

and Imports in the corresponding period of 1904, gives an increase for June Quarter 1905 of £47,850 or about 31 per cent.

The value of the Exports, during the three months ended the 30th ultimo, was £66,100, as against £53,600 in the similar period of 1904, showing an increase of £12,500 in 1905, or 23.3 per cent.

The Imports also increased to the amount of £35,350 or 36 per cent during the Quarter ended the 30th ultimo, compared with the corresponding three months of 1904

the total value of the Imports during last Quarter having been £153,350 as against £98,000 in the similar three months of the previous year.

These figures point to the fact that the trade of Palestine continues to make progress.

With regard to the Returns of Shipping at the port of Jaffa during last Quarter, there was an increase in the number of Vessels but a decrease of about 11 per cent in the tonnage, compared with the like period of 1904. The total number of Vessels that called at Jaffa during the Quarter in question, was 218 of an aggregate tonnage of 166,142 tons, as against 182 Vessels

vessels and 186,683 tons in June Quarter 1904. Of these 218 vessels 91 were sailing craft, of an aggregate tonnage of 2882 tons.

The number of steam vessels that called at Jaffa, during the three months ended the 30th ultimo, was 127 of a total tonnage of 163,260 tons, as compared with 116 vessels and 184,610 tons in the corresponding three months of 1904, giving an increase of 9.5 per cent in the number of vessels, but a diminution of 11.5 per cent in the amount of tonnage.

British

British Shipping was practically the same as in June Quarter 1904, the total number of British vessels (all steam) which entered and cleared at Jaffa during last Quarter having been 34 of a total tonnage of 35,383 tons, as against 34 vessels and 39,859 tons in the like period of 1904, showing a small decrease in tonnage (4476 tons) in June Quarter 1905.

With respect to vessels of foreign nationality there was an increase, during the Quarter ended the 30th ultimo, of 7 French vessels, 2 Italian,

7 Ottoman, and 3 Greek, compared with the corresponding three months of 1904. The following is a list with their tonnage of the foreign vessels which entered and cleared at Jaffa during last Quarter, namely; Russian 27 (33,242 tons); French 19 (36,846 tons); Austrian 16 (24,362 tons); Italian 13, - of which 2 were sailing vessels - (12,306 tons); Ottoman 95, - 88 being sailing (2513 tons) and 7 Steam vessels (4659 tons); Greek 7, - one of which was sailing - (6564 tons); and Belgian 2 (2716 tons)

tons).

The Administration of the Mutessarif continued much the same as it had been during the preceding Quarter, but considerable activity was displayed, both on the part of the Mutessarif and the Government officials, in collecting the tithes. The plentiful rains which fell during the past winter produced abundant crops, and the receipts from the tithe farming show a considerable increase on those of the previous year. The following are the amounts collected in the different sub-districts of this Province, as regards the cereal or

or winter crops :-

District of Jerusalem	£T. 11,539
" " Jaffa	12,140
" " Gaza	17,808
" " Hebron	10,223
" " Beersheba	20,466
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Total £T.	72,176
Receipts in the previous year (1320) -	<u>50,568</u>
Surplus in 1321 -	<u>£T. 21,608</u>

It is alleged, however, that the sum realized has been quite out of proportion to the actual increase of the harvest, and that in most villages the peasants are suffering great hardships through oppressive taxation.

In my report for the Quarter ended the 31st of March last, I referred

referred to a proposal on the part of the Municipal Authorities of Jerusalem for properly lighting the city at night, and this measure has now been carried out. Besides being a convenience to the inhabitants, it will tend to diminish burglaries and night robberies, but the expenses of the measure are still the subject of discussion between the Mutasarif and the Consular body, and I may have to submit a special report to Your Excellency on the matter. The Municipality have decided to levy a tax on all holders of real property -
foreigners

foreigners as well as Ottoman subjects—
and with this object have taken as
a basis a tariff appended to a
Municipal regulation (Karar-name),
dated March 4/16 $\frac{1305}{1899}$, but they have
doubled the tariff in question. The
Consular Corps, whilst fully approving
of the measure, contend that the
increased tax, before it can be
enforced on foreign subjects, needs
the sanction of the Porte in conformity
with Art. 39 of the Provincial
Municipal regulations, as regards
the imposition of taxes (Destour,
Vol. IV, pages 577-78). The
application

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Application of the increased tax to foreigners
is, accordingly, still in abeyance.

I am happy to be able to add,
that, during the quarter ended the 30th
ultimo, nothing occurred to disturb
the public tranquility, and that
there were no notable crimes to be
recorded. An epidemic, however,
of scarlet fever committed considerable
ravages amongst the poorer
classes, — more especially among
the Jews.

I have the honour to be
With the highest respect

Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient
Humble Servant

John Dickson

Jerusalem,
August 5, 1905

No. 32.

Sir, With reference to Your Excellency
telegram of the 25th ultimo, I have the
honour to report that the "Mukhtar",
or head of the native Protestant
community in Jerusalem, informed me
that he was sent for by Ismail
Bey, the Director of Public Instruction
who enquired whether there was any
person, an Ottoman Subject, in the
Mission Schools here of the name
of

His Excellency
The Right Hon^{ble}
Sir N. O'Connor G.C.B.
* * *

Jerusalem, July 31st
General Rivison

No. 31

Recd.
By Mr. L. King

Statement of Jerusalem

report on the condition

of - during the quarter

ended June 30th 1905

seen at Rivison

4 Nov

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