.

	Number of Papers.	Number of Volumes annually.	Value if sold.
			Kronr. Ore.
<i>Legislative Documents :—</i>			
Debates ...	3	3	3 00
Sessional Papers ...	228	7	29 40
Journals ...	1	1	0 60
<i>Military Works</i> ...	3	3	11 45
<i>Naval Works</i> ...	2	1	2 00
<i>Statistical Works :—</i>			
Commercial ...	4	4	5 00
Judicial ...	3	3	2 20
Population ...	1	1	1 00
Others ...	12	12	9 00
<i>Historical</i> ...	0	0	0
<i>Educational</i> ...	0	0	0
<i>Scientific and Works of Art</i> ...	2	2	6 70
<i>International</i> ...	0	0	0
<i>Surveys</i> ...	13	13	15 80
<i>Accounts</i> ...	6	6	2 90
<i>Miscellaneous</i> ...	3	2	4 50

33. SWITZERLAND.—

	Number of Volumes annually.	Value if sold.
		Francs.
<i>Legislative :—</i>		
Official Gazette; containing Reports, &c. (German and French)	3 or 4	4
Federal Laws and Ordinances (German, French and Italian) ...	1	3
<i>Military Gazette</i> ...	1	3
<i>Statistical :—</i>		
Commercial: Trade Returns ...	1	3
Judicial: Decisions of the Federal Tribunal ...	1	4
Population: (also a decennial Census Volume) ...	1	4
<i>Historical</i> : occasional volumes, say ... (others there are non-official, but supported by Government).	1	7
<i>Educational</i> : examination of recruits ...	1	2.50
<i>Scientific</i> : none-official, but some subsidized ...	.....	.....
<i>Surveys</i> : (appearing irregularly) ...	approximately	4
Total ...	15	33

34. UNITED STATES.—The printing and binding of all United States Official publications is conducted by the public printer at the Government Printing Office at Washington, subject to the control of a Joint Committee of Congress. The number of copies to be printed being fixed by law. The Smithsonian Institute is commissioned, by Resolutions of Congress passed in 1867 and 1868, to offer to exchange with any foreign Government all the official publications of the United States, in return for a complete set of all official publications printed at the public expense, embracing all works published with the aid of grants or subscriptions from Government. For this purpose it is supplied with 50 copies of every official publication of the United States.

In the following statement the prices are estimated only, as few of the works specified are saleable :—

Estimate of the annual quantity and value of official publications of the U.S. Government (compiled from the Annual Report of the Public Printer for 1880).

Subjects.	Number of papers.	Annual number of volumes.	Cost price.	Observations.
<i>Legislative Documents.</i> (2nd Session of 46th Congress).			\$ cts.	
<i>Debates :—</i> Congressional Record ...	...	6 (8vo.)	Not stated.	6,080 pages.
<i>Sessional Papers :—</i> Senate ... House ...	1,045 1,930	38	88 74	38,100 pages.
<i>Journals :—</i> Senate ... House ... Congressional Directory, 3 Editions ... Rules of the House of Representative Congress.	... ... ... ...	1 1 3 1	 0 33 0 10	 474 pages. 24 pages.
Total of Legislative Documents ...	2,975	50	89 17*	* So far as ascertained.
<i>Military Works :—</i> Army Register ...	...	1	0 12	306 pages.
<i>Naval Works :—</i> Navy Register ... Reports on Naval education in foreign countries.	... ... ...	1 1	0 4 0 27	80 pages. 552 pages.
Total No. of Military and Naval Works.	...	3	0 43	Not including the Secretaries' Reports which are among the sessional papers.
<i>Statistical Works.</i>				
<i>Commercial :—</i> Report of Life Saving Service, 1879... Do. on Commerce and Navigation for 1878. Do. on Commercial Relations for 1878.	... ... ...	1 1 1	0 22 0 51 1 17	128 pages. 458 pages. 1,162 pages.
<i>Judicial :—</i> Report of Attorney-General (already included among Sessional Papers.)	...	1	...	92 pages.
<i>Population :—</i> Biennial Register ... Report of Health Officer of District of Columbia.	... ... ...	1 1	6 40 0 40	1,174 pages. 200 pages.
Total of Statistical Works ...	...	5	8 70	Exclusive of Attorney-General's Report (in sessional papers).
<i>Historical :—</i>			Nothing published.	

