

EAST INDIA (PROGRESS AND CONDITION).

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

I N D I A

DURING THE YEAR 1895-96. —

THIRTY-SECOND NUMBER.

(PRESENTED PURSUANT TO ACT 21 & 22 VICT. c. 106, s. 53.)

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PREFACE

TO THE

THIRTY-SECOND STATEMENT

OF THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

I N D I A.

LEGISLATION.

THE most important Acts passed by the Council of the Governor General in 1895-96 were:—Act XIV. of 1895, which provided for the regulation of the Muhammadan pilgrim traffic between India and the Hedjaz in accordance with the recommendations of the Paris International Sanitary Conference of 1894; Act I. of 1896, which amended the Indian Emigration Act; Acts II. and III., which modified the Customs Tariff and the Excise Duties; and Act XIII. of 1896, which gave effect to certain of the recommendations of the Jury Commission of 1894.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Municipal bodies in India are empowered to spend money on water supply, drainage, sanitation, vaccination, hospitals, dispensaries, streets, roads, and education. The number of municipalities at the end of the year was 755, as in the preceding year, with a population, according to the census of 1891, of 15,828,326. The income and expenditure of the municipalities under the various heads, for the years 1894-95 and 1895-96, compare as follows:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
RECEIPTS:	Rx.	Rx.
Octroi - - - - -	1,022,466	1,037,439
Other Taxation - - - - -	1,715,960	1,790,714
Other Sources, excluding Deposits and Advances - -	978,175	1,040,376
Total, excluding Loans, Deposits, and Advances - -	3,716,610	3,868,529
Loans - - - - -	292,603	243,876
Total, including Loans - - -	4,009,213	4,112,405

	1894-95.	1895-96.
EXPENDITURE :	Rx.	Rx.
Cost of Collection and Administration - - - -	475,071	480,278
Public Health and Convenience - - - -	2,335,370	2,598,969
Public Safety - - - - -	357,307	383,200
Interest on Debt - - - - -	381,395	416,232
Miscellaneous - - - - -	459,517	504,586
Total - - -	4,008,660	4,392,265

The conduct of business by the municipal committees was, in the majority of cases, considered by the governments of the various provinces to be satisfactory. But in several provinces the Government was compelled to pass unfavourable criticisms on the conduct of business by particular municipalities. The condition of Calcutta was so insanitary that the Government of Bengal was compelled to institute a special inquiry, and to issue to the Municipal Commissioners peremptory orders calling for improvement.

The district boards, district committees, and local boards deal with roads, schools, hospitals, and sanitation. The number of such boards and committees existing in 1895-96 was slightly less than in the preceding year, two local boards having been abolished in Madras and one in Bombay. The income administered by these bodies during the year was about Rx. 3,100,000, made up chiefly of the proceeds of local rates and of contributions by the governments of the respective provinces.

The progress during the year of the five trusts to which the administration of the principal Indian ports is confided by the State is shown in the following table:—

	Value of Merchandise Imported and Exported during the Year		Increase or Decrease.	Income of the Port Trust.		Increase or Decrease.
	1894-95.	1895-96.		1894-95.	1895-96.	
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Bombay - - - -	63,150,000	65,800,000	+2,641,000	488,000	491,000	+ 3,000
Calcutta - - - -	71,319,000	72,317,000	+ 998,000	434,000	493,000	+ 59,000
Rangoon - - - -	10,431,000	12,303,000	+1,872,000	107,800	114,000	+ 6,140
Madras - - - -	10,980,000	10,735,000	- 245,000	50,000	51,100	+ 200
Karachi - - - -	10,641,000	10,170,000	- 471,000	87,000	99,000	+ 12,000
TOTAL - - -	166,536,000	171,325,000	+4,789,000	1,167,760	1,248,100	+ 80,340

The income administered by local bodies of all kinds during the year was as follows:—

	Rx.
Municipalities (including loans) - - - -	4,112,400
District Boards and Committees and Local Boards	3,100,000
Port Trusts (including minor Trusts) - - - -	1,672,000
Cantonment Funds, and Town and Bazaar Funds	472,000
	Rx. 9,356,400

SANITATION.

The year 1895 was healthier than the previous year, as is shown by the following figures :—

	1894.	1895.	Increase or Decrease in 1895.
European Troops :			
Admissions into hospital per thousand of average strength.	1,508	1,462	— 46
Daily average sick rate per thousand of average strength.	92	94	+ 2
Death rate per thousand of average strength.	16·97	15·26	— 0·81
Native Troops :			
Admissions into hospital per thousand of average strength.	897	794	— 103
Daily sick rate per thousand of average strength.	31	30	— 1
Death rate per thousand of average strength.	10·76	11·60	+ 0·84
Prison Population :			
Admissions into hospital per thousand.	1,030	1,006	— 24
Daily sick rate per thousand	39	43	+ 4
Death rate per thousand	31·84	26·59	— 5·25
General Population :— Death rate per thousand.	33·98	28·94	— 5·04

The number of persons who died of cholera and fever respectively was,—

Cholera, 1894 - 521,647, or 2·44 per thousand of the population.

„ 1895 - 310,797, or 1·45 per thousand of the population.

Fever, 1894 - 4,952,328, or 23·23 per thousand of the population.

„ 1895 - 4,217,862, or 19·80 per thousand of the population.

The number of deaths from small-pox rose from 41,604, or 0·19 per thousand of the population, to 43,328, or 0·20 per thousand of the population. The number of successful vaccinations performed during 1895-96 was 7,223,591.

Many sanitary works were completed, in progress, and sanctioned during 1895. Among the more important of the works with which progress was made, or which were completed during the year, were waterworks in Howrah, Meerut, Umballa, Jubbulpore, Tanjore, Surat, and Ahmedabad: and drainage in Patna, Muzaffarpur, Agra, Benares, Cawnpore, Ludhiana, Delhi, Lahore, Rangoon, Gauhati, Madras, and Ahmedabad.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The following statement shows some of the results of the administration of civil and criminal justice in India during the calendar years 1894 and 1895 :—

	1894.	1895.
CIVIL JUSTICE.		
Number of civil and revenue suits before courts of original jurisdiction in the year.	2,227,250	2,294,431
Number disposed of without trial - - - - -	310,815	317,341
Number disposed of without contest - - - - -	1,140,103	1,175,031
Number disposed of with contest - - - - -	507,892	517,892
Number referred to arbitration - - - - -	7,315	10,864
Number pending at close of year - - - - -	265,028	267,333
CRIMINAL JUSTICE.		
Number of offences reported - - - - -	1,415,244	1,405,874
Number of persons brought to trial - - - - -	1,700,744	1,752,360
Number of persons convicted - - - - -	822,932	862,117
Number of persons sentenced to death - - - - -	445	489
Number of persons sentenced to transportation - - - - -	1,498	1,507
Number of person sentenced to imprisonment - - - - -	194,274	171,423
Number of persons sentenced to whipping - - - - -	22,450	26,060
Number of persons fined - - - - -	628,911	645,867
Number of persons ordered to give security - - - - -	36,510	48,502

JAILS.

The following figures supply information concerning the number and treatment of the jail population of India :—

	1894.	1895.
Average daily population of jails - - - - -	95,177	101,058
„ of sick, convalescent, and infirm - - - - -	8,028	9,052
„ unemployed for other reasons - - - - -	661	1,026
„ employed as prison officers, servants, gardeners, &c., and in preparation of articles for consumption in jails - - - - -	40,069	42,643
„ employed in manufactures - - - - -	32,508	33,302
„ employed by Public Works Department and municipalities - - - - -	2,306	2,456
„ employed in unremunerative labour - - - - -	1,779	1,694
Net annual cost of prisoners per head - - - - -	Rs. 41 1 11	Rs. 43 0 5
Number of convicts who earned partial remission of sentences	24,550	26,802
Number of juveniles in reformatories at end of year -	1,169	1,225

REGISTRATION AND JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

The extent to which the registration of documents is practised in India is shown by the following figures:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Number of registration offices open at the end of the year	1,954	1,966
Number of documents registered during the year - -	2,711,118	2,677,630
Registration fees - - - - -	Rx. 415,000	Rx. 424,000

At the end of 1894-95 there were 1,204 joint stock companies in India, with a paid-up capital of Rx. 27,653,106, and a nominal capital of Rx. 38,158,518. During the year 168 new companies were registered, and 63 ceased to work. Thus, at the end of the year, there were in existence 1,309 companies; of which the paid-up capital was Rx. 29,387,000 and the nominal capital Rx. 41,891,000. The nature of the various companies is explained in the body of this statement, p. 43.

FINANCE.

The financial results of the year compare as follows with those of the preceding year:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase . or Decrease in 1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Net revenue* - - - - -	60,652,896	62,542,085	+ 1,889,189
Net expenditure* - - - - -	59,959,786	61,008,087	+ 1,048,301
Surplus (+) or deficit (—) - -	+ 693,110	+ 1,533,998	+ 840,888
Average rate of exchange per rupee -	13·1 <i>d.</i>	13·64 <i>d.</i>	+ 0·54 <i>d.</i>
Total Loss in connection with exchange - - - - -	Rx. 15,944,968	Rx. 13,990,949	—Rx. 1,954,019

Of the increase in net revenue Rx. 1,130,950 occurred under customs, and Rx. 760,818 under opium. The most important variations in net expenditure were an increase of Rx. 1,334,252 in Army charges, and a decrease of Rx. 728,221 in the charge for railways.

The capital expenditure on railways and irrigation works during 1894-95 and 1895-96 was as follows:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
RAILWAYS:			
Outlay by State - - - - -	4,428,562†	3,924,755	— 503,807
" by guaranteed and subsidised companies - - - - -	1,650,464	1,799,664	+ 249,200
Total - - - - -	5,979,026	5,724,419	— 254,607
Irrigation (excluding capital outlay on minor works) - - - - -	658,918	758,152	+ 99,234
Rx.	6,637,944	6,482,571	— 155,373

The
* These figures are taken from the Annual Statement of Net Revenue and Expenditure (Parliamentary Return, No. 110 of 1897). The form of that Statement has recently been altered, and, on that account, the figures given above for 1894-95 differ from those given for the same year in last year's number of the present Statement.

† Excluding surveys.

The indebtedness of India at the end of the years 1894-95 and 1895-96 respectively was as follows:—

	31 March 1895.	31 March 1896.	Increase or Decrease during 1895-96.
	£.	£.	£.
Debt in England bearing interest -	113,957,766	113,857,262	— 100,494
" not bearing interest -	48,070	46,470	— 1,600
TOTAL Debt in England - £.	114,005,826	113,903,732	+ 102,094
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Debt in India bearing interest -	102,073,676	102,021,048	+ 850,372
" not bearing interest -	2,303,004	807,880	— 1,435,184
TOTAL Debt in India - Rx.	104,373,740	103,788,928	— 584,812

OPIUM.

The gross opium revenue for the two years 1894-95 and 1895-96 was as follows:—

	1894-95.			1895-96.			Increase or Decrease in 1895-96.
	Number of Chests.	Average Price.	Total Proceeds.	Number of Chests.	Average Price.	Total Proceeds.	
REVENUE OF OPIUM DEPARTMENT.							
BENGAL OPIUM :							
Sale by auction in Calcutta for export -	39,780	Rs. 1,337 11 3	Rx. 5,321,390	37,605	1,309 3 1	5,240,340	— 81,041
Miscellaneous receipts of Opium Department -	-	-	2,312	-	-	2,226	- 86
Sales of opium by Excise Department (at Rs. 7. 4. a seer to 30th June 1895, Rs. 8.8 a seer from 1st July 1895) for consumption in India, under Revenue Regulations -	-	-	191,503	-	-	221,050	+ 27,147
TOTAL - - - Rx.	-	-	5,515,205	-	-	5,463,616	— 51,589
BOMBAY OPIUM :							
Gross duty on Malwa opium -	{ 21,256 9,321 }	{ Rs. 600 660 }	{ Rx. 1,155,360 245,898 }	28,476	Rs. 650 a chest.	1,656,997	— 145,351
Compensation and miscellaneous receipts -	-	-	4,294	-	-	3,700	- 604
TOTAL - - - Rx.	-	-	1,808,852	-	-	1,659,697	-- 145,855
Gross Revenue from Bengal and Bombay Opium - - -							
					Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
					7,323,767	7,123,922	-- 199,835
<i>Deduct Charges - - -</i>					1,616,105	2,068,041	+ 452,836
NET REVENUE OF OPIUM DEPARTMENT - - -							
					5,707,662	5,055,881	- 651,781
EXCISE DUTY ON OPIUM CONSUMED IN INDIA - - -							
					998,701	1,011,278	+ 15,484
TOTAL REVENUE FROM OPIUM - - - Rx.					6,706,363	6,067,159	- 639,204

SALT.

The duty on Salt in India was in 1895-96, as it has been since January 1888, Rs. 2. 8. a maund in all provinces except Burma, where it is 1 rupee a maund. The quantity of salt consumed during the year was 35,090,000 maunds, an increase of 535,000 maunds over the consumption of the preceding year, and the gross salt revenue, as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India, was Rx. 8,861,800, an increase of Rx. 196,100 over the gross revenue of the preceding year.

DUTIES LEVIED ON LIQUORS AND DRUGS.

The revenue derived in 1894-95 and 1895-96 from the duties on intoxicating liquors and drugs, excluding opium, which has been dealt with above, was as follows :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase or Decrease in 1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Excise revenue derived from the sale of Indian and imported liquors - - - - -	4,058,080	4,210,610	+ 152,524
Excise duty on ganja, bhang, &c. - - - - -	452,038	477,949	+ 25,911
Fines, confiscations, and miscellaneous excise revenue	18,158	19,578	+ 1,420
Customs duty on imported liquors - - - - -	609,583	661,004	+ 51,421
TOTAL - - -	5,138,415	5,369,141	+ 230,726

The number of shops licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquors and drugs in the two years was as follows :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase or Decrease in 1895-96.
Shops licensed for the sale of spirits made in India -	32,825	32,529	- 296
Shops licensed for the sale of imported spirits or liquors.	3,141	3,145	+ 4
Shops licensed for the sale of toddy, rice beer, and other Indian fermented drinks.	43,007	43,087	- 80
Shops licensed for the sale of opium and its compounds.	0,427	0,388	- 39
Shops licensed for the sale of narcotic or intoxicating drugs, other than opium.	11,307	11,314	- 83
TOTAL - - -	100,607	99,463	-1,234

STAMPS.

The revenue derived from stamp fees on litigation and on documents in 1894-95 and 1895-96 was as follows :—

1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase in 1895-96.
Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
4,025,680	4,727,055	101,375

CUSTOMS.

It was mentioned in the thirtieth number of this Statement (p. 60) that a few weeks before the close of the financial year 1893-94 an Act (No. VIII. of 1894) was passed for the imposition of an import duty of 1 per cent. on iron and steel, and 5 per cent. on other articles, with the exception of cotton, which was left free, and of arms, liquor, opium, salt, salted fish, and petroleum, on which the existing special duties continued to be levied. This Act was, as was mentioned in the thirty-first number of this Statement, amended on the 27th of December 1894 by Act XVI. of 1894, which imposed a customs duty of 5 per cent. on all imported cotton manufactures. At the same time, in order

to prevent the import duties on cotton from acting so as to protect the cotton manufactures of India against those of England, an excise duty of 5 per cent. was imposed on all yarns finer than those of the count of "twenties" spun in power mills in India. The legislation of 1894 remained in force till February 1896, when, by Acts II. and III. of 1896, the excise and customs duties on yarns were removed, and all woven cotton goods imported into India, or manufactured at power mills in India, became liable to an *ad valorem* duty of 3½ per cent.

