

## PREFATORY NOTES.

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So far as possible the particulars given in this Return relate to the years 1893 and 1913. In some cases the figures for 1913 are provisional only and subject to revision. Where figures for an earlier year (1892 or 1912, as the case may be) have been given they have been printed in italic type.

In considering the particulars given in the return the following notes of general application to certain sections of the return should be borne in mind.

*Area under Cultivation.*—The area stated represents the area under those crops for which particulars are available for both years. The areas under various crops for which particulars are collected at irregular intervals are unavoidably omitted.

*Production and Consumption of Crude Metals and Coal.*—The quantity of pig iron and coal available for consumption has been arrived at on the basis of production *plus* imports *minus* exports. In this calculation allowance has been made in respect of the estimated coal equivalent of coke and patent fuel imported and exported.

*Imports and Exports.*—Owing to differences in the methods of classifying imports and exports in the trade returns of the countries dealt with in the Return, the constitution of the categories of "Raw Materials" and "Manufactures" in the official trade accounts of the three countries is not identical. For each country, however, the classification adopted in this Return is approximately the same in both years.

*Receipts from Railway Goods Traffic.*—The receipts per mile of line have been calculated on the route mileage throughout, particulars of the single track mileage not being available in all cases.

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