Subjects.	Number of papers.	Annual number of volumes.	Cost price.	Observations.
<i>Educational:—</i>			8 cts.	
Report of Commissioner on Education for 1877.	...	1	0 66	850 pages.
<i>Scientific:—</i>				
Medical and Surgical History of the War, Vol. I., Part 2, 4to.	...	1	2 23	884 pages.
Report of Commissioner of Agriculture for 1878, 8vo.	...	1	0 58	608 pages.
Report of Commissioner of Agriculture on Cotton Insects, 8vo.	...	1	0 62	518 pages.
Report of Commissioner of Agriculture Special Report No. 12.	...	1	0 41	292 pages.
Professor Fontaine on Hydraulic Engineering.	...	1	0 26	42 pages.
U.S. Entomological Commission, Bulletin No. 3 (Cotton Worm).	...	1	0 13	152 pages.
U.S. Entomological Commission, Bulletin No. 5 (Chinch Bug).	...	1	0 4	48 pages.
Report of National Academy of Sciences.	...	1	0 1	24 pages.
Report of Smithsonian Institution for 1878.	...	1	0 49	576 pages.
Total of Scientific Works ...	...	9	4 77	
<i>International.</i>				
<i>Laws:—</i>				
Statutes at large, Vol. 20	...	1	2 19	982 pages.
<i>Treaties:—</i>				
Proceedings of Paris International Monetary Conference.	...	1	0 57	934 pages.
Conventions with Netherlands	...	1	0 2	16 pages.
Treaty with Mexico	...	1	0 4	24 pages.
Total of International Works ...	...	4	2 82	
<i>Surveys:—</i>				
Professor Hayden's Report for 1877 ...	...	1	2 0	768 pages.
Final Report of Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, Vol. 12.	...	1	4 37	432 pages.
Survey of Rocky Mountain Region. Geology of high Plateau of Utah (Powell).	...	1	3 39	340 pages.
Report on the lands of the Arid Region of the U.S. (Powell).	...	1	0 82	212 pages.
Report of U. S. Coast Survey for 1876	...	1	1 77	440 pages.
Total of Surveys ...	...	5	12 35	
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>				
<i>Literary:—</i>				
Narrative of Hall's second Arctic Expedition, 4to.	...	1	2 7	710 pages.
Eulogies on several deceased Members of Congress.	...	7	2 7	450 pages.
Miscellaneous Documents ordered by Executive Departments (for Exchange with Foreign Governments).	...	2	16 32	Number not stated.
Total of Miscellaneous ...	...	8	20 46	
Total of Publications ...	...	85	139 36	= £29 0 8

35. URUGUAY.—No information.

36. VENEZUELA.

*Legislative:—*Acts and Debates of the Congress, and Laws passed.

*Executive:—*The President's message.

Reports of the seven Ministerial Departments (each one or two volumes annually).

Daily Official Gazette.

*Judicial:—*Annual Report of the High Federal Court.

*Statistical:—*Census Report, apparently septennial.

*Historical:—*Fourteen volumes relating to the history of the country have been published, and four of biographies.

*Diplomatic:—*Three volumes on the boundary controversy with Venezuela have been printed; an annual "Yellow Book" is to commence in 1882.

The above would appear to amount to some 15 or 20 volumes annually; none of them can be purchased except one of the biographies, now in course of publication.

37. WURTEMBERG.

	Number of Volumes annually.	Value if sold.
		£ s. d.
<i>Statistical:—</i>	2	0 6 0
Commercial	1	0 4 0
Judicial	1	1 0 0
Historical	10	0 3 0
Educational	1	10s. to £1
Medical—(Sanitary Report)	1 to 2	1 3 6
Geological—(Map of Wurtemberg)	6	
Miscellaneous—(Gazettes, &c.)		
Total	22	(say) 3 10 0

APPENDIX C.