The gross customs revenue of 1894-95 and 1895-96, after deduction of refunds and drawbacks, compares as follows:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.
Export duties - - - - -	903,187	922,600
Import duty on cotton goods - - - - -	*384,046	1,184,724
Import duties on other articles - - - - -	2,450,165	2,726,892
Miscellaneous - - - - -	26,237	30,748
TOTAL - - -	3,764,625	4,844,973

* From 27th December 1894.

PROVINCIAL RATES.

The land cess, known as provincial rates, which is levied for the purpose of providing for local expenditure on roads, schools, hospitals, village officers, public works, and famine assurance, and which in temporarily settled districts takes the form of a percentage on the land revenue, yielded a net revenue in 1894-95 of Rx. 3,535,623, and in 1895-96 of Rx. 3,696,480.

INCOME TAX.

Income tax is levied in India on incomes derived from non-agricultural sources (including the profits of companies), at the rate of 5 pie in the rupee on incomes of 2,000 rupees or more, and 4 pie in the rupee on incomes of 500 rupees or more, but less than 2,000 rupees.

The yield of the tax for the two years 1894-95 and 1895-96 compares as follows:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase in 1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Gross receipts - - - - -	1,808,000	1,835,180	27,120

SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

The Survey of India Department carried on the various branches of its scientific work as usual during the years 1893-94 and 1894-95.

Among the most important pieces of work on which the staff of the Cadastral Survey was engaged during 1895-96 were a survey and record of rights in four districts of North Behar, and the re-settlement of Berar, which is necessitated by the expiration of the term of 30 years for which the original settlement was made.

LAND REVENUE.

The table on page 82 shows that the revenue from land, fisheries, &c., for the whole of India in 1894-95 was Rx. 25,408,000, and in 1895-96 Rx. 26,201,000, being more by Rx. 793,000 than that for 1894-95. Increases occurred in all provinces except Madras and Assam.

FORESTS.

The area of State forests at the end of 1894-95 was about 131,000 square miles, of which 75,000 square miles are, or are in course of being brought, under conservancy, while 56,000 square miles, are "protected area," part of which may be brought under conservancy at some future time. The net revenue yielded by the forests during the year was Rx. 749,343, as against Rx. 717,099 during the previous year.

AGRICULTURE.

Statistics for 1894-95, showing the area available for cultivation in British India, and the extent of cultivation of each kind of crop, are given in the body of this Statement, page 106. They are incomplete, in so far as they exclude from consideration large tracts, chiefly in the zemindari districts of Madras, for which no returns exist. The area thus excluded from consideration amounts to more than one-ninth of the whole area of British India. In the rest of British India the cultivated area in 1894-95 was 197,000,000 acres, and the area of culturable waste other than fallow land was 99,000,000 acres. Of the cultivated area, 27,000,000 acres bore two or more crops in the year. The area under food crops was 185,000,000 acres, and under non-food crops, including sugar, tea, coffee, and condiments, was 39,000,000 acres. In these figures the area that bore more than one crop during the year has been counted twice over.

The exports of the chief articles of agricultural produce during the years 1894-95 and 1895-96 were as follows:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Wheat - - - - -	345,000	500,000
Oil seeds - - - - -	1,045,000	684,000
Rice - - - - -	1,686,000	1,767,000
Raw cotton - - - - -	169,350	267,400
Tea - - - - -	57,590	61,940
Coffee - - - - -	13,650	14,500
Raw jute - - - - -	648,800	613,350

MINERAL RESOURCES.

The output of the chief mineral products of India during 1894 and 1895 was as follows:—

	1894.	1895.
Coal - - - - -	2,820,000 tons	3,537,000 tons.
Petroleum - - - - -	11,001,000 gallons	13,014,000 gallons.
Gold - - - - -	209,714 ounces	238,752 ounces.

RAILWAYS.

The length of line open on Indian railways on the 31st of December 1895 and the 31st of December 1896, respectively, was as follows :—

	31st December 1895.	31st December 1896.
	<i>Miles.</i>	<i>Miles.</i>
State lines worked by companies - - - - -	8,040·50	9,196·03
State lines worked by the State - - - - -	5,569·78	5,982·46
Lines worked by guaranteed companies - - - - -	2,587·00	2,588·12
Assisted companies - - - - -	407·60	407·24
Lines owned by Native States - - - - -	1,003·00	1,936·75
TOTAL - - -	19,407·78	20,110·60

On the 31st of December 1896, 4,282·53 miles of railway were being constructed, or were sanctioned for commencement.

The total capital outlay on open lines* (including steamboat and suspense accounts) is as follows :—

	Rx.
Total to the 31st of December 1894 - - - - -	239,101,046
Additions during the calendar year 1895 - - - - -	6,588,400
Total to the 31st of December 1895 - - - - -	242,890,406
Additions during the calendar year 1896 - - - - -	5,910,602
TOTAL to the 31st of December 1896 - - - - -	248,601,008

The amount of permanent public debt that has been incurred on account of railways is as follows :—

	Rx.
Total to the 31st of March 1894 - - - - -	114,713,682
Additions during 1894-95 - - - - -	4,487,551
Total to the 31st of March 1895 - - - - -	119,201,233
Additions during 1895-96 - - - - -	3,924,755
TOTAL to the 31st of March 1896 - - - - -	123,125,988

The proportion of net earnings to capital outlay on open lines was, in 1894-95, 5·81 per cent., and in 1895-96, 5·28 per cent., but, owing to the fall in exchange and the cost of paying in gold the interest guaranteed to certain companies, the financial result to the State of the working of Indian railways was in 1894-95 a net charge of Rx. 2,348,489, and in 1895-96 a net charge of Rx. 1,620,268, made up as follows :—

	1894-95.	1895-95.
	Rx.	Rx.
Net expenditure on State railways - - - - -	737,450	493,868
Net expenditure on guaranteed railways - - - - -	1,535,679	1,061,752
Net receipts from subsidised railways - - - - -	25,000	7,001
Miscellaneous railway expenditure - - - - -	100,360	71,649
Net Expenditure - - -	2,348,489	1,620,268

* The capital outlay on all lines, including those which are not yet open for traffic, during the financial years 1894-95 and 1895-96 is shown above, page vii.

In the course of the year 1895-96 progress was made with the construction of several new lines, chiefly in connection with existing railway systems. Shortly after the close of the year a contract was concluded with the Tapti Valley Railway Company for the construction of a line, 162 miles in length, from Surat to Amalner. In September 1896 the Burma State railways were transferred to a company, but, for the present, the working of the railways remains in the hands of the State.

IRRIGATION.

The following figures show the progress in irrigation during the year 1895-96:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Canals in operation during the year - - - -	40,814 miles	39,762 miles.
Area irrigated by canals and tanks - - - -	8,692,658 acres	10,308,900 acres.
	Rx.	Rx.
Capital outlay to beginning of year on major canals and those minor works for which capital accounts are kept.	35,852,896	36,617,689
Capital outlay during the year on major canals and those minor works for which capital accounts are kept.	764,793	857,062
Capital outlay to end of year on major canals and those minor works for which capital accounts are kept.	36,617,689	37,474,751
Percentage of net receipts on capital outlay for major canals and those minor works, &c.	4.3	4.1

BUILDINGS, ROADS, AND SPECIAL DEFENCE WORKS.

The expenditure in India during 1894-95 and 1895-96 on buildings and roads was as follows:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
CIVIL WORKS :	Rx.	Rx.
Civil buildings - - - - -	1,038,077	1,175,837
Communications - - - - -	1,970,580	2,027,600
Miscellaneous works - - - - -	263,346	337,087
Establishment, tools and plant, &c. - - - -	922,313	924,050
	4,194,316	4,452,574
MILITARY WORKS, &c. :		
Barrack and hospital accommodation - - - -	130,000	230,000
General cantonment works - - - - -	69,366	62,853
Other new works - - - - -	110,976	100,209
Repairs - - - - -	324,985	348,013
Establishment and other charges - - - - -	372,624	374,863
	1,007,951	1,205,938
TOTAL, CIVIL AND MILITARY WORKS - -	5,202,273	5,658,512

The reduction of expenditure on buildings and roads in 1894-95 was one of the economies that were forced on the Government of India on account of the financial difficulties under which it laboured at the time when the Budget for the year was framed. (See Financial Statement of the Government of India 0.83.

for 1894-95, Parliamentary Paper, 92 of 1894, pages 10 and 29.) This fact explains the large excess of the expenditure for 1895-96 over that for the previous year. The expenditure for 1895-96 is less than that for any of the three years 1891-92, 1892-93, and 1893-94.

The net expenditure on special defence works was, in 1893-94, Rx. 324,974, in 1894-95, Rx. 217,867, and in 1885-96, Rx. 101,349. This decrease is due to the fact that the programme of coast and inland defence on which expenditure under this head has been incurred since 1886-87 is fast approaching completion. It is estimated that the expenditure in 1896-97 will amount to Rx. 123,500, and in 1897-98 to Rx. 19,400.

POST OFFICE.

The progress of the Post Office during 1895-96 is illustrated by the following figures:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Length of lines over which mails were conveyed - -	120,171 miles	122,282 miles.
Number of post offices and letter boxes (imperial and district post).	28,816	30,461
Number of letters, postcards, newspapers, parcels, and packets carried during the year.	394,103,707	413,870,210
Value of inland money orders issued during the year -	Rx. 19,431,000	Rx. 20,620,000
Surplus on the working of the Post Office for the year* -	Rx. 75,083	Rx. 108,974

SAVINGS BANKS.

The rate of interest on savings banks balances continued during the year 1895-96 to be 3½ per cent. The table that is given below shows to what extent Natives and Europeans in India made use of the Post Office and other savings banks during the year 1895-96:—

	NUMBER OF DEPOSITORS.						AMOUNT OF BALANCES.					
	31st March 1895.			31st March 1896.			31st March 1895.			31st March 1896.		
	Natives.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Total.	Natives.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Total.	Natives.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Total.	Natives.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Total.
Post Office Savings Banks -	554,149	57,798	611,947	593,590	60,302	653,892	Rx. 7,448,952	Rx. 968,841	Rx. 8,417,793	Rx. 7,782,780	Rx. 1,389,627	Rx. 9,042,307
Other Savings Banks, viz.:												
Presidency Savings Banks, State Railway Provident Institution, Civil Engineers' Provident Fund, Military Banks.	40,745	30,497	71,242	34,035	29,627	63,662	1,027,426	1,104,707	2,133,133	965,606	1,113,339	2,078,945
TOTAL - - -	594,914	88,295	683,209	627,625	90,929	718,554	8,473,378	2,061,548	10,534,926	8,718,286	2,502,966	11,221,251

TELEGRAPHS.

Separate accounts are kept for the Indian Government's telegraph system proper, and the system which connects the lines of the Indian Government at Karachi with those of the Indo-European Company at Teheran, and is known as the Indo-European Telegraph Department. The latter Department is administered under what is known as the Joint Purse Agreement, modified by a supplemental

* These figures differ from those given in the body of the Statement (p. 149), owing to the inclusion of indirect expenditure and the exclusion of the charge for the district post, the receipts from which are not credited to the Post Office.

supplemental agreement which came into force on the 1st of January 1894, and which gives the Indian Government a somewhat larger share in the receipts from Indian traffic than it had before received. The progress of the two Departments during 1894-95 and 1895-96 was as follows:—

INDIAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

	Capital Expenditure.	Offices Opened.	State Messages Sent.	Private Inland Messages Sent.	Private Foreign Messages Sent.
	Rx.				
To the beginning of 1894-95	5,060,097	2,735	—	—	—
During 1894-95	78,330	148	592,375	3,231,555	567,296
To the end of 1894-95	5,738,427	2,883	—	—	—
During 1895-96	138,428	111	610,361	3,491,571	634,312
To the end of 1895-96	5,876,855	2,994	—	—	—

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

	Capital Expenditure.	Number of Words Carried.	Number of Messages Carried.
	Rx.		
To beginning of 1894-95	1,144,619	—	—
During 1894-95	— 331	1,700,055	128,015
To end of 1894-95	1,144,288	—	—
During 1895-96	4,532	1,922,494	140,401
To end of 1895-96	1,148,820	—	—

EDUCATION.

The following statement shows the progress of education in India in 1894-95 and 1895-96:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Number of public and private educational institutions	149,498	152,841
Number of male scholars in public and private educational institutions.	3,799,170	3,905,921
Number of female scholars in public and private educational institutions.	390,600	397,188
Proportion of scholars to population of school-going age	12·02 per cent.	12·06 per cent.
Number of public primary schools	99,558	102,036
Number of public secondary schools	5,099	5,178
Number of scholars in public primary schools	3,046,781	3,132,696
Number of scholars in public secondary schools	525,303	533,481
Gross expenditure on public instruction	Rx. 3,308,843	Rx. 3,506,530
Gross expenditure on public primary education	Rx. 1,064,806	Rx. 1,085,170
Proportion of total expenditure on education met from provincial revenues.	27·31 per cent.	26·82 per cent.
Proportion of total expenditure on education met from local funds.	17·24 per cent.	16·77 per cent.
Proportion of total expenditure on education met from municipal funds.	4·37 per cent.	4·27 per cent.
Proportion of total expenditure on education met from fees	29·54 per cent.	29·94 per cent.
Proportion of total expenditure on education met from miscellaneous sources.	21·54 per cent.	22·2 per cent.

EMIGRATION AND MIGRATION.

The emigration of Indian labourers under labour contracts is strictly regulated by the Emigration Act of 1883. It is allowed to take place only from specified ports, and to specified countries in which there are enforced laws and provisions which, in the opinion of the Government of India, are adequate for the protection of immigrants. Contracts with Indian labourers for labour beyond the sea may be made only by licensed recruiters, and in the presence of a registering officer or protector of emigrants. The labourer must be not less than 16 years of age. Emigrants must be conveyed to their destination in vessels specially licensed for the purpose. The chief places to which emigration is allowed are various of the West Indian Islands, British and Dutch Guiana, Natal, Fiji, and Mauritius. The number and distribution of the emigrants in 1895 is shown at page 166 of the body of this Statement.

Inland migration under labour contract to the tea gardens of Assam is regulated by an Act which was considerably amended in 1893. The number of adult emigrants under the Act who left for Assam in 1895 was 30,835. There were also 25,666 emigrants not under contract. Information concerning migration to and from Burma is given on page 168 below.

TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

The trade of British India was affected during the years 1894-95 and 1895-96 by the following events :—

The imposition in March 1894 of a customs duty on most of the chief articles of import, with the exception of cotton goods.

The imposition in December 1894 of a customs duty of 5 per cent. on manufactured cotton goods, and of a countervailing excise duty on cotton yarns of the finer kinds spun at Indian mills.

