

Contents

Introduction	1
China Maritime Customs	5
1. CMC: What It Was and What It Did	7
Origins	7
Initial responsibilities	14
The changing scope of CMC's work	22
Record-keeping	39
Discontinuities and biases in CMC statistics	43
Sources	44
2. Trade Accounts: Definitions and Structure	47
Commodities, units of measurement, and aggregation	49
Basic structure of the trade accounts	54
Definitions: The trade of a single port	55
National trade statistics	61
Sources	63
3. Pitfall in the Use of Customs Statistics	65
What do these numbers mean?	65
Generalizing: Limitations of CMC data	68
Accuracy	70
Sources	72
The Tea Trade of Fujian	73
4. Trade Statistics: Tea at Fujian Ports	75
What sorts of data are available in the <i>Returns</i> ?	76
A tour of the data set	87
Pictures: The tea trade of each port	96
Concluding comments	114
Sources	120
5. Fujian's Tea Exports	121
From ports to region: Aggregation issues	122
Exports through Fujian ports	132
Fujian's exports and the provincial tea industry	143
Sources	151
Postscript	153
Appendix. What's on the CD	157
References	159
Index	165

Tables

Principal treaties, conventions, and other agreements, 1842–1930	9
CMC stations.	16
Neighbors, to 1931.	25
Tea export duties, c1753–1946	32
Organization of a Customs district.	35
CMC staff, selected years, 1864–1948	36
Desks in the Revenue Department, Shanghai Customhouse	37
Statistical Series (publication titles), 1859–1948.	40
Returns Books and Special Books maintained by Customhouses	48
Units of weight.	51
Units of value.	52
Fuzhou, 1870 and 1900: What do ‘Exports’ measure?	66
Tea, original exports through Fujian ports, 1914	67
Tea exports through Fujian ports, by destination, 1914	68
Tea exports by category, Fuzhou, 1924.	68
Fuzhou: Tea-trade data available in the <i>Returns</i> , 1869–1939.	77
<i>Returns</i> : Organization of trade data in the ‘General Tables’	80
Export categories: Tea, 1923 (old system) and 1926 (new system)	83
Export categories: Tea, 1867–1948	89
Types of Chinese tea exported from ports in Fujian, 1862–1925	91
Fuzhou’s exports of black tea, 1867–85.	116
Fuzhou’s exports of tea, 1886–1905	118
Tea at Fuzhou: Components of total exports	122
Measures of tea exports through Fujian ports.	124
Reported exports of tea through Native Customs, 1902–30	130
Fujian’s tea output, 1914–39.	146

Figures

Customs release, 1860s.	4
CMC stations (map)	20
Principal rail lines of northeastern China, 1920s (map)	28
Port of Fuzhou, 1880s (map)	46
How tea is processed	64
Fuzhou, total exports of tea, 1862–1940	97
Fuzhou, total exports of tea, by destination, 1862–1947.	98
Fuzhou, total exports of tea, by source, 1862–1940	99
Sandu tea exports and Fuzhou imports, 1896–1910	100
Sandu tea exports and Fuzhou reexports, 1898–1931	101
Fuzhou, original exports of tea, by destination, 1862–1940	102
Fuzhou, original exports of tea to foreign countries, 1856–1914.	104
Fuzhou, total exports of tea, by category, 1862–1946.	105
Fuzhou, total exports of scented tea, 1910–31	106
Fuzhou, composition of tea exports, 1880, 1898, and 1913	107
Xiamen, total exports of tea, by source, 1862–1940	109
Xiamen, reexports of tea, 1886–1915	110
Xiamen and Fuzhou, exports of black and wulong tea, 1869–1924 . . .	111
Xiamen, total exports of tea, by type, 1914–40	112
Taiwan, tea exports, 1865–1939	113
Fujian ports, total exports of tea, 1862–1946	133
Fujian ports, total exports of tea to foreign countries, 1862–1946 . . .	134
Fujian ports, original exports of tea, 1862–1931.	135
Fujian ports, exports of tea, by value (Customs taels), 1864–1933 . . .	136
Exchange rates, British pound against Customs tael and Chinese dollar, 1862–1941	138
Fujian ports, exports of tea, by value (British pounds), 1864–1940 . . .	139
Share of Fujian ports in China’s tea exports, 1862–1946	140
Share of tea in exports through Fujian ports, 1864–1940.	142
Fujian’s tea exports, 1862–1940	144
Tea districts in Fujian, 1920s (map)	149
Tea districts in Fujian, mid 1930s (map)	149
Tea output in Fujian, by county, 1934 (map)	150

Boxes

Evolution of the treaty system	8
CMC stations, 1859–1931	16
Neighbors	24
Export duties	32
CMC: Organization and staff	34
CMC documents	40
Returns Books and Special Books	48
Units of weight and value, as used in Customs statistics	51
The trade accounts of a single port	56
Data availability: Tea at Fuzhou	76
Format of the <i>Returns</i> , 1862–1904	79
Format of the <i>Returns</i> and <i>Foreign Trade of China</i> , 1905–31	82
Format of <i>The Trade of China</i> , 1932–48	86
Categories and types of tea	88
Tea exports through Native Customs, 1902–30	128
Exchange rates, 1862–1948	137
Tea districts in Republican Fujian	148