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM ENGLISH DEPARTMENTS.

I. The questions put to the principal departments were as follows:—

1. What foreign official publications does your department receive, periodically or occasionally?
2. How obtained? (a) through the Stationery Office? (b) by purchase, and if so, at what cost? (c) by presentation? or (d) exchange?
3. Are there any foreign official publications which you consider it necessary or advisable to have in the library of your department, even were copies accessible at the British Museum?

The replies received were to the following effect:—

House of Lords.—(1 and 2.) About seven volumes are received annually by way of exchange or by presentation, and four are purchased through the Stationery Office, (3.) "The French Yellow Books and similar publications by other Governments might be desirable."

House of Commons.—(1 and 2.) Parliamentary papers are regularly received from Belgium, France, Germany, the United States (the President's message, and certain executive reports), and occasionally from other countries. The French Yellow Book and Journal Officiel, the Austrian Red Book, the Italian Green Book, and the United States Statutes and Congressional Record, are purchased through the Stationery Office at an annual cost not exceeding 15l.

(3.) The books now purchased, and the United States papers presented, should continue to be received.

Complete sets of the House of Commons papers are sent annually to Austro-Hungary, Belgium, France, Germany, Hesse-Darmstadt, Italy, Netherlands, and Prussia.

Home Office.—1. "From time to time, but without regularity, various reports touching judicial statistics, prisons, lunatic asylums, &c., &c., of foreign countries, are received from the Foreign Office. 2. Nothing is given in strict 'exchange' for such records, but copies of the judicial statistics for England and Wales are forwarded annually to the Foreign Office for distribution among Foreign Governments. 3. The Secretary of State is not aware of any foreign official publications which he considers it necessary to preserve in the Home Office Library."

Foreign Office.—1. About 130 volumes are annually received at the Foreign Office, the bulk of these being regular annual reports, &c. Almost all States are represented, though not to an equal degree. 2. Most of these works are presented to our diplomatic representatives abroad, who forward them to the Foreign Office, but a certain number are purchased, at an annual cost of about 21/. 3. "Such works as contain diplomatic correspondence, treatise, and laws, are indispensable in the Library of the Foreign Office." The works at present received, however, cover a far wider field than this requirement. In exchange for books received the Foreign Office has sent and sends various works (mainly Journals of Parliament and Record Office publications) to Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Portugal, Prussia, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland and Würtemberg.

War Office.—1. About 17 military books and periodicals, published by the principal European Governments, are annually received in the Intelligence Branch of the Quartermaster-General's Department; also maps of Austria, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Turkey, and Greece (Austrian map), Italy, and part of Germany, besides a few occasional acquisitions.

2. None of these are presented direct or received in exchange. "Endeavours are made to obtain all foreign official publications (books and maps) of a military character—if unsuccessfully through the Stationery Office, then through the Foreign Office or military attachés from a fund provided for the purpose." Most are in fact obtained from the Stationery Office.

3. "It is desirable that all the above books, periodicals, Government surveys and official maps, and any that may be published, should be in this department."

Admiralty.—1. The Admiralty send two lists—(a) works of general naval interest; and (b) referring more particularly to hydrographic subjects. The former comprises about 20 volumes annually, besides some occasionally received; in the latter are 40 works received periodically, while charts and notices relating to navigation are occasionally obtained from the principal maritime States.

2. Eight of the publications in List *a* are obtained through the Stationery Office, and the remainder through diplomatic channels. Of the works comprised in List *b*, two are obtained through the Stationery Office, two are purchased at an annual cost of 32s., 12 are presented, and 41 (including "occasional" entries) are obtained by exchange.

3. "All the documents enumerated are required by the Admiralty, even if copies are accessible at the British Museum."