The exemption in February 1896 of imported yarns from customs duty, and of Indian yarns from excise duty.

The reduction in the same month of the duties on imported and Indian mill-made fabrics from 5 per cent. to 3½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

The value of the imports and exports of the two years, excluding Government transactions, was as follows :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Imports :	Rx.	Rx.
Merchandise	70,107,438	69,316,396
Gold	1,756,280	5,029,260
Silver	7,802,727	8,329,716
	79,726,445	82,675,380
Exports :		
Merchandise	108,814,999	114,203,140
Gold	6,730,374	2,503,317
Silver	1,427,043	1,728,984
	116,973,016	118,495,441

The value of the imports and exports of merchandise, to and from the several divisions of the world, was as follows :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.
Europe - - - - -	119,472,701	120,318,447
Africa and adjacent Islands - - - - -	10,623,435	10,937,210
Asia - - - - -	38,419,042	42,390,526
America - - - - -	8,892,135	8,481,110
Australia - - - - -	1,574,224	1,452,242
	178,982,487	183,579,535

The exports of merchandise in 1895-96 were of greater value than those of any previous year; the imports of merchandise were of less value than those of 1893-94 and 1894-95. The decrease in the value of imports is due to the fact that the falling off in the imports of cotton goods was not quite counter-balanced by the increase in other imports, as is shown by the following figures :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.
Imports of Cotton Goods - - - - -	32,673,628	25,755,872
Imports of other Merchandise - - - - -	37,493,810	43,560,523

Unusually large quantities of cotton goods were sent to India in 1894-95 owing to the anticipation, which was realised in the course of the year, that the imposition of a customs duty on imported goods other than cotton in March 1894 would be followed by the imposition of a duty on cotton goods. In the year 1893-94, also, the imports of cotton to India had been very large; consequently the market was, according to the report of the Director General of Statistics to the Government of India,* overstocked with cotton goods at the beginning of 1895-96, and this fact explains the falling off in imports of cotton which occurred during that year. Inasmuch as most of the cotton goods sent to India come from the United Kingdom, a result of the decrease in imports of cotton is that imports from the United Kingdom show a less favourable proportion to total imports than in the preceding year. In 1894-95 the value of imports from the United Kingdom was Rx. 51,105,757, or 72·8 per cent. of the total imports; in 1895-96 it was Rx. 47,161,484, or 68 per cent. of the total imports.

The progress of manufactures in India is illustrated by the following figures :—

	1883-84.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Number of Cotton Mills in India - - -	74	144	147
Number of Spindles - - - - -	1,895,284	3,710,925	3,844,307
Number of Jute Mills in India - - -	23	29	29
Number of Spindles - - - - -	112,650	Not given.	216,139
Quantity of Coal produced † - - - Tons	1,397,818	2,820,000	3,537,000

* See Review of the Trade of India in 1895-96 (Parliamentary Paper, C. 8297 of 1896).

† Figures for calendar years 1884 and 1895.

Under the Factory Act, which came into operation at the beginning of 1892, 876 factories were liable to be inspected in 1895, as against 822 in 1894. It will be seen from what is said below that the condition of factories throughout India was found by the inspectors to be generally satisfactory.

FRONTIERS, NATIVE STATES, AND TRANSMARINE INTERESTS.

It was mentioned in the preceding number of this Statement that in April 1895 the political agent in Chitral and the British garrison were besieged by a force of Chitralis under Shere Afzul and Umra Khan, and that the garrison was relieved by forces moving from Gilgit under Colonel Kelly, and from Peshawur under Sir R. Low. Since that time a political officer and a British force have been retained in Chitral. Shuja-ul-Mulk has been installed by the British political agent as Muhtar of Chitral. A road between Peshawur and Chitral has been opened, and arrangements have been made with the Khan of Dir and the intervening tribes for maintaining communications. British troops have been retained on the Malakhand Pass and at the crossing of the Swat River at Chakdarra.

An account was given in the preceding number of this Statement of the progress which was made in 1894-95 in the work of determining the boundaries of British territory and British spheres of influence. Further progress in that direction has been made in 1895-96. The frontier lines between Afghanistan and the Russian sphere of influence on the Pamirs, and between Persia and Baluchistan, were completed in the course of the year. The demarcation of the Afghan boundary on the side of India and Baluchistan was nearly completed.

The Tochi Valley and Wana were occupied by the British Government during the year; and on the north-eastern frontier, the North and South Lushai Hills and the Chin Hills were incorporated in British India.

The internal States were generally prosperous during 1895-96. The reorganisation of the agencies for the suppression of dacoity in the Native States was carried further during the year. From several of the Native States, especially Baroda, Gwalior, and Rampur, progress in railway construction is reported.

On the Somali coast a successful expedition was undertaken during the year against a clan of the Habr Awal tribe. The trade through Zaila was very prosperous.

From the Persian Gulf and coast disorder and interference with trade are reported.

ARMY AND MILITARY OPERATIONS.

The sanctioned establishment and actual strength of the troops under the orders of the Commander in Chief in India during 1893-94 and 1894-95 was as follows:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Sanctioned Establishment:		
British Troops - - - - -	73,119	73,109
Miscellaneous Officers - - - - -	921	916
Native Troops (including European Officers) - -	145,738	145,683
TOTAL - - -	219,778	219,708
	1st April 1895	1st April 1896.
Actual Strength (excluding Hyderabad Contingent and other Troops not under the orders of the Commander in Chief in India):		
British - - - - -	74,299	72,550
Native - - - - -	131,002	133,507
TOTAL - - -	205,301	206,117

On the 1st of July 1895 the pay of all men and non-commissioned officers of the dismounted branches of the Native Army was increased by two rupees a month.

During the year considerable expenditure was incurred in the provision of additional means of transport for the field army. The Secretary of State sanctioned the purchase of stores and equipments for the whole force, of 3,250 camels, of sufficient mules to complete three divisions, and of a reserve of 1,000 mature horses.



CHAPTER I.

ADMINISTRATION.

LIST of the holders of the more important appointments connected with the ADMINISTRATION. Administration of India during 1895-96, showing, *in italics*, the changes which took place during the year.

OFFICE.	—	Date of Appointment or Assumption of Charge of Office.	REMARKS.
Secretary of State	<i>The Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton.</i>	5 July 1895	In succession to Sir Henry Fowler.
Permanent Under Secretary of State.	Sir Arthur Godley, K.C.B. -	30 September 1883	
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State.	<i>The Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G.</i>	5 July 1895	In succession to Lord Reay.
Members of the Council of India	Bertram W. Currie - -	11 December 1880 Re-appointed, 11 December 1890	Period of office expired 10 December 1895.
	Sir John Strachey, G.C.S.I., C.I.E.	14 July 1885	Period of office expired 13 July 1895.
	Field Marshal Sir Donald M. Stewart, bart., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., C.I.E.	16 December 1885 Re-appointed, 16 December 1895	
	Major-General Sir Owen T. Burne, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	1 January 1887	
	Robert Hardie - - -	17 March "	
	Sir Alexander J. Arbuthnot, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	1 November "	
	Sir James B. Peill, K.C.S.I.	12 November "	
	Sir Alfred C. Lyall, K.C.B., G.C.I.E.	17 January 1888	
	Sir Charles A. Turner, K.C.I.E.	21 February "	
	Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Allison, bart., G.C.B.	1 January 1889	
	Sir Charles H. T. Crosthwaite, K.C.S.I.	3 March 1895	
	<i>Sir Stuart C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.</i>	16 September "	In succession to Sir Henry Rawlinson, who died 5 March 1895.
<i>F. C. Le Marchant - -</i>	27 February 1896	In succession to Mr. Bertram Currie.	
Governor-General	The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E.	27 January 1894	
Members of Council - -	Sir A. E. Miller, knt., C.S.I.	8 April 1891	
	Lieutenant-General Sir H. Brackenbury, B.A., K.C.B., K.C.S.I.	25 April "	
	Sir Charles Pritchard, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.	29 November 1892	
	Sir James Westland, K.C.S.I.	27 November 1893	
Lieutenant Governor of Bengal -	<i>Sir John Woodburn, K.C.S.I.</i>	23 December 1895	In succession to Sir Alexander Mackenzie, appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.
Lieutenant Governor of the North Western Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh.	<i>Sir Antony P. MacDonnell, K.C.S.I.</i>	17 December "	In succession to Sir Charles Elliott, retired.
Lieutenant Governor of the North Western Provinces and Chief Commissioner of Oudh.	<i>Sir Antony P. MacDonnell, K.C.S.I.</i>	6 November "	In succession to Sir Charles Crosthwaite, appointed to the Council of India.
Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab.	Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick, K.C.S.I.	5 March 1892	
Chief Commissioner of Burma -	<i>Sir F. W. R. Fryer, K.C.S.I.</i>	3 April 1895	Held officiating appointment from 23 May 1892.
Chief Commissioner of Central Provinces.	<i>C. J. Lyall, C.S.I., C.I.E. -</i>	21 December "	In succession to Sir John Woodburn, appointed to the Council of the Governor-General.
Chief Commissioner of Assam -	W. E. Ward, C.S.I. - -	4 October 1894	
Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana and Chief Commissioner of Ajmere-Merwara.	R. J. Crosthwaite, C.S.I. -	30 March 1895	Colonel Abbott officiated till 28 October 1895.

2 STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

ADMINISTRATION.

OFFICE.		Date of Appointment or Assumption of Charge of Office.	REMARKS.
Resident in Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg.	W. M. Young, c.s.I.	18 September 1895	In succession to Mr. Lee-Warner, appointed Political Secretary, India Office.
Resident, Hyderabad - - -	Trevor J. C. Chichele-Plowden, c.s.I.	6 March 1892	
Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.	Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. K. Barr.	20 March 1895	
Resident in Kashmir - - -	H. S. Barnes - - -	20 March "	
Resident and Agent to the Governor-General, Baroda.	Lieutenant-Colonel N. C. Martelli.	25 July "	Previous to this date Lieutenant-Colonel Martelli was acting for Colonel J. Bid-dulph.
Agent to the Governor-General for Baluchistan.	Major-General Sir James Browne, K.C.S.I., C.B.	22 March 1892	
Political Resident, Persian Gulf-	Colonel F. A. Wilson - -	30 May 1894	
Governor of Madras - - -	Lord Wenlock - - -	23 January 1891	
Members of Council - - -	H. W. Bliss, c.I.E. - - - James Grose, c.I.E. - - -	9 November 1893 9 January 1894	
Governor of Bombay - - -	Lord Sandhurst - - -	18 February 1895	
Members of Council - - -	H. M. Birdwood, c.s.I. - - A. C. Trevor, c.s.I. - - -	27 April 1892 16 November "	
Political Resident, Aden - - -	Brigadier-General C. A. Cunningham.	9 May 1895	In succession to Brigadier-General J. Jopp.

LEGISLATION.

LEGISLATION.
Governor General's
Council.

Twenty-six Acts were passed by the Council of the Governor General in the year 1895-96. The most important of these were :

Act IX of 1895 "to confer on presidency magistrates and district magistrates certain powers and authorities in relation to the surrender of fugitive criminals." The object was to confer on the officers referred to the functions which, in the United Kingdom, are vested in the police magistrates and justices of the peace.

Act X of 1895 "to provide for the payment by the railway companies registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1882, of interest out of capital during construction," called "The Indian Railway Companies' Act, 1895."

Act XIV of 1895 "to make better provision for the regulation of pilgrim ships." This Act gives effect to recommendations made by the International Sanitary Conference held at Paris in 1894, and accepted by Her Majesty's Government, for the regulation of the Muhammadan pilgrim traffic between British India and Arabia.

Act XX of 1895 "to incapacitate ex-King Thebaw from incurring pecuniary obligation and to provide for an enquiry into his present state of indebtedness."

Act I of 1896 "to amend the Indian Emigration Act, 1883." This Act consists of two sections, of which the first is intended to prevent the evasion of the Emigration Act by recruiters, while the second empowers the Governor General in Council to relax the requirements of the Emigration Act in the case of emigrants to be employed under Her Majesty's Government—as, for instance, on the Uganda Railway.

Act II of 1896 "to provide for the imposition and levy of certain duties on cotton goods." The object was to make the excise duties on cotton manufactures in India more precisely equivalent to those levied upon imported cotton goods.

Act III of 1896 "to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894," whereby the duties levied on imported cotton goods were reduced from 5 per cent. on their value

value to about 3½ per cent. The opportunity was taken to re-enact the tariff with amendments up to date. LEGISLATION.

Act IV of 1896 "to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1889," with the object of remedying the defective arrangements for the accommodation of the crews in certain vessels, mainly cargo vessels, visiting Indian Ports.

Act V of 1896 "to amend the Foreign Jurisdiction and Extradition Act, 1879," so as to make desertion from the Imperial Service Troops an extraditable offence.

Act VIII of 1896 "to provide for the establishment of bonded warehouses at places other than customs ports and to afford facilities for the bonding of salt in such warehouses."

Act X of 1896 "to amend the Indian Volunteers Act, 1869," in those respects in which the experience of its operation during a quarter of a century has proved the Act to be defective.

Act XI of 1896 "to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879," with the object of suppressing law-touts.

Act XII of 1896 "to amend the law relating to the excise revenue in force in Northern India, Burma, and Coorg," with regard to the production, sale, possession, and import of spirits, fermented liquors, and intoxicating drugs, and to the collection of revenue derived therefrom.

Act XIII of 1896 "to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882," for the purpose of giving effect to such of the recommendations made by the Jury Commission of 1893 as have been approved by the Government of India and Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

Of the nine Acts passed during the year by the Council of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, the most important were the following:— Bengal.

Act I of 1895 "to amend the Law relating to the recovery of Public Demands."

Act III of 1895 "to provide for the maintenance of records of tenant-rights in Bengal (framed in the course of a survey settlement under the Bengal Tenancy Act) and for the recovery of the cost of cadastral surveys and settlements."

Act V of 1895 "to provide for the segregation of pauper lepers and the control of lepers exercising certain trades."

Act VIII of 1895 "to facilitate the construction of drainage works for improving the sanitary condition of local areas."

Act IX of 1895—"The Calcutta Electric Lighting Act."

Two Acts were passed by the Council of the Lieutenant Governor of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh; viz.: North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

Act I of 1895 "to amend the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Acts, 1873 and 1883."

Act II of 1895 "to amend the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Waterworks Act, 1891." The chief object of both was to make provision for appeals against assessment to rates.

Six Acts were passed by the Council of the Governor of Madras of which it is only necessary to refer to "the Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act, 1895" (Act III), which repeals Regulation VI of 1831, and provides more precisely for the succession to certain hereditary village offices in the Presidency of Madras; for the hearing and disposal of claims to such offices or the emoluments annexed thereto; for the appointment of persons to hold such offices and the control of the holders thereof; and for certain other purposes. Madras.

Three Acts were passed by the Council of the Governor of Bombay, but they are of no general interest. Bombay.

4 STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

LEGISLATION.

The following are the principal Regulations which were passed by the Governor General in Council on the recommendation of the local governments of the provinces affected by them and in accordance with the provisions of 33 Vict. c. 3:—

Regulation III of 1895 “to provide for the imposition of a patwari-rate in Ajmere and Merwara, and for the appointment of patwaris and supervisor kanungos.”