Board of Trade.—A considerable statistical library exists in this department. 19 foreign newspapers (mostly official) were taken in (through the Stationery Office) in 1880, and in the same year nearly 600 publications, containing every sort of statistical matter, were received from Foreign Governments, the great majority of them being forwarded direct by the chiefs of the Statistical Bureaux of the various Governments, and the rest reaching the department through the Foreign Office. All of these, except the newspapers, are stated to be obtained in exchange for the Board of Trade publications. The Board of Trade say that "it is matter for regret that certain countries, notably Austria, Spain, Portugal, and Greece, should not be better represented in a statistical sense;" whence it may be inferred that they are desirous of continuing and rendering as complete as possible their library of statistical works.

Privy Council Office.—"Certain foreign official publications are occasionally received by this Office or the Veterinary Department from Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, Russia, and the United States, either from Her Majesty's Consuls or from private sources."

"The Veterinary Department consider it most desirable that they should be regularly furnished with all reports, as soon as possible after publication, on subjects connected with the diseases of cattle, or the transit of animals, from all European countries in which such reports are published, even though such documents may be accessible at the British Museum."

Education Department.—No reply has been received to the letter addressed to this department, though a reminder was sent in the autumn of 1881.

Public Record Office.—A considerable number of works, mostly, but not exclusively, of an antiquarian character, have been received by the Master of the Rolls in the last 40 years from Foreign Governments, institutions, and individuals; and copies of the calendars of State Papers, the Chronicles and Memorials, published under his direction, are sent annually to the principal States of Europe, to several public institutions throughout the world, and to some libraries of historic interest, such as that of St. Gall, in Switzerland, and St. Mark's, at Venice.

A few books are annually obtained through the Stationery Office; those that are not ordinary office books are antiquarian and historical, or else connected with former members of the Record Office Staff.

The number of volumes received since 1842 from foreign sources appears to be above 880, or an average of 22 annually. These numbers are swollen by special gifts of 198 volumes from the State of New York, in 1845, and 141 from the "Ossolinski Institution," at Lemberg, in 1871; otherwise France and Belgium are the principal contributors.

II.—*The British Museum*, in answer to enquiries, say—

- The annual sum expended in recent years in the purchase of foreign official publications has been about £150. Of this, £30 represents the cost of French and Belgian works; £30 those of the United States. The official publications of Sweden, and some of those of Italy, France, and Belgium are presented.
- The wall space occupied by the acquisitions of a year averages about 81 superficial feet.
- "It is most desirable that a complete and authenticated collection of foreign official publications should be preserved in the National Library."

III.—In the case of the Colonial and India Offices enquiries were made as to arrangements in force for the exchange of the publications of Colonies and India respectively with Foreign States. The Colonial Office was also asked the same questions as other English Departments, and also as to the annual bulk of Colonial official publications, the India Office was asked the annual bulk of the official publications of India.

The Colonial Office replied (1 and 2) that a few such works are received from time to time, being directly presented or sent through the Foreign Office; (3) "as regards foreign official publications generally, Lord Kimberley is not acquainted with any which it is absolutely necessary to have in the Colonial Office library, though it may often be found very convenient to be able to refer to such publications, particularly to those relating to Foreign Colonial possessions."

It appears that in 1879 the French Minister of Justice applied to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for copies of the laws of the more important Colonies, for the use of his Office, and suggested the regular exchange of official documents between the Colonial Governments and the Government of France; and a circular was sent from the Colonial Office in February 1880, conveying this suggestion, and saying that there would be no objection to such an arrangement being made by direct communication between the Colonial Governments and the Consular Representatives of France. The Colonial Office have no information as to any action taken upon this circular; but Lord Kimberley thinks a similar course should be adopted as between the Colonies and any other foreign State.

The Colonial official publications (Votes, Proceedings, and Parliamentary Papers of the responsible Government Colonies, and similar documents for the Crown Colonies) appear to amount to about 250 volumes a year.

India Office.—"There is no fixed arrangement between the India Office and any foreign Government in regard to any interchange of official publications or maps, but from time to time exchanges have been made when courtesy so demanded."