Regulation IV of 1895 “to make better provision for sanitation in villages in Ajmere and Merwari.”

Regulation I of 1896 “to amend the law relating to civil courts and the administration of civil justice in Upper Burma.” The main object of this measure was to introduce the code of civil procedure into Upper Burma generally, and no longer to confine its operation to Mandalay.

Regulation II of 1896 “to amend the law for the suppression of crime on the frontiers of Upper Burma and the Hill District of Arakan.” The power supplied by this Regulation has been found useful on the Punjab frontier, and will enable the Chief Commissioner to take immediate action to enforce the blockade of offending Chin Tribes.

PROGRESS AND CONDITION OF INDIA, 1895-96.

CHAPTER II.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT, MUNICIPALITIES, AND SANITATION.

IN every province of India a great deal of local business is done, considerable funds are raised and spent, and valuable service to the public is performed, by local bodies, which are constituted and exercise their functions under different enactments. Municipal committees exist in most towns of the Indian Empire, and have charge of municipal business generally, including the care and superintendence of streets, roads, water supply, education, and hospitals. The number of such committees in each province is given in the body of this chapter. Local and district boards have charge of local roads, sanitary works, schools, hospitals, and dispensaries in rural districts. Bodies of port trustees have charge of harbour works, port approaches, and pilotage. There are, besides, less numerous local bodies discharging similar duties in towns other than constituted municipalities, and in cantonments. The importance of the work of local administration performed by these various authorities is best shown by a statement of the funds at their disposal. The income of the municipalities for 1895-96, apart from loans obtained for special works, was Rx. 3,868,000. The sources of this income and the yield of each source are shown in the table on the last page of this chapter. The revenue enjoyed by the local and district boards during the year was, approximately, Rx. 3,100,000, inclusive of grants and transfers from provincial revenues; the local rates levied on land, "for expenditure on roads, schools, hospitals; and general purposes," gave a gross yield of about Rx.2,200,000; and among other sources of income belonging to the local boards are tolls on ferries and roads, school fees, the rent of corporate property, and the grants made by Government for educational and medical purposes.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT, MUNICIPALITIES, AND SANITATION.

The income of the port funds, under the management of port trustees and local bodies, exclusive of loans, amounted in 1895-96 to Rx. 1,672,000.

The revenue of cantonment funds amounted to Rx. 214,000; that of town and bazaar funds came to Rx. 94,000; that of miscellaneous funds was Rx. 164,000.

Thus, the revenue from all sources managed by the various local bodies amounted in 1895-96 to about Rx. 9,112,000; of which total about one third is shown in the Accounts of the Government of India and in the financial section of this Statement.

MUNICIPALITIES.

Throughout India the cities and larger towns manage their own local affairs through the agency of commissioners or committees appointed from among the citizens. The municipal bodies exist, raise funds, and exercise powers under enactments which provide separately for the special requirements of each province, and of the three Presidency capitals, Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras. In most places the majority of the commissioners or committees are elected by the townfolk under legal rules, but in every town some, and in a few minor towns all the members, are appointed by the Government; in almost every municipal body one or more Government officials sit as members; the number of Indian and non-official members, however, everywhere exceeds the number of Europeans and officials. The municipal bodies are subject to the control of the Government in so far that no new tax can be imposed, no loan can be raised, no work costing more than a prescribed sum can be undertaken, and no serious departure from the sanctioned budget for the year can be made, without the previous sanction of the Government; and no rules or bye-laws can be enforced without similar sanction and full publication.

MUNICIPALITIES. General.

The sources of municipal revenue are mainly—

House tax,	Water rates,
Tax on rent,	Conservancy rates,
Octroi duties,	Rents of public lands and properties,
Bazaar or market rents,	Public gardens and parks.
Carriage tax,	

The objects on which municipal funds can be spent are, mainly, water supply, hospitals and dispensaries, streets and roads, vaccination, drainage, sanitation, and

6 STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

MUNICIPALITIES. and education. Municipalities do more for the benefit of their citizens under these heads than was done before by Government officers; and the commissioners or committees generally evince diligence and public spirit in the performance of their honorary duties. The interest in the municipal elections, and in municipal affairs generally, is not keen save in a few cities and large towns; but, as education and knowledge advance, interest in the management of local affairs gradually increases. It is reported from most provinces that municipal work is fairly well done, and municipal responsibilities are, on the whole, faithfully discharged, though occasional shortcomings and failures occur in particular towns. The tendency of these local bodies is to be slow in imposing additional taxes and in incurring new expenditure. Many members of municipal bodies are diligent in their attendance to work, whether at meetings for business or on benches for decision of petty criminal cases.

Municipal progress, 1883 to 1895. In October 1896 the Government of India published a review of the progress made in municipal affairs during the nine years 1886-95. In the year 1883, when the elective system was introduced, larger powers were given to municipal bodies. The review relates to municipalities in the interior only, and did not include the seaport towns of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and Rangoon, or the towns of Upper Burma. In 1883-85 new municipal Acts were passed for most provinces, and some of those Acts have since been further modified. The suburban municipalities have been merged into the city of Calcutta, and there are now 733 municipalities in all, as compared with 747 in the year 1886-87. The decrease was confined to the Punjab and the Central Provinces, where 47 small towns, or large villages, ceased to be treated as municipalities; elsewhere the number of municipalities has increased gradually, the largest increase, 13 new municipalities, was in Bombay, in which province municipalities are most numerous, both absolutely and in proportion to the population. The population in municipal towns has increased from 12,154,000 to 13,299,000; the increase would have been larger if the suburban municipalities had not been absorbed into Calcutta.

The municipal income of these cities or towns has increased during the nine years from Rx. 1,595,000 to Rx. 2,489,000, or 56 per cent., while the income from taxation only has risen from Rx. 1,070,000 to Rx. 1,447,000, or 35 per cent. The incidence of municipal taxation has risen from Rs. 0-14-1 to Rs. 1-1-5 per head of the population; the rate is highest in the Punjab, where it is Rs. 1-6-6 per head, and lowest in Bengal, where it is Rs. 0-13-0 per head of the population. The largest increase in any item of taxation during the past 14 years was a rise of 121 per cent. in the conservancy cess of Bengal towns. The loan receipts of 1886-87 were Rx. 40,000, while in 1894-95 they were Rx. 285,000; the increase was due to the impulse recently given to the construction of waterworks in the larger towns. In the Punjab, Bombay, the North-West Provinces, and the Central Provinces a large proportion of the municipal revenue is derived from octroi duties, but careful precautions are taken to prevent these duties degenerating into transit duties in restraint of commerce. The grants made from provincial funds (that is from the general revenues) in aid of municipalities have risen from Rx. 116,000 to Rx. 145,000, while at the same time towns have in most provinces been relieved from the obligation of paying for their police.

The total expenditure of municipalities in the interior has risen from Rx. 1,575,000 to Rx. 2,379,000 in the nine years. The outlay on general administration and the collection of revenue has kept fairly constant in all provinces at 9 to 10 per cent. on the total income, which is held by the Government of India to be moderate, and to be a sign that expenditure on municipal establishments is not improvident. The annual expenditure under some of the more important heads has increased as follows:—

	In the Nine Years	
	from Rx. 103,000	to Rx. 170,000
On hospitals and vaccination	- - -	42,000
On water supply	- - -	85,000
On conservancy	- - -	303,000
On markets and slaughter-houses	- - -	423,000
On education	- - -	8,000
On roads, streets, and other works	- - -	37,000
On interest on municipal debt	- - -	162,000
On repayment of debt	- - -	366,000
		617,000
		24,000
		66,000
		21,000
		48,000

The

The committees or governing bodies of municipalities consist of 9,981 MUNICIPALITIES members, divided thus :—

Elected by ratepayers - 5,214	Non-officials - 7,789	Indians and other Asiatics - 8,949
Nominated - - - 4,767	Officials - - 2,192	European and Eurasians - 1,032

The Calcutta Municipality consists of 75 commissioners, of whom 50 are elected and 25 nominated. A general election of 50 members had been held in March 1895; in 10 out of the 25 wards the candidates were returned unopposed; in the 15 wards where contests took place 70 per cent. of the registered electors recorded their votes, as compared with 53 per cent. and 42 per cent. at the two previous general elections. Of the 50 commissioners elected, 36 had been members of the last corporation, and of the other 14 two had served on former occasions. The constitution of the corporation, as regards the race and profession of its members, is practically the same as before. The executive consists of a general committee of 18, seven standing committees, and a number of special committees, which are appointed as occasion arises. The various committees held 215 meetings during the year, as compared with 183 in the previous year, at which the average attendance of elected commissioners was 58 per cent., or 3 per cent. more than in 1894-95. The income of the municipality during the year was Rx. 467,000, or 3 per cent. larger than in 1894-95; the chief items being rates, Rx. 358,000, and taxes on professions, &c., Rx. 55,000. The overdue balance of the rates at the end of the year was Rx. 61,000; a sum of Rx. 211,000 was remitted, or cancelled out of the demand of the year. The expenditure of the year out of revenue was Rx. 483,000, besides Rx. 177,500 of loan money spent on permanent improvements. The total debt of the city is Rx. 2,386,000, against which may be set reserve fund investments of Rx. 156,000; a fresh loan of Rx. 180,000 was contracted during the year. The charge for interest on loans was Rx. 54,600, besides Rx. 21,600 set apart during the year for the repayment of loans; the Calcutta municipal stock commands a high price in the market.

Bengal.
Calcutta.

Among the more important matters that came before the Calcutta Municipality during the year were the new drainage scheme, which was sanctioned and begun, and the improvement of the "bustees," or clusters of huts. The cost of the new arterial street, which has been finally completed, amounts to Rx. 274,000. The expenditure on filling up unwholesome tanks in the city and suburbs was Rx. 3,000; this outlay was smaller than the similar expenditure of 1894-95, which was considered by the Government to be much below the requirements of the case. The average daily supply of filtered water during the year was 20½ million gallons, or an increase of 12 million gallons in the average daily supply since 1885-86, the daily supply of unfiltered water for street cleaning purposes was 5½ million gallons, as compared with 1¾ million gallons in 1885-86. Four outlying towns, namely, Barrackpore, Dumdum, Maniktola, and Cossipur-Chitpore, are connected with the Calcutta supply and received 546,000 gallons of filtered water daily. The death rate rose from 33 to 39½ per thousand, and was the highest death rate Calcutta has known for the last 30 years; the increased mortality, principally from fevers, which alone caused a death-rate of 27 per thousand, was attributed to the bad condition of the drains, and to the insanitary state of dwelling-houses. After the close of the year the Government appointed a Commission to report upon the sanitary condition of Calcutta, and on receipt of a report by the Commission peremptorily called upon the municipality to take steps for improving the sanitary condition of the city, and to enforce the law against insanitary dwellings.

In the interior of Bengal there were 146 municipalities, as in the previous year. The population living within municipal limits was 2,705,000 persons, or 3½ per cent. of the whole population of Bengal, excluding Calcutta. The number of ratepayers entitled to vote at municipal elections was 456,000, or one in six of the municipal population. The municipalities varied in size, from Patna with 168,000, to Nalchiti with 1,665 inhabitants; the majority, however, had populations of between 5,000 and 15,000 inhabitants. In 118 of the 146 municipalities two-thirds of the commissioners are elected by the ratepayers; in the rest the government, in consequence either of the backwardness of the locality or of the intensity of party feeling, exercises the power of nomination. General elections under the present law took place in two towns

Bengal.
Interior of
province.

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during the year, and 57 bye-elections were held. In 15 cases only were the elections contested, and in four places the constituents failed to elect the full number of representatives. The attendance of voters at contested elections ranged from 79 to 10 per cent. of the registered electors. Of the 2,126 commissioners there were 1,170 elected and 966 nominated, 367 officials and 1,759 non-officials, 1,935 Indians, and 191 Europeans. Among the non-official commissioners were included 526 landholders, 477 pleaders and law agents, 244 merchants and money-lenders, 94 private schoolmasters, and 88 medical practitioners.

The number of meetings held during the year was 2,665, against 2,663 in the preceding year. The attendance at meetings fell off; in 75 towns, as compared with 96 in the previous year, the attendance was, on the average, more than 50 per cent. of the members. The average incidence of municipal taxation rose from 13½ to 14 annas per head of the population; and ranged from 4½ rupees in Darjeeling to 3 annas in a small town of the Midnapur district; in 37 towns the incidence exceeded one rupee per head; in 53 towns the incidence was less than half a rupee (7½ pence) per head. Exclusive of loans and extraordinary receipts, the total income was Rx. 297,000, of which Rx. 239,000 came from municipal taxation; and Rx. 90,200 were borrowed during the year. The total expenditure was Rx. 413,200. The chief heads of outlay were: public safety (fire establishments, lighting, police, &c.), Rx. 18,700; water supply and drainage, Rx. 114,600; conservancy, Rx. 89,400; hospitals, dispensaries, and vaccination, Rx. 32,300; streets and roads, Rx. 50,300. The chief water supply works of the year were at Howrah, Cossipur, Maniktola, Berhampore, Darjeeling, Kurseong, and Faridpur. Schemes for water supply to other towns are under discussion. Many other towns are in great need of improvement in the water supply. The late Lieutenant Governor, at the end of his five years' tenure of office, said, "that many permanent improvements had been made, and the whole of administration had been raised in municipal towns of Bengal; * * * that municipal administration in Bengal is on the whole creditably carried on, and that there is a tendency to improvement in the efficiency with which municipal funds are expended for the public good; that municipal commissioners had considerable aptitude for deliberation and * * * discussion, but their difficulties begin when decisions * * * have to be carried out in detail." The present Lieutenant Governor has recorded that he agrees generally with his predecessor on these matters.

North-West
Provinces and
Oudh.

The number of municipalities in the North-West Provinces and Oudh was 103, being the same as in the previous year. In all but six of these towns the majority of the members of municipal boards are elected by the ratepayers, who amount to nearly 2 per cent. of the municipal population of 3,265,042. In seven towns the population exceeds 100,000 souls. There were 437 elections held in 66 municipalities during the year, the proportion of the electorate that went to the poll ranged from 7 to 80 per cent. In 97 towns the municipal boards elected their own chairman, and in six cases they chose non-officials. The total number of municipal members was 1,597, divided thus:—

Elected	-	-	1,257	Non-officials	-	1,288	Indians	-	-	1,413
Nominated	-	-	340	Officials	-	309	Europeans	-	-	184

Each municipality, held on the average, 22·5 general meetings in the year: 14 held 30 meetings or upwards, and two held less than the prescribed minimum of 12 meetings in the year. For all the municipalities of the province the average attendance of members at each meeting was 57 per cent.; in five towns the average attendance at each meeting exceeded 70 per cent., and in one it fell as low as 37 per cent. of the total members. In respect of number of meetings and attendance the year's results were much better than those of 1894.