A classified list of the official publications of the several Governments in India for the official year 1878-79 is given below; but it is stated that "there are other works issued in India which are not transmitted to this country."

Official Publications of India.

Subject.	Number of papers (1878-79).
Legislation, including Acts and proceedings of Government	11
Military and Naval	3
Public works, railways, and irrigation	24
Statistics, registration, commerce, trade, judicial, police, emigration, education	99
History, science and art	11
Sanitary, municipal, hospitals, and asylums	45
Surveys, land revenue, agriculture	22
Miscellaneous: botanical, geological, stamps and taxes, lighthouses	28
Administration: Civil Service	61
Total	304

CIRCULAR.

FOREIGN OFFICE;
April 12, 1883.

You were informed by my Circular despatch of the 31st December 1880, that a Committee had been appointed by the Treasury to inquire into, and report upon, the question of the interchange of Parliamentary papers and other official documents with foreign States.

The object had in view in the appointment of that Committee was to devise some uniform and general plan upon which applications of this nature should in future be dealt with; and the Committee having now made its report, the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury have been pleased to lay down the following rules upon the subject:

Whenever any application is made by the Government of an independent State for a "complete" exchange of its public documents with this country, the Lords of the Treasury will be prepared to entertain such a proposal, on the following understanding:

1. That a "complete" set of the English official publications to be exchanged would be understood to consist of the following documents:
 - (a) Papers of all kinds printed or presented to either House of Parliament;
 - (b) Historical, Scientific, or Antiquarian works published by the Government, such as the Record publications;—with liberty, however, of reserving very costly works of which only a small number of copies may be printed, as subjects of separate negotiation;
 - (c) Maps or Charts published by Government; and
 - (d) Departmental publications which are placed on sale, but not to include works published by booksellers with the aid of grants or subscriptions from Government.

2. That the Government making the application would, in return, undertake to send a "complete" set of its own publications for the library of the British Museum; the "completeness" being, of course, left to the good faith of that Government.

But besides this general, or what may be termed a national, exchange, the Lords of the Treasury will be prepared to entertain, within reasonable limits, applications which may be made to it, through this Office, for gifts of special classes of British official publications, such as Military, Parliamentary, and Statistical works for the use of National or Parliamentary Libraries, or of State-supported institutions, or of other libraries of historic interest, provided the Government making the application be ready to give its own works of the same class; but such applications will, as heretofore, be considered on their own merits.

Applications for the presentation of official publications to libraries of municipal authorities, or voluntary associations of individuals, such as scientific societies, or others unconnected with the State, cannot be entertained.

I have now to request that you will take an opportunity of making this decision on the part of Her Majesty's Government known to the Government to which you are accredited, and that in doing so you will inform it that in all cases in which an exchange may be agreed upon, and in which presentations may be made, the books and papers will be packed at the Stationery Office, and forwarded to such address as may be given by the Foreign Minister in London of the Government making the application, the cost of transmission in each case being defrayed by the Government to whom the books are presented.

I am, with great truth

most obedient,
humble servant,

No. 910 R. S. C., dated India Office, S. W., the 24th May 1883.

From—Her Majesty's UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE for India.

To—The Secretary to the Treasury.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ultimo, enclosing the report of a Committee appointed to enquire into the question of the interchange of official documents with foreign States, and inquiring whether the Government of India desires to establish a complete interchange of its public documents with this country.

2. I am directed to inform you, in reply, that it appears to Lord Kimberley impossible to make a practical distinction in this matter between the India Office and the three Governments in India, and to treat the latter as Foreign Governments.

3. And in the opinion of His Lordship, the object apparently aimed at by the Committee is adequately attained under existing arrangements. Copies of all books published by the Secretary of State for India, and of all official documents published by the different Governments in India, so far as copies are available out of the number sent from India to this Office, are regularly furnished to the British Museum. It is true that, as stated at the bottom of p. 23 of Appendix C of the Report of the Committee, official publications are occasionally issued in India, copies of which are not sent home, or are not sent in numbers sufficient to admit of the transmission of a copy to the Museum. The Government of India, of Madras, and of Bombay will now be requested invariably to forward to this Office a sufficient number of copies of all their official publications to ensure a regular and complete supply to the British Museum of all those which that Institution is prepared to receive.