The chief source of municipal taxation was the octroi duty, which is in force in 83 towns, and yielded a net income of Rx. 277,000; while other taxes yielded Rx. 62,000; Rx. 73,400 accrued from rents and miscellaneous sources. The incidence of income from taxation was 1 rupee and $\frac{1}{4}$ per head of the municipal population. The highest incidence was 5 rupees a head at the hill station of Mussoorie; and the highest incidence at any town in the plains was Rs. 1-15-0 (nearly 2 rupees) at Cawnpore. The total municipal income of the

the year was Rx. 420,000, besides Rx. 130,000 borrowed for works of water supply and drainage. Of the expenditure 51 per cent. was devoted to conservancy, hospitals, water supply, drainage, streets, roads, public works, and other objects for promoting the public health and convenience; 3 per cent. was spent on education, 14 per cent. on police, lighting, and fire establishments. The outlay on water supply was Rx. 83,000, on drainage Rx. 34,000, and on conservancy Rx. 90,000.

The towns which spent most on water supply and drainage during the year were Cawnpore, Rx. 32,700; Benares, Rx. 28,300; Lucknow, Rx. 22,200; Agra, Rx. 8,600.

In Agra, the daily supply of filtered water was 947,000 gallons, or 28 per cent. more than in the previous year, while the cost per 1,000 gallons fell 20 per cent.; surface drainage was improved, and the filtered water supply was extended to parts of the city not previously served. In Allahabad, the filtered water daily supply was raised 24 per cent.; the cost per 1,000 gallons was two annas, or about the same as at Agra; in consequence of the increased demand the supply of water for irrigating fields has been stopped. In Benares the daily average supply of filtered water rose from 4.3 gallons to 6.25 gallons per head; the cost of the supply did not increase. In Cawnpore the supply was 5.3 gallons per head, at a cost of three annas per 1,000 gallons. In Lucknow there are 32 miles of piping for the water supply. The only large sewerage works in progress were at Benares and Cawnpore, where much work was done during the year. Water supply schemes have either been undertaken or are under discussion for Meerut, Fyzabad, Bareilly, Farakhabad, and Hurdwar. The local government report that "the water supply schemes have necessitated a large increase of taxation in the cities; but there seems no cause for apprehension as to the adequacy of municipal income to meet the cost of the works, except at Benares," where special relief is being given. The Government add that "the working of the municipal boards has been generally satisfactory, and the year has been, on the whole, one of steady progress and careful administration."

The number of municipalities in the Punjab was, as in the previous year, 149 in all, containing a population of 2,082,593, besides six small towns, which had a modified form of municipal administration without being constituted as municipalities. On 110 municipal committees, two-thirds or more of the members are chosen by the ratepayers; in 38 all the members are nominated; in one town the municipal fund was administered by the district officer. The total number of members on all the committees was 1,669, divided thus:—

Non-official	-	-	-	-	1,346	Indians	-	-	-	-	1,545
Official	-	-	-	-	323	Europeans or Eurasians	-	-	-	-	124
Elected	-	-	-	-	803	Nominated and <i>ex-officio</i>	-	-	-	-	866

The number of vacancies to be filled during the year was 271, of which 161 were filled after contested elections; in only a few towns were elections keenly contested; the number of electors appearing at the polls rarely reached 50 per cent. of the constituents. In six or seven cases complaint was made of bribery or other irregularity at the elections.

Eight municipal committees held more than 30 meetings a-piece during the year, and 45 committees failed to hold the prescribed minimum of 12 meetings. The general working of the committees throughout the province is reported to be satisfactory; but in several cases the proceedings of committees have evoked severe censure from local officers. The Amritsar committee is said to do its work zealously and usefully.

The chief municipal tax was the octroi, which yielded Rx. 294,000, while the other taxes produced Rx. 24,700; the incidence of the total revenue from taxation was 1.44 rupees per head of the population. The total municipal income of the year from all sources was Rx. 441,000, of which Rx. 9,500 was from loans. The expenditure was Rx. 428,000, out of which Rx. 15,000 were spent on water supply, Rx. 16,000 on drainage, Rx. 53,000 on conservancy, Rx. 38,000 on hospitals and vaccination, Rx. 29,000 on streets and roads, Rx. 59,000 on schools, &c., Rx. 16,000 on interest, and Rx. 14,000 on repayment of loans, and Rx. 63,000 on police, fire-engines and street lighting. Waterworks were being constructed or extended at Delhi, Ambala, Kohat, Dalhousie,

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Peshawur, and Rawalpindi; the Ambala, Kohat, and Dalhousie works were completed during the year. Large drainage and sewage schemes were in progress at Delhi and Simla.

Burma.
Rangoon.

The town of Rangoon contains a population of 203,000, and its municipal affairs are managed by a committee, composed of 18 elected and six nominated members, with a salaried president. No elections took place during the year. Sixteen of the members were Europeans or Eurasians, and eight were Asiatics; 21 were non-officials, and four, including the president, were officials. Fifteen general meetings and 56 sub-committee meetings were held during the year; the attendance at the general meetings averaged 57 per cent. of the whole strength. The income of the municipality was Rx. 265,000, out of which Rx. 110,000 accrued from rates (general, water, lighting, and scavenging) on houses and lands; Rx. 69,000 from the proceeds and rents of municipal properties; and Rx. 62,800 from contributions from provincial and local funds. No loan was raised during the year, but Rx. 8,500 of securities were sold out to meet part of a loan repayment that fell due. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rx. 294,000, of which Rx. 38,000 were spent on waterworks, Rx. 37,900 on conservancy, Rx. 13,800 on hospitals and vaccination, Rx. 28,300 on streets and roads, Rx. 22,800 on reclamation of swamps, Rx. 5,900 on education, and Rx. 55,500 on the interest (Rx. 22,900) and repayment (Rx. 32,600) of loans. The net outstanding debt of the municipality at the end of the year was Rx. 367,000. The chief new work of the year was the reclamation of swamps; proposals for large new waterworks were under discussion. The pneumatic sewage system worked well during the year, and the sections of the town supplied with this form of drainage show a death-rate of 23½ per mille, as compared with 31½ in other sections of the town. The town birth-rate was 18½ per mille, or somewhat higher than in the preceding year; the death-rate was 28·5 per mille, against 35·3 in the preceding year for the whole town.

Burma.
Interior of
Province.

The number of municipalities in Burma outside Rangoon was 41, as in the previous year, and they contained a total population of 635,000. In 11 of these towns a majority of the municipal members are elected by the ratepayers, in the remaining towns all the members hold their position either *ex-officio* or by nomination. The decision in the case of each municipality, as to whether the method of election or that of nomination shall be adopted, rests with the local government. There are in all 512 members on the several municipal committees, divided thus:—

Elected - - -	93	Non-officials - - -	327	Asiatics - - -	375
<i>Ex-officio</i> and	419	Officials - - -	185	Europeans - - -	137
nominated.					

In the Henzada elections only was there a hot contest between rival Burmese candidates; elsewhere the elections aroused little or no interest. Two towns held less than 11 meetings in the year; the average attendance at each meeting ranged from 39 to 92 per cent. of the members; in three towns only was the average attendance below half the total strength of the committee.

The chief sources of municipal taxation are the rates on the annual value of houses and lands, yielding Rx. 42,000 out of a total income from taxation of Rx. 63,400; ferry tolls yielded Rx. 7,900, and conservancy rates Rx. 5,500. The other chief sources of municipal revenue were municipal property, chiefly bazaar rents, Rx. 101,500, provincial and other grants and contributions Rx. 4,200. The total income of the year, apart from loans and debt account, was Rx. 187,500. The total expenditure of the year was Rx. 185,100, of which the chief items were Rx. 32,600 on conservancy; Rx. 17,000 on hospitals and dispensaries; Rx. 19,700 on markets and slaughter-houses; Rx. 33,000 on streets and roads; Rx. 7,400 on education; and Rx. 2,000 on water supply. Outside Rangoon, Mandalay, Moulmein, Bassein, and Prome are the only towns in Burma that have a municipal income of over Rx. 10,000. The average incidence of municipal taxation outside Rangoon was 18½ annas a head in Lower and 13½ annas per head in Upper Burma. Rx. 2,300 were borrowed by three towns during the year; Rx. 4,100 were repaid towards outstanding loans, and the interest due on all loans during the year was Rx. 1,300. Besides municipalities there are eight other places in Lower
Burma

Burma where town funds are raised, the amount during the year being **MUNICIPALITIES.** Rx. 10,000, and are managed by committees nominated from among the townfolk.

The number of municipalities in the Central Provinces was 53, as in the **Central Provinces.** preceding year. A majority of the members of all committees, except that at the hill resort of Pachmarhi, are elected; out of 615 members on all committees, 445 were elected, and 170 were nominated, or *ex-officio*; 139 were officials, and 476 non-officials; 53 were Europeans, and 562 were Natives of India. There were general elections in several districts and bye elections in others; little interest seems to have been taken in elections by the people of the larger towns, while in the smaller towns the interest was keener and the attendance at the polls was often good. The total municipal receipts of the year were Rx. 142,000, of which Rx. 73,300 accrued from octroi duties, and Rx. 8,800 from loans. The total income, apart from loans, was Rx. 3,000 below similar receipts in the previous year; the decrease is, as in the previous year, attributed to scarcity and bad times. The total municipal expenditure was Rx. 157,200, or Rx. 7,300 less than in the preceding year. The expenditure on waterworks was Rx. 23,000, or Rx. 7,400 more than in 1894-95, owing to the Khundwa water works; on conservancy Rx. 25,900; on schools and colleges Rx. 13,300; on streets and roads Rx. 9,800; and on dispensaries, hospitals, and vaccination, Rx. 7,900. The total outstanding debts of all towns was Rx. 123,500.

When reviewing the work of the municipalities, the local authorities commend generally the work done by the Municipal Committees in most towns: the conduct of the Committees of Bilaspore, Damoh, and six other towns is censured. The local government say that the general "improvement in municipal administration is continuous; . . . much public spirit is shown by unofficial gentlemen who devote time and trouble to municipal affairs."

The number of municipal bodies in Assam was 14, as in the preceding **Assam.** year; of these, three were first-class, and six were second-class municipalities, two were stations, and three were unions. In only one town, Sylhet, does the population exceed 10,000; in six of the larger places the majority of the members are elected. In all the 14 towns the members are divided thus: nominated 92, elected 53, total 145, of whom 93 were non-officials and 52 officials, 115 were Natives of India and 30 Europeans. General elections took place at Silchar, besides seven bye-elections; the proportion of registered voters attending the polls at Silchar was 22 per cent. of the electorate. The total income of the 14 towns increased from Rx. 19,200 to Rx. 23,600, of which Rx. 10,900 accrued from taxation. The two chief items of taxation were Rx. 5,100 from rates on houses and lands, and Rx. 2,500 from tolls on roads and ferries. Among the other receipts, the larger items were Rx. 3,800 from grants by the Provincial Government, and Rx. 3,100 from markets and slaughter-houses. The incidence of municipal taxation was 14 rupees per head of the population. The total expenditure was Rx. 22,900, of which the chief items were Rx. 6,800 on conservancy and drainage; Rx. 3,600 on water supply, and Rx. 5,500 on roads, markets, and buildings.

For the municipality of Madras there are 33 members, of whom **Madras.** 24 are elected by 5,342 ratepayers. There were during the year seven **Madras City.** vacancies, of which three were contested; at these three an average of 21 per cent. of the registered electors recorded their votes. The names on the roll of qualified voters represent 1.18 per cent. of the total inhabitants of the city. At 32 meetings of the Commissioners the average attendance of members was 21, or 63 per cent. of the total number of members; nine members attended less than 12 meetings during the year; and two members lost their seats by absenting themselves from three consecutive general meetings. The total income of the year, apart from loans and Government contributions, was Rx. 128,000, or Rx. 500 more than in the preceding year; of the year's total, Rx. 95,000 accrued from taxation, which fell on the population at the rate of 2.11 rupees per head; the principal tax is one of 10 per cent. on houses and lands. No new tax was imposed during the year. The Government contributions increased from Rx. 3,500 to Rx. 38,300, which included special grants of Rx. 20,000 towards the new drainage scheme,

MUNICIPALITIES.

Rx. 10,000 towards the cost of incineration, and Rx. 5,000 towards the cost of conservancy carts. Rx. 43,200 were borrowed during the year for water-works, as compared with Rx. 3,500 borrowed in the previous year. The total expenditure came to Rx. 178,700, of which Rx. 69,200 were spent on water supply and drainage; Rx. 32,600 on hospitals, sanitation and conservancy; Rx. 21,700 on streets, roads, and other public works; and Rx. 17,600 on the interest for and repayment of debt. The chief undertakings of the year were the extension of the water supply, and the new drainage works. The quantity of water supplied was 18 per cent. more than in 1894-95. Water from the Red Hills Lake, the present source of supply for the municipality, continues to be pronounced by the analyst to be "bad." The registered municipal death-rate was 37.6 per mille, against 36.5 in 1894, and 46 in 1892. The mean of the previous decade was 38.7. Food prices were cheaper than in the previous year. The outstanding debt of the municipality amounts to Rx. 327,000, against which must be set the sinking fund, which now amounts to Rx. 109,000. The payments to the sinking fund during the year were Rx. 6,400, and the charge for interest was Rx. 14,400.

Interior of the Madras Presidency.

The number of municipalities in the interior of Madras was 56, as in the previous year. The councils were partly elective in 34 of these towns, 3 per cent. of the population being registered as voters. In 33 towns the councillors elected their own chairman, and in only five cases did they choose an official. The average attendance of councillors at meetings was 56 per cent., somewhat larger than in the previous year. There are 908 municipal councillors in all, divided thus:—

Elected	-	395	Non-officials	-	701	Indians	-	753
Nominated	-	513	Officials	-	207	Europeans and		
						Eurasians	-	155

There was an increase of 2½ per cent. in the total municipal income, which came to Rx. 278,000; of this, Rx. 149,000 came from taxation, the chief items being Rx. 71,000 from rates on lands and houses, Rx. 36,800 from tolls; and the average incidence of taxation was 14½ annas per head of the population. The chief sources of miscellaneous receipts were fees and revenue from markets and slaughter-houses, Rx. 16,600, and grants from Government, local funds, and other sources, Rx. 48,600. The total expenditure of the year was Rx. 255,600, of which the chief items were public works, Rx. 78,300, including drainage and water supply, Rx. 34,500; education, Rx. 32,400; medical services and sanitation, Rx. 79,800, including Rx. 51,300 spent on conservancy; lighting and miscellaneous purposes, Rx. 21,600. The outstanding public debt of all municipalities was Rx. 102,000, after deducting moneys at credit of the various sinking funds; loans raised during the year amounted to Rx. 19,000. Water supply schemes were completed during the year at the towns of Adoni and Tanjore, and were in progress at the towns of Conjeveram, Dindigul, Kurnool, and Trichinopoly.

Bombay. Bombay City.

The Municipality of Bombay is administered by a committee consisting of 72 members, of whom 16 are nominated by the Government, 36 are elected by the ratepayers, 16 by the justices, 2 by the Chamber of Commerce, and 2 by the University. Seventeen of the members were Europeans, and the rest were Indians; among the latter 16 were Hindoos, 24 were Parsees, and 12 were Mahomadans.