4. And as regards the last paragraph but two of the Foreign Office Circular of April 12th, I am to inform you that applications for all Departments of Her Majesty's Government for copies of publications which may be specially desired, are, whenever possible, at once complied with gratuitously by this Office, and also that, so far as is practicable, Indian official publications of interest are freely supplied on application to public libraries and similar institutions, both in the United Kingdom and in Foreign countries.

5. On the other hand, this Office has hitherto received a sufficient number of Parliamentary Papers and Blue Books to admit of a regular and complete supply of these publications to the different Indian Governments. Certain other official publications, such as Foreign Office papers relating to Foreign countries, Consular Reports, publications of the Board of Trade relating to commerce and shipping, and the like, are received by this Office from the Departments of Her Majesty's Government which publish them, and, when desirable, are transmitted to the Governments in India.

6. And copies of any other official publications, maps, etc., which may for any reason be required, have until lately been courteously supplied gratuitously on application by the Departments which issue them.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following,

No. ⁸/₁₀₃₇

FROM

MAJOR E. H. H. COLLEN,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, Mily. Dept.,
in charge of Home Department.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS.

Home Department.
Books & Publs.Fort William, the 31st August 1883.

SIR,

I am directed to forward a copy of a Despatch* from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, relative to a proposal to establish a free interchange of official documents between the Imperial and Indian Governments.

2. With reference to the instructions contained in paragraph 2 of the Despatch, I am to invite attention to the Resolutions marginally noted, and to request that the necessary measures may be taken to ensure the more regular transmission to the India Office of the required number of copies of all official publications to admit of copies being furnished to the British Museum. Attention should be paid to the directions in the first-quoted Resolution regarding the separate packing of such copies of official reports.

3. With reference to the orders in paragraph 3 of the Despatch and the Note by the Librarian of the India Office attached, I am to remark that the only publications exempted from registration under Act XXV. of 1867 are the following:—

By Home Department Notification No. 1294, dated 12th March 1868—

All books, maps, sketches, charts, and papers printed or published under orders of Government, or for official purposes.

By Home Department Notification No. 5793, dated the 30th December 1870—

All reprints and translations, without comment or annotation, of Acts of the several Indian Legislatures published in British India.

By Home Department Notification No. 5604, dated 21st December 1871—

- (1.) Reprints of books without additions or alterations, and without new notes or commentaries.
- (2.) Acts of the Legislative Councils without notes or commentaries.
- (3.) Price lists and tradesmen's circulars.

7. The system above described appears to the Earl of Kimberley to meet all requirements, as far as the different Departments of Her Majesty's Government, the India Office, and the Governments in India are concerned, and His Lordship is of opinion that it should be maintained.

8. In connexion with this subject, however, I am directed to solicit your attention to the question which formed the subject of the letter from the Treasury to the War Office, dated 13th September 1880. This question is still unsettled owing to the failure of the War Office to send any reply to the letters from this Office marginally noted, all requesting the favour of an answer to a former letter dated 17th March 1881, a copy of which is appended.

23rd June 1881.
21st February 1882.
30th June "
July "
13th November "

9. The question thus awaiting settlement is that of the free interchange of maps and other official publications in accordance with the practice hitherto existing between this Office and other Departments of Her Majesty's Government.

Note by the Librarian, India Office, dated the 23rd April 1883.

As a rule, books published by, or under the patronage of, Government are not registered under the Act XXV. of 1867, though occasionally books subverted by Government and other demi-official publications occur in the quarterly lists.

It is much to be regretted that there is no machinery for bringing to the notice of the Secretary of State all such official or other publications as do not come within that Act; their number and importance is far greater than is generally supposed. Besides the publications mentioned in Mr. Prinsep's lists, there appear in India many books of which neither copy nor record is sent home, and of the existence of which we remain either in entire ignorance, or owe our information only to mere chance; N. Elias' Sketch of the History of the Shans (Calcutta, 1876), a series of Law Books in Pali and Burmese, published under the superintendence of Colonel Horace Browne since 1878, and Mr. Jardine's Notes on Buddhist Law belong to this category so far as British Burma is concerned: while not one of the four numbers of the Journal of the Madras Literary Society published within the last four years has been sent to the India Office.*

* To my application, addressed to the Foreign Department, Calcutta, early in March for a copy of D. Wright's Sketch of the portion of the Country of Nepal open to Europeans (Calc., 1872), a book unknown in this Office, no answer has as yet been received.

The lists of such stray publications might, I have no doubt, considerably be swelled from other parts of India. It would be a real boon to all who have to work upon the raw material in science and literature supplied from India, if care were taken on the part of the various Local Governments to place within our reach copies of all publications outside the Act of 1867, in addition to the official publications which are regularly supplied to the Record Department.

- (4.) Catalogues of books and other articles, auctioneer's notices, and advertisements.
- (5.) Play bills, comprising advertisements of theatrical and musical entertainments.
- (6.) Decisions of courts of law without notes or commentaries.
- (7.) Petitions and appeals addressed to constituted authority under the provisions of law.
- (8.) Testimonials of private individuals or public officers.
- (9.) Annual reports of schools, banks, societies and firms.
- (10.) Almanacs and calendars.
- (11.) Labels affixed to articles of commerce.

4. It is not of course necessary to collect and forward to the Secretary of State ephemeral productions such as those described in some of the items above specified. But care should be taken that in future two copies are furnished of all Government publications of which ten copies are not sent under the orders of 12th September 1878 and 6th March 1880, and that a similar number of private publications of the exempted class is also regularly transmitted, provided they are works of special interest or utility. It will be necessary that an officer should be specially appointed to see that these orders are punctually and carefully observed. Superintendents of Presses should be held responsible for forwarding, subject to departmental sanction, copies of all Government publications to the officer who may be specially appointed by the Local Government to carry out the Secretary of State's instructions. It must be remembered that books published for private persons at Government presses are not exempted from the provisions of the Act of 1867.

5. I am further to request that some officer may be directed to examine carefully the lists of past publications of the exempted class, and to forward two copies of all works of interest or utility to the Secretary of State as soon as possible. The importance of strictly enforcing the provisions of Act XXV. of 1867 should also be impressed upon the officer appointed under Section 9 of the Act.

6. I am in conclusion to invite attention to the remark made in the Note by the Librarian of the India Office as to the non-receipt of the publications marginally noted, and to request that steps may be taken to supply them at as early a date as possible. The Government of India would be glad to be informed of the reasons, if any, which prevented the transmission of copies of these books to the India Office when they were published.

I have the honour to be,

S I R,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. H. H. COLLEN, Major,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India, Mil. Dept.,
in charge of Home Department.

Order thereon 5th October 1883 N^o 1458 Mis. •

Accorded with reference to
the Proceedings of Government dated 23rd
Jan^y and 6th September 1883, N^{os} 1245 and
1446-47. Copies of which will be forwarded
to the Government of India with special
reference to the concluding paragraph of
their present communication.

I. The Director of Public Instru-
ction will instruct the Curator of Government
books in the sense of para 4 and 5 of the
letter of the Government of India.

(True Extract)

Suburaj

Acting Under Secy

To the Public Works Dept.

S. D.

Order

1952 w 12.7.83
No. 2950 w a 17th Oct/83

Recorded in
Continuation of
G.O. No 1952 w a 12th
July 1883

CJ
16/10

F.C.

B. 2997 w 23.10.83
144 w 17.11.84

15-10-92

[6]
M.O. 8952
Govt. of (188) Madras.

To

The P.P. Dept

Recd 15/10/83

Proceedings, dated

No.

1958

Subject.

No. 2950 w a 17th Oct/83

Establishment
of free interchange
of documents
between the Supl
& India for

W. H. Thorder
With order
Supt. Rept. Dept