The total income of the municipality, exclusive of loans, was Rx. 674,000, or Rx. 22,000 more than in the previous year; of this total, Rx. 521,000 accrued from municipal taxation and market receipts, the balance being contributions from Government and receipts from other property. The chief items of revenue were the general tax, which yielded Rx. 187,000, the water tax, which yielded Rx. 144,000, and the town duties, which yielded Rx. 91,000. Under each of these items the receipts showed an advance over those of the previous year. No new tax was imposed, and no rate was enhanced during the year. The taxation revenue falls at the rate of 6.33 rupees per head of the population. The total expenditure of the year came to Rx. 779,000, of which Rx. 108,000 were from borrowed money. The chief items of outlay from current revenue were Rx. 138,000 on the public health department, Rx. 173,000 on streets and other public works, and Rx. 212,000 on the interest and

and sinking fund of the city debt. The expenditure from loan funds consisted of Rx. 108,000, of which the largest item was Rx. 58,000 for sewerage works. The quantity of water in the storage lakes was abundant. The quality of the water supplied to the city was good, except in the month of April, when the water from the Vihar lake was "most impure." Additional filtration is under discussion. The death-rate of the year in Bombay was 30.52 per mile, against 33.25 in the previous year, and 30.64 the average of five years. The outstanding debt of the city at the end of the year was Rx. 3,802,000, against which may be set Rx. 596,000 invested in behalf of sinking and other funds belonging to the municipality.

The total number of municipalities in the interior of Bombay was 170, or one less than in the previous year. The population within municipal limits was 2,247,000, besides the population of Bombay city. The total number of municipal commissioners in these towns was 2,380.

The constitution of the committees was much the same as in the preceding year, namely :

Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.	
Elected	- 38	Officials	- 23	Asiatics	- 92
Nominated	- 62	Non-officials	- 77	Europeans	- 8

Everywhere the requisite number of meetings was held ; and in many towns the number of meetings was considerable ; Ahmedabad again headed the list with 78 meetings in the year. Nearly everywhere the average attendance of members exceeded one-half the total strength of the committee. The income of the municipalities, excluding loans, was Rx. 536,000, as compared with Rx. 509,000 in the preceding year. The incidence of municipal taxation ranged from 15½ annas per head in the southern division to 24 annas per head of the municipal population in the central division. Rx. 235,000 of the taxation was raised by octroi duties, and Rx. 152,000 by other taxes. The only changes of taxation were the imposition of octroi duties on fresh articles in two towns, the relief of articles from octroi duties in other towns, and the imposition of tolls in Sukkur town. The total expenditure was Rx. 573,000. The outlay on public health and convenience rose from Rx. 270,000 to Rx. 306,000. Among important sanitary works undertaken or prosecuted during the year were the drainage and water supply of Karachi and Sukkur : the Karachi drainage works were completed during the year, and the Sukkur waterworks were opened in December 1895. At Kotri and Hyderabad protective works against inundations and for the discharge of storm waters were constructed. Water supply works and improvements were prosecuted during the year at Kurla, Ahmedabad, Surat, Bandra, Thana, Dhuliá, Húblí, and Byadgi ; while similar works were under discussion for Kaira, Borsad, Dakor, Broach, Kalyan, Ahmednagar, Malegaon, Nasik, and Yeola. Drainage works were being prosecuted at Ahmedabad, Nadiad, Nasik, Poona, Pandharpur, Belgaum, and Gadag.

The number of municipalities in Berar was 12, or one more than in the previous year, and in eight of these towns the majority of the municipal committees are elected by the ratepayers.

There were altogether 181 members of these committees, divided thus :

Elected	- 99	Non-officials	- 118	Asiatics	- 154
Nominated	- 82	Officials	- 63	Europeans	- 27

The proportion of municipal electors to the total population of the town ranges from half per cent. in Amraoti to 2½ per cent. in Basim. In eight municipalities there occurred 41 vacancies, for which 124 candidates presented themselves. Out of 5,931 registered voters, 1,377, or 23 per cent. of the electors, recorded their votes ; and the proportion of voters going to the poll ranged from 10 to 31 per cent. in the different towns ; the proportion was again smallest in Amraoti, the largest town of the province. Only one committee held less than 12 meetings during the year, and nine committees held more than 20 meetings ; the average proportion of members present at a meeting was generally somewhat below half. The total income of the municipalities was Rx. 24,600, of which Rx. 5,600 accrued from markets, Rx. 4,800 from taxes on trades and professions, Rx. 1,400 from water-rates, Rx. 1,900 from conservancy

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MUNICIPALITIES.

servancy tax, and Rx. 2,900 from municipal property and institutions. Municipal income, apart from loans and grants, ranged from 11 annas in Basim to 24 rupees per head of the population in Buldana. Taxation, apart from other income, ranged from 3½ annas per head in Shegaon to 27 annas per head of the population in Buldana. The total expenditure was Rx. 25,200, of which Rx. 1,800 were spent on water supply, Rx. 18,100 on public health and convenience, Rx. 1,200 on public safety, Rx. 1,700 on public instruction, Rx. 1,800 on repayment of loans, and Rx. 1,900 on administration and collection charges. Nine out of the 12 municipalities contribute towards schools or colleges, and six towards libraries; six spent money on fire establishments, and only five spent more than Rx. 100 on water supply.

DISTRICT BOARDS.

DISTRICT BOARDS.
General.

The constitution of district boards with precise powers and responsibilities under the law took place more recently than the creation of municipalities; but in most provinces district committees had for many years given assistance or exercised control in the administration of local roads, local hospitals, and local schools. In all the more advanced provinces district boards are now constituted under different enactments. In Madras, the boards have the power of proposing local taxation, and in Bengal they are empowered to decide at what rate, within the legal maximum, the road cess shall be levied in each district; but for the most part the district boards do not possess powers of taxation; they administer funds, or the yield of specific imposts, made over to them for expenditure on roads, schools, hospitals, and sanitation, within their jurisdiction. In most provinces the district boards delegate much of their detailed work to sub-divisional, or minor boards, which are constituted under the law, and are responsible for subdivisions or parts of a district.

Bengal.

In Bengal there were 38 district boards and 103 local boards, as in the previous year. On the district boards were 794 members, of whom 328 were elected by the local boards; on the local boards were 1,231 members, of whom 433 were elected. Out of the total number of 2,025 members, 1,631 were non-officials and 1,713 were Indians. On the district local board sat 872 landholders, or their agents, and 497 lawyers; these two classes thus composed 84 per cent. of the non-official members. During the year no general elections for these boards were held; a few bye-elections occurred, most of which were uncontested. In the year 1895-96 each district board held on the average 15½ meetings; no board held more than 21, and two districts only held less than 12; the average attendance at each meeting was over 10 members, or rather more than in the preceding year. The local boards held on the average 11½ meetings apiece, at which the average attendance was 5.0 members, or 41 per cent. of the full strength, which showed less regularity than in 1894-95. The number of meetings that had to be adjourned for lack of a quorum was smaller than last year for district, and considerably larger in the case of local boards.

The Bengal boards enjoyed during the year an income of Rx. 677,000, of which the largest items were road cess, Rx. 368,000; contributions from provincial funds, Rx. 51,000; cattle pound fees, Rx. 41,600; and receipts from ferries and other similar sources, Rx. 109,000; and loans, Rx. 80,800. The expenditure of the year was Rx. 709,700, of which the chief items were roads, bridges, and waterways, Rx. 447,000; education, Rx. 122,700; hospitals, &c., Rx. 19,300. The expenditure on sanitary improvements rose from Rx. 8,600 to Rx. 9,900, of which Rx. 6,600 were spent on water supply.

Respecting the work of the boards, the Local Government expressed its general concurrence in the opinions of the late Lieutenant Governor, who, at the end of a five years' tenure of office, said the district boards were "a valuable agency for assisting the executive of the districts with information as to local wants and conditions, and advice in the manifold details of internal district administration. The boards represent * * * * the chief interests of the district, and the questions * * * * before them are important enough to arouse their interest, while * * * the officer who wields the
"executive

“ executive power in the district gives effect to their decisions. With the local boards it is different. It has hitherto been impossible to * * * give them work of sufficient importance to enlist their interest keenly.”

DISTRICT BOARDS.

In the absence of a more recent report for the North-West Provinces and Oudh, the paragraphs relating to local boards are reproduced from last year's Statement, which showed four district committees and 44 district boards. The boards consisted of 1,481 members, who were divided as follows:—

North-West Provinces and Oudh.

Elected - - -	1,218	Indians - - -	1,417
Nominated - - -	263	Europeans - - -	64

The committees consist of 82 members, who are divided as follows:—

Nominated - - -	53	Indians - - -	63
<i>Ex-officio</i> - - -	29	Europeans - - -	19

The total expenditure of the boards and committees during the year was Rx. 379,000. The normal income of Rx. 250,000 (of which Rx. 189,000 came from local rates) was supplemented by contributions from provincial and other revenues of Rx. 136,000.

The district boards held on an average 13 meetings each, and the district committees 7 meetings each. Both on the boards and on the committees the average attendance at meetings was poor; at the boards it was less than 33 per cent. of the members, and at the committees less than 35 per cent.

The administration of the boards and committees during the year was reported to be satisfactory so far as hospitals, vaccination, roads, and arboriculture were concerned. Little encouragement was given by the boards to schools and education. Many works of public utility were constructed by private liberality under the auspices of the boards. In many districts roads and bridges had been injured by the floods of a previous year, and considerable sums were devoted to making good these losses. In several districts members of boards devoted much attention to testing and improving the registration of vital statistics.

In every district of the Punjab, except Simla, there was a district board constituted under Act XX of 1883; and in most districts there were subordinate local boards acting under the district boards. In 12 districts, most of which are situate on or near the frontier, the district boards are composed entirely of nominated members, and in the other 18 the members are in part nominated or *ex officio*, and in part are elected delegates from the local boards. Of the 69 local boards 12 are filled up wholly by nomination, and 57 partly by nomination and partly by election. Out of a total of 2,552 members the number of elected members in the whole province was 1,212, and of nominated members 1,340. The number of non-officials on the boards was 2,211, and the officials were 341. Elections to the local boards were held in 12 districts during the year; out of 321 vacant seats, concerning which returns are given, 31 were contested; and on 10 occasions only was serious interest taken in the elections; on six of these occasions 64 per cent., and on two occasions 84 per cent. of the registered electors voted at the polls. Eight out of the 30 district boards held less than four meetings during the year, which is the minimum number of meetings required by the rules; in 19 districts the average attendance at meetings of the district boards was more than half the number of members. Of the 69 local boards only 32 held the prescribed number of six or more meetings, while one local board held no meetings at all; at 43 of the local boards the average attendance of members exceeded half of the whole strength; the attendance has therefore much improved in regularity since the previous year. The local officers report that the district boards “ have on the whole worked satisfactorily;” the only cases in which decisions of district boards were overruled have been where expenditure or enhancement of salaries was disallowed. The local boards have, save in a few districts, been of little use.

Punjab.

Excluding suspense items, the year's income of all the boards came to Rx. 305,800, of which the chief items were Rx. 231,000 from local rates, and Rx. 8,400 from school fees. The total expenditure of the year was Rx. 309,000, of which the chief items were: education, Rx. 64,600; hospitals, vaccination, and other medical or sanitary charges, Rx. 34,800; experimental cultivation,

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DISTRICT BOARDS. cultivation, horse and cattle fairs, veterinary and botanical charges, &c., Rx. 16,500; and roads and other public works, Rx. 109,300. Of the last-mentioned grant, Rs. 10,800 was spent on water supply and drainage. No district or local board has contracted any debt.

Central Provinces. In every district of the Central Provinces except the backward tract of Mandla, district councils and local boards, subordinate to those councils, have been established. There are 17 district councils and 53 local boards. The total number of members on these bodies was 1,178, divided thus:—

Elected members -	885	Non-officials	1,048	Asiatics -	-	1,150
Nominated or <i>ex officio</i> -	293	Officials	130	Europeans or		
				Eurasians -		28

A moderate interest was taken in the elections held during the year, and the interest seems to have been greater at outlying places than in the larger towns; the proportion of voters coming to the poll ranged from 26 to 80 per cent. of the registered electors in the Nagpore Division, from 33 to over 50 per cent. in the Jubbulpore Division. Four hundred and ninety meetings were held, as compared with 495 in the previous year. Of 293 officials the average attendance was 90, or 31 per cent., and of 1,048 non-officials the average attendance was 391, or 37 per cent. The maintenance and construction of metalled roads is undertaken by the Provincial Public Works Department in behalf of the councils, which, however, advise upon road projects within their jurisdiction. Education is one of the most important matters with which the councils deal; they have charge of all primary and many middle schools, and they administer the grant-in-aid funds available for rural schools. The income of the councils and boards was Rx. 90,800, of which Rx. 40,200 were yielded by local rates, Rx. 17,300 by cattle-pound fees, and Rx. 11,400 by contributions from provincial funds. The main items of their expenditure were Rx. 40,800 on roads and other works, Rx. 28,100 on schools, and Rx. 7,600 on hospitals and vaccination. The Local Government notes "some improvement in the amount of attention directed to village sanitation, though * * * a good deal more might have been done."

Assam. In Assam there are 19 local boards, constituted under the Assam Local Rates Regulation of 1879. The total number of members on the district boards was 372, of whom 57 were officials and 315 non-officials; 142 were elected, and 229 were natives of India. The boards enjoyed for the year 1895-96 an income of Rx. 122,200, or slightly less than in the previous year. The local rates yielded Rx. 64,700, or Rx. 700 above their yield in 1894-95. The boards spent Rx. 129,600; 58 per cent. of the total expenditure was devoted to public works, 15½ per cent. to education, and 5¼ per cent. to sanitary and medical objects. The outlay on village sanitation was Rx. 7,600.

Madras. In Madras there were 21 district boards, with not less than 24 members on each, of whom one-half are elected by the taluk or subdivisional boards. The members of 82 taluk boards are appointed by Government from the residents and ratepayers of the taluk. On all the boards there were 1,762 members, of whom 1,225 were non-officials and 537 were officials; out of the latter number 79 were members elected by taluk boards to be their representatives on the district boards. Below the taluk boards were 361 village unions, which were occupied chiefly with local sanitation and the management of elementary schools, markets, and other local institutions entrusted to them by the taluk boards. The district boards held 249 meetings, at which the average attendance was, as in the preceding year, 16 (11 non-officials and five officials), out of an average strength of 31 members. The taluk boards held 1,088 meetings, at which the average attendance was eight members (six non-officials and two officials), out of an average strength of 13 on each board. The village unions held 4,868 meetings, or 170 more than in the previous year. The Local Government considered the working of the local boards and panchayets to have continued "on the whole satisfactory."

The income of all the boards during the year was Rx. 808,000, or Rx. 8,000 less than in the previous year. The chief sources of income were: local rates, tolls, and taxes, Rx. 610,000; grants from provincial and other funds, Rx. 33,000; school fees, Rx. 21,000. The expenditure of the year was Rx. 814,000, of which Rx. 402,000 were spent on roads, ferries, and other public works; Rx. 178,000

Rx. 178,000 on medical and sanitary purposes, and Rx. 117,000 on education. DISTRICT BOARDS.
 Out of the public works outlay, Rx. 14,000 were spent on new roads, and Rx. 232,000 were spent on maintaining existing roads. The expenditure on public works was Rx. 13,000 more than in the previous year. The length of new roads made during the year was 125 miles, and of roads kept in repair by local boards was 20,832 miles. The expenditure on sanitation, as distinguished from hospitals and vaccination, was Rx. 49,800, of which Rx. 9,400 were spent on improving the water supply.

In Bombay there were 23 district and 201 taluk (or subdivisional) boards: Bombay.
 all these boards are partly elective, except in three backward districts and seven exceptional subdivisions. The triennial terms of service for the taluk boards expired in 12 districts; and from 32 to 47 per cent. of the registered electors voted at the elections. There are altogether 3,497 members of all boards, who are classified very nearly as in the preceding year, namely:—

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.
Elected -	45	Non-officials -	78	Asiatics -	94
Nominated -	55	Officials -	22	Europeans -	6

The total number of meetings held during the year was 1,348, as compared with 1,385 in the previous year, but the average attendance of members was considerably larger. The gross income of the boards was Rx. 458,000 or 2½ per cent. less than in the preceding year, of which Rx. 253,000 was yielded by local rates. The decrease was entirely due to partial postponements of the local rates demand on account of the bad season in the northern districts. The total expenditure of the boards came to Rx. 491,000, or Rx. 34,000 more than the preceding year; the chief heads of expenditure were education, Rx. 153,000; and Rx. 269,000 on public works. In the last category were included Rx. 45,000 spent on water supply, which secured the creation of 63 new tanks and 837 new wells, besides the repair of 1,110 existing sources of water supply. Rx. 122,000 were spent on the repair of roads and Rx. 49,000 on new roads and other works of improvement. The incidence of local (as distinct from municipal) taxation ranged from 2½ annas per head in the southern division to 3½ annas in the northern division per head of the total population.

In Berar there were six district and 21 taluk (or subdivisional) boards. Berar.
 Each taluk board consists of 18 members, of whom 12 are elected by the people. The members of the district boards are, for the most part, elected by the taluk boards. The members of the 27 boards were divided thus:—

	TOTAL.	Nominated.	Elected.	Non-officials.	Officials.	Native.	European.
District Boards - - -	155	32	123	135	20	148	7
Taluk Boards - - -	376	131	245	345	31	376	-

All the boards held more than the minimum number of four meetings prescribed by the rules; 21 boards held eight or more than eight meetings. One hundred and sixteen vacancies occurred on the taluk boards during the year, for which 250 candidates came forward. Out of 26,719 persons entitled to vote, 2,830, or 10½ per cent., recorded their votes; in the previous year the percentage of voters to electors was 9½. The income of the local boards was Rx. 65,700, of which Rx. 46,300 accrued from provincial and local rates and taxes; Rx. 5,000 from school fees; and Rx. 1,800 from provincial contributions. The expenditure was Rx. 75,400, of which Rx. 20,100 were devoted to education, Rx. 3,800 to village conservancy, Rx. 30,200 to roads and other public works. A sum of Rx. 3,900 was spent on improving the water supply of villages, and Rx. 10,400 were expended on improving village sites and village conservancy.

PORT TRUSTS.

The custody of harbours and the administration of harbour and shore affairs PORT TRUSTS.
 are placed by law in the hands of Port Commissioners, who are appointed for each of the chief Ports. Members of these Port Trusts are for the most part appointed
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PORT TRUSTS.

appointed by the Local Governments, and are usually representative of the various Indian and commercial interests of the place. Port trustees are empowered, subject to the control of the Government, to levy dues, to contract loans for Port improvements, to do all that may be needed for the maintenance of the harbour and its approaches, and to erect warehouses, jetties, and docks for the convenience of traders and shipping. The Local Governments and, so far as can be judged, the public, are well satisfied with the work done by the various Port Trusts. The Commissioners of Port Trusts are the only members of local public bodies who receive a small fee for each attendance at meetings for business. No members of municipal councils, or of district or local boards, receive any fees for the performance of their local duties.

Bombay.

In the year 1895-96 the income of the Bombay Port Trust was Rx. 491,000, or 1 per cent. above the income of the preceding year, and was the largest since the creation of the Trust in 1873. The small increase in receipts was attributed to the continued growth of the steam traffic along the coast, to the increased use of the Merewether dry dock, and to some revival in trade. Dock and wharfage fees yielded Rx. 247,000 against Rx. 243,000, and warehouse rents Rx. 122,000 against Rx. 119,000, in the previous year. The expenditure was Rx. 485,000, of which the chief items were Rx. 224,000 for interest and repayment of debt, and Rx. 110,000 spent on the wet docks. Among the more important works of the year were additions to the Prince's and Victoria Docks, an installation for storing oil in bulk at Moody Bay, the completion of the Ballard Pier, and a new coal wharf. The Port Trust had spent up to April 1896 a sum of Rx. 5,500,000 in improving their property and meeting the requirements of the trade; at the close of the year their outstanding debt was Rx. 5,068,000, of which Rx. 3,006,000 were due to Government; while Rx. 317,000 were at the credit of the sinking fund and the reserve fund. More steamers entered the Port than in any previous year, and the total steam tonnage entered during the year was 2,156,000 tons, as compared with 2,068,000 tons in 1894-95.

Calcutta.

The income of the Calcutta Port Trust was Rx. 493,000, or Rx. 59,000 more than in the previous year, and the expenditure was Rx. 479,000, inclusive of the Kilderpore Dock Account. The new docks were opened in September 1892; they have cost Rx. 2,877,000, which sum, together with Rx. 175,000 borrowed during the past year, raises the total Port Trust debt to Rx. 4,089,000. The receipts at the docks came to Rx. 37,500, while the charges for working expenses, repairs, and taxes were Rx. 57,700; the total deficit of the year on account of the new docks was Rx. 135,000. The special tolls, imposed to meet the charges on account of the new docks, yielded Rx. 85,700. The largest items of Port expenditure were Rx. 195,000 for interest and sinking fund of the debt, Rx. 30,900 on petroleum storsheds, and Rx. 39,500 on rolling stock for the Port railway. The outlay on improving approaches to the Port decreased from Rx. 48,400 in the previous year to Rx. 46,600. The number and tonnage of sea-going vessels entering the Port during the last five years has been:—

	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Number of vessels	1,117	1,065	901	1,029	1,027
Gross tonnage	2,699,567	2,642,240	2,507,440	2,735,075	2,895,628

In the last year 909 of the vessels were steamers, with a tonnage of 2,685,230 tons, as compared with 118 sailing vessels, with a gross burden of 200,298 tons.

Rangoon.

The year 1895-96 showed a further increase of 102,000 tons, or nearly 6 per cent., in the shipping visiting the Port of Rangoon. The ordinary revenue of the Port Trust was Rx. 114,000, showing an increase of 6 per cent., as compared with 1894-95, while the expenditure decreased 9 per cent. The decrease

decrease of expenditure was due to no large new works having been undertaken. The total net charge on account of interest on the Port debts was Rx. 3,200; Rx. 5,000 of debt was paid off during the year. Rx. 37,200 were spent on repairs and extensions of works of improvement. Nineteen accidents to shipping took place during the year in the harbour and approaches; in three cases material damage was done. PORT TRUSTS.

At the Madras Port there was a general increase in some of the chief articles of export, especially in hides and indigo, but a falling-off in the exports of cotton and grain and seeds. A further expenditure of Rx. 41,700, including the protective works to the north of the harbour, was incurred on the Madras harbour works, against Rx. 27,400 in the previous year; and by the end of the year 1895-96 the total outlay had reached Rx. 1,288,000. The Madras harbour works were finished during the year, so far as the two arms of the harbour and the pier-heads are concerned; the total length of the north pier is 3,816 feet, and of the south pier 2,452 feet. Madras.

The income and expenditure of the Karachi Port Trust were respectively Rx. 99,000 and Rx. 72,000, as compared with Rx. 87,000 and Rx. 59,000 in the previous year. There was an increase in the foreign exports of cotton, and a large increase in the coasting trade outwards and inwards, but a decrease of 20 per cent. in foreign imports. The wheat exports were larger than in the preceding year, though still far below those of the year 1891-92, when 618,000 tons of grain were dispatched from Karachi, as compared with 280,000 in 1894-95, and 309,000 in 1895-96. The exports of oil-seeds were 54 per cent. below the average of the two previous years. The principal improvements of the year were the deepening of the port entrance and channel. Karachi.

There are other minor Ports at which smaller sums are raised yearly and expended on improvements. The value of the total foreign trade of the five principal Ports during the past four years is set forth below:—

NAME OF PORT.	Value of the Total Foreign Trade, in Merchandise only, excluding re-exports, during the Year			
	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Bombay - - - - -	65,674,000	67,999,000	63,159,000	65,800,000
Calcutta - - - - -	63,640,000	60,927,000	71,319,000	72,317,000
Rangoon - - - - -	12,525,000	10,799,000	10,431,000	12,303,000
Madras - - - - -	9,068,000	10,304,000	10,986,000	10,735,000
Karachi - - - - -	7,546,000	11,040,000	10,641,000	10,170,000

STATEMENT showing the Number of Municipalities in India, their Receipts and their Expenditure, for the Year 1895-96.

	Bengal.		North Western Provinces and Oudh.	Punjab.	Burma.	Central Provinces.	Assam.	Madras.		Bombay.		Minor Provinces.	TOTAL.
	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.						Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.		
Number of Municipalities - - - - -	1	146	103	148	42	53	14	1	56	1	170	19	755
Population according to the Census of 1891 - - -	681,560	2,704,900	3,265,012	2,082,523	898,355	600,805	84,727	452,518	1,675,947	821,704	2,207,353	262,832	15,828,320
Receipts:	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Octroi - - - - -	-	-	273,615	301,206	-	73,330	-	-	-	126,680	235,004	27,513	1,037,430
Other Taxation - - - - -	421,248	238,759	68,049	21,082	166,645	25,036	10,945	65,399	140,323	441,119	151,097	2,513	1,790,714
Sources other than Taxation (excluding Deposits and Advances).	70,266	58,439	85,225	121,246	229,368	23,740	12,473	71,846	106,883	108,372	139,792	12,667	1,040,376
Loans - - - - -	-	90,200	100,450	16,045	2,350	8,801	-	-	19,030	-	7,000	-	243,870
TOTAL (1895-96) - - - Rx.	491,514	387,448	526,290	459,600	398,363	130,916	23,418	167,245	275,236	676,171	533,493	42,693	4,112,405
TOTAL (1894-95) - - - Rx.	485,117	375,258	547,539	440,669	364,925	152,435	19,184	131,718	261,234	654,102	525,441	51,600	4,009,213
Expenditure:													
Cost of Collection and Administration - - -	50,222	35,334	51,044	67,581	37,334	32,308	1,581	10,095	20,782	50,474	123,402	8,121	480,278
Public Health and Conveniences - - - - -	397,070	292,322	331,277	205,305	259,018	82,510	18,414	128,645	168,895	400,077	305,761	20,590	2,508,000
Public Safety - - - - -	46,221	20,807	62,206	64,782	30,829	1,471	730	7,266	11,048	105,371	27,736	4,721	383,200
Interest on Debt - - - - -	109,072	7,174	39,227	15,409	23,522	4,800	74	14,444	4,157	177,397	13,521	2,375	410,232
Miscellaneous - - - - -	31,314	32,061	53,548	106,538	60,816	24,538	1,093	10,443	45,021	32,471	97,312	9,531	504,586
TOTAL (1895-96) - - - Rx.	633,809	387,698	537,305	469,705	405,514	145,087	22,801	170,803	244,903	765,790	572,732	45,398	4,392,203
TOTAL (1894-95) - - - Rx.	500,220	381,251	464,296	422,770	385,580	137,754	18,934	124,294	238,080	720,443	558,075	47,037	4,008,660

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The health of the European troops in India improved somewhat in 1895. European troops. The total admissions into hospital were in the ratio of 1,462 per 1,000 of the average strength of 71,031, against 1,508 in 1894; the daily average sick-rate was 94, or two per 1,000 more, and the death-rate was 15·26, as compared with 16·07. The progressive increase in the constantly sick rate is attributed to the prevalence of diseases which keep men long in hospital, such as enteric fever, venereal diseases, and influenzal respiratory diseases. The chief causes of admission were, as usual, venereal diseases and ague, which accounted for 36 and 23 per cent. respectively of the total sickness. Enteric fever was the chief cause of mortality, yielding a death-rate of 6·72 per 1,000, as compared with 5·75, the ratio of the previous year. This fever alone caused 44 per cent. of the total deaths. The liability of young and unacclimatised soldiers to enteric fever is again shown in the year's statistics, for among troops under 25 years of age the death-rate from this disease was 8·22 per 1,000, while among men between the ages of 25 and 29, and between 30 and 34, the mortality equalled 2·89 and 2·72 per 1,000 respectively; and whereas among men of less than one year's service in India the death-rate from enteric fever was 10·83 per 1,000, among men of four and five years' service it was 3·30, and among men of five to ten years' service the rate was 2·64 per 1,000.

Cholera was considerably less prevalent among the European troops in 1895 than in the previous year; the fatal cases declined from 149, or 2·10 per 1,000 of strength in 1894, to 32, or 0·45 per 1,000. Of these, 19 occurred among troops in the Bengal Command; eight in the Madras Command, and five in the Bombay Command. The Punjab Command was free from cholera.

The loss to the whole European Army in India by invaliding during 1895 amounted to 1,763 men, equal to 24·82 per 1,000 of strength, against 1,808, or 25·43 in 1894. The proportion of invalids to strength was highest in the Madras Command, viz., 31·2; in the Bengal Command the proportion was 25·5, and in the Bombay and Punjab Commands, 20·7 and 17·9 respectively. Out of the total number invalided, 33 per cent. were discharged as unfit for further service, being 6 per cent. lower than in 1894. As regards the influence of age and length of residence in India upon invaliding, 66 per cent. of the number invalided were under 25 years of age, against 60 in 1894, while 36 per cent. were of less than two years' service, and 86 per cent. were of less than five years' service. In the European Army in India, 83 per cent. of the total strength had seen less than five years' service.

There was less sickness among the Native troops in 1895 than in the preceding Native troops. year, but the mortality was slightly higher. On an average strength of 129,655 the admissions into hospital were in the ratio of 794 per 1,000, against 897 in 1894; the daily sick-rate was 30, a decrease of one per 1,000, and the death-rate was 11·60, against 10·76. Ague continued to rank first among the causes of admission, and yielded 36 per cent. of the total. Respiratory diseases, as usual, were the chief causes of death, and represented a ratio of 4·87 per 1,000 of average strength, against 3·63 in 1894. Pneumonia alone accounted for 548 deaths, or 4·20 per 1,000 of strength, a ratio about eight times as high as that among European soldiers from this disease. From malarial fevers there were 237 deaths, equal to 1·79 per 1,000. From these two causes, pneumonia and malarial fever, nearly half of the total deaths were recorded. From cholera the death-rate was 0·41 per 1,000, against 0·56 in 1894. Fevers of all kinds were the cause of 16 per cent. of the total deaths, while among the European troops 48 per cent. of all the deaths were from fevers. From ague, remittent and simple continued fevers, the deaths among the Native troops yielded a ratio of 1·81 per 1,000; while among the European troops the proportion was only 0·59. On the other hand, the death-rate from enteric fever among the Native troops was only 0·07 per 1,000, as compared with 6·72 among the European troops.

The health of the prison population in India was much better in 1895 than Jails. in the previous year. The ratios of admission into hospital and daily average sick per 1,000 of strength were 1,006 and 43 respectively, against 1,030

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and 39 in 1894. The death-rate fell from 31·84 per 1,000 to 26·59. The average rate of mortality ranged from 59·21 in Assam to 17·93 in Burma. The decrease in the death-rate was spread over all the 10 provinces except the Punjab, Central Provinces and Assam, the most noticeable case of increase being the Central Provinces, which recorded a jail death-rate of 55·96 against 31·74 in 1894. The mortality was next highest in Coorg (42·86), but in none of the other provinces did the death-rate reach 30 per 1,000. Bengal returned a jail death-rate of 27·47, the lowest on record in that province and nearly 20 per 1,000 below the rate of 1894. The decrease in the general death-rate was mainly due to the fall in the mortality from cholera from 255 to 93. The Punjab, Berar, and Coorg jails were entirely free from cholera. Deaths from fever increased from 179 to 216, and those due to bowel complaints from 933 to 939. Of the total number of prisoners discharged during the year (185,254) 19·8 per cent. had lost weight, and 56·5 per cent. had gained weight.

General population.

Births were registered throughout all the 10 provinces during 1895. The highest mean provincial birth-rates recorded were:—the Punjab, 43·9 per 1,000 of population; Berar, 37·2; Bombay, 35·83; North Western Provinces and Oudh, 34·90; Bengal, 34·59, and Central Provinces, 33·41. In the remaining provinces the rates ranged between 31·90 in Assam and 26·39 in Coorg. In five provinces the birth-rates were higher than in the previous year, and in four they were lower, the Punjab returning the same rate in both years. The birth-rates exceeded the death-rates in eight provinces, the excess per 1,000 varying between 14·6 in the Punjab and 3·20 in Bengal. The year 1895 was more healthy than 1894, and the death-rate for all the provinces fell from 33·98 per 1,000 of population in 1894 to 28·94. The highest death-rates were registered in Berar (49·9), and the Central Provinces (36·75). In the remaining eight provinces the rates ranged from 33·72 in Assam to 19·6 in Madras. In all the provinces, except Assam, Berar, and Coorg, the death-rates were lower than in 1894. The greatest decrease occurred in the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab, where the death-rates fell from 42·51 and 36·52 respectively to 29·13 and 29·3.

From all the chief diseases, except small-pox, fewer deaths were registered than in 1894. From cholera there were 310,797 deaths in 1895, being in the ratio of 1·45 per 1,000 of population, against 521,647, or 2·44, in the previous year. The decrease was spread over six of the provinces, while only in Berar and Assam was there any material increase. The death-rate from cholera was highest in Berar, 4·2 per 1,000, which was a great increase on the rate of the previous year of 1·2; Assam came next with 3·78 against 2·6. The most noticeable case of improvement was the North Western Provinces and Oudh, the ratio having decreased from 3·80 to 1·1. Coorg was the only province exempt from the disease.

From small-pox there were 43,328 deaths, representing a rate of 0·20 per 1,000, against 41,604, or 0·19, in 1894. The small increase of 2,724 was limited to the three provinces of Bengal, the Punjab, and Central Provinces. In no province did the death-rate exceed one per 1,000, the highest being 0·77 in Assam.

Fever mortality was much lower than in the previous year. In the 10 provinces the total fever deaths numbered 4,217,862, equal to 19·80 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 4,952,328, or 23·23. This shows a decrease in 1895 of 744,466 deaths, in which all the provinces, except Assam, Madras, and Coorg, participated. The decrease in fever mortality was most marked in the North Western Provinces and Oudh, the Punjab, Bengal, and Bombay; the fever death-rates of which fell from 31·88, 25·07, 25·32, and 22·80 respectively, in 1894, to 23·31, 19·08, 22·99, and 20·66 in 1895.

The total number of deaths returned under dysentery and diarrhoea was 237,034, or 1·16 per 1,000, against 257,808, or 1·21, in 1894. The decrease was confined to Madras, Bengal, the North Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab; in all the others there was an increase, most marked in the Central Provinces and Berar.

Vaccination.

The total number of successful vaccinations performed during 1894–95 was 7,223,591, being an increase of 354,320 on the previous year's work. Nearly 2½ millions (2,741,708) of the total cases were under one year of age, and over 3½ millions (3,369,313) were between the ages of one and six years.

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The proportion of population protected by the year's operations ranged from 56·66 per 1,000 in Coorg, and 40·45 in Assam, to 28·47 in the North Western Provinces and Oudh. In the vaccination of infants the best results were obtained from the Punjab, Berar, and Bombay, where 58·8, 58·2, and 58·0 per cent., respectively, of the children born during the year, estimating the annual births at 40 per 1,000 of population, were protected against small-pox. In the Central Provinces the percentage was nearly 50, and in the remainder it ranged from 30·2 in the North Western Provinces and Oudh to 17·2 in Coorg, and 14·7 in Bengal.

Some of the important sanitary works which have been either completed, in progress, or under consideration during 1895, were as follows:—In Calcutta further progress was made in the improvement of bustees, or clusters of Native huts. The supply of filtered water was increased and the average daily consumption is now equal to 50·09 gallons per head of population for the town proper, and 20·11 gallons for the suburban area. In the course of the year the distribution pipes were extended about 3½ miles, bringing the total length up to 310½ miles, and the total number of premises connected had reached 26,312. The supply of unfiltered water was increased, the daily consumption per head of population being now equal to 13·43 gallons. At the close of the year (1895-96) the total length of sewers was nearly 209 miles, and the number of premises connected with them was 29,140, of which 528 connections were made during the year. The new drainage project for the municipality has at last passed out of the stage of preliminary discussion, and the Corporation were considering what course to take on the final conclusions of their professional advisers. Since the close of the year the project has received sanction and its execution commenced.

The municipalities of the interior of Bengal spent Rx. 234,483 on sanitary works, an increase of Rx. 73,893 on the sum expended in 1894. The district and local boards spent Rx. 111,442 in improving towns and rural areas. A further sum of Rx. 18,887, contributed by private individuals, was expended on sanitary works. The most important sanitary event of the year was the opening of the Howrah water supply works, on which an additional sum of Rx. 51,343 had been expended. A further sum of Rx. 10,000 was devoted to the Arrah water works; the water is reported to be good, and the quantity consumed each day was 150,000 gallons. The Cossipur-Chitpur water supply scheme and the drainage schemes for Patna and Muzaffarpur were completed. In many other towns and districts useful sanitary improvements were carried out during the year. The Sanitary Board held seven meetings in the course of the year, when, among other matters, they discussed the improvement of the water supply of Darjeeling; schemes for the supply of drinking water to the towns of Gaya and Berhampore, which last was about to be taken in hand; the drainage and sewerage of Howrah and Krishnagar; and the chemical and bacteriological examination of water supplies. Among the estimates considered by the Board was that for the extension of the Bhagalpur water works at a cost of Rx. 31,400, which received the sanction of Government, and the work was to be commenced as soon as possible.

In the North Western Provinces and Oudh the municipalities spent over 37 per cent. of their income on water supply, conservancy, and drainage. Progress continued to be made in the sanitation of most of the large towns, and although there was still a lack of skilled local supervisors, expenditure was gradually being directed on more scientific lines. The Cawnpore and the Lucknow waterworks which were opened in the previous year supplied respectively 8·11 and 2·6 gallons per head of population daily, and in each case the quality was reported as satisfactory. The Meerut water supply project, which was sanctioned in the previous year, was completed at a cost of eight lakhs. At Agra fair progress was made with portions of the drainage and paving schemes, and at Benares 76 per cent. of the work on the main sewer was completed by the end of the year; while at Cawnpore the sewerage and drainage works in the Sadr Bazar were practically finished. The Sanitary Board held four meetings during the year, when attention was given to the question of closing all public and private burial grounds within municipal limits; the Government order calling for a report on the best method of maintaining village sanitary

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records; the more pressing drainage works required in the Meerut and Agra divisions; the complete sanitation of places of pilgrimage; and the supply of pure water to pilgrims at the Magh Mela at Allahabad.

Punjab.

In the Punjab the municipal towns spent 22 per cent. of their income on sanitary work. During the year the water supply schemes for Umballa City and Delhi were completed; those for the towns of Pind Dadan Khan, and Haripur were in progress; and many others were under consideration. The drainage schemes for Ludhianna, Gujranwala and Peshawar City were finished; while those for Delhi and Lahore, and the construction of the main outfall sewer at Jhelum, were still in progress. In Gurdaspur district a few drainage works of importance have been made. Four meetings of the Sanitary Board were held during the year, when the following matters were discussed: Rules to be observed at the more important fairs in the province; causes of the unhealthiness of certain tracts in the Umballa district and Kalsia State; the combined drainage scheme for the city and cantonment of Rawalpindi; the excessive fever death-rate in the province due to water-logging; and the severe outbreak of small-pox in the City of Multan.

Burma.

The towns and districts of Burma spent over 36 per cent. of their income on the work of sanitation. No new work of any magnitude was begun; but several large projects were under consideration, the extension of the Rangoon water supply and the establishment of water works in the towns of Mandalay and Moulmein being the most important. The Shone sewerage system was being gradually extended in Rangoon City, and steady progress was being made with the reclamation of the east of the town. At Promé the filter gallery connected with the pumping station, which had been abandoned for the past nine years, was put into working order, and the majority of the inhabitants of the town are now supplied with water from the hydrants. The work of the Sanitary Board continued to be restricted to the provision of suitable sanitary maps of the larger towns in Lower Burma.

Central Provinces.

The municipalities of the Central Provinces devoted 16½ per cent. of their income to sanitary purposes. The larger works undertaken or in progress were as usual all in connection with water supply; drainage works, though urgently needed in some localities, appear to be beyond the means of any municipality. The Jubbulpore water works were further extended during the year. A new scheme for supplying Wardha with water at a total cost of Rx. 20,706 was submitted, and the foundation stone of the work was laid by the Chief Commissioner in December 1895. In addition water works were in progress at Harda and Khandwa, and a similar scheme for Hoshangabad was about to be commenced. The Sanitary Board met in each division of the province during the year. At the first annual general meeting held at Nagpur in August statements were presented showing that since the institution of the board works had been completed at a cost of Rx. 19,264; while those under construction and others to be carried out during the following year would amount to Rx. 5,143.

Assam.

Excluding the towns of Sunamganj, Karimganj, and Maulvi bazar, in which allowances for sanitary purposes are made by the Local Boards, the municipalities, stations, unions, and towns in Assam spent 14·13 per cent. of their income on sanitation. No sanitary work of special importance was completed, but considerable improvements were effected in the water-works of Gauhati and Shillong, and the first of a series of wells to supply the town of Sylhet with drinking water was completed. A complete drainage scheme for Gauhati was sanctioned and the work was commenced before the close of the year. A similar scheme for Barpeta was under consideration. The Sanitary Board met twice during the year and were chiefly occupied with the preparation of rules for the sanitation of villages and in drafting a Village Sanitation Regulation.

Madras.

In Madras Presidency the municipalities allotted 56 per cent. of their income for sanitary purposes, and the District Boards about 9 per cent. Conservancy appears to receive considerably more attention than water-supply, judged by the expenditure on each. The Sanitary Commissioner points out that it is far more difficult to get a municipality to spend money on improving the water-supply than on the disposal of sewage, the latter being a nuisance which

which must be got rid of in some way, whereas it is difficult to persuade a council that the water, which has been in daily use for many years, requires improvement. Among the works completed in the course of the year were the Adoni and the Tanjore water-supply schemes. Fair progress was also made in carrying out the scheme for the water supply of Dindigul, while very little remained to be done to complete that for Trichinopoly. The Sanitary Board recommended schemes for improving the water supply of several places, among them being Ootacamund, Salem, Cuddapah, Coonoor, Bezwada, Gudiyattum, and Calicut. The Sanitary Engineering Department completed surveys for water-supply or drainage or both for three municipalities. Numerous plans and estimates for sanitary work of the aggregate value of 2½ lakhs were scrutinised. The subject of the improvement of the drainage of Ootacamund received attention, and the Department submitted proposals regarding an alternative scheme for the water supply of Coonoor. In improving the sanitation of Madras City several drains were constructed and others repaired, and the water supply was extended. There was an increased supply of water, but the quality is still very unsatisfactory. Many minor improvements were being carried out. A grant of 3½ lakhs has been made by the Government towards the drainage of the city.

In Bombay Presidency the municipalities allotted 45·28 per cent. of their incomes for sanitary purposes, and the District Boards 20 per cent. No sanitary work of any great importance was undertaken during the year. At Surat, Ahmedabad, and Sukkur progress was made with the waterworks, as also with the drainage project of Sukkur. Water supply and drainage schemes for several other municipalities were under consideration. The Sanitary Board gave advice concerning a large number of projects, including the improvement of the water supply of Dakor, Alandi, and Kirki, a scheme for the supply of water to Yeola, and drainage schemes for Ahmedabad, Parel, and Dhulia. In Bombay City the works in connection with the sewerage of Colaba on the Shone system were practically completed at the end of the year at a cost of over 7½ lakhs. In other divisions drainage and sewerage works were nearly finished, while several more were in progress. The water supply of the city from the Tansa, Vehear, and Tulsi lakes continued to be adequate; structural and other improvements in the reservoirs and storage basin were effected.

The municipalities of Berar spent 42 per cent. of their income on sanitary improvements. No new works of any great importance were undertaken during the year. Satisfactory progress was made with the drainage works at Shegaon, and the question of draining Amraoti was under consideration. At Akola steps were being taken for the drainage of the town, and at Akot and Ellichpur considerable proportions of the funds were expended in the same direction. The District Sanitary Board met once at each of the six head-quarter stations to examine the improvements effected on the recommendations of the Provincial Sanitary Commissioner. In many instances the recommendations were found to have been carried out, but want of funds greatly impeded progress. The question of a sanitary law for the improvement of village sanitation was under consideration.

CHAPTER III.

CRIME AND POLICE.

CRIME AND POLICE.

No radical change was made during the year in the organisation of the Indian police force, but improvements based on the recommendations of the Police Committee are being steadily carried out.

The schools which have been opened in many provinces for the instruction of constables and subordinate officers are doing good work, and a better class of men are entering the force.

The paragraphs that follow shew, except where it is otherwise stated, the number of offences reported to have occurred during the year. It is necessary to bear in mind that a considerable proportion of reported offences prove on investigation of the circumstances not to have occurred. A "cognisable offence," it may be added, is one for which a police officer may, in accordance with the terms of the Code of Criminal Procedure, or under any law for the time being in force, arrest without warrant.

Bengal.

The regular police of Bengal at the close of the year had a sanctioned strength of 77 superior officers and 23,514 subordinate officers and men, or 1 to 3,071 of the population, but the actual strength was 570 less. The cost of the force was Rx. 476,430, or 1·7 per cent. more than in 1894, and must for some time to come show an annual increase, as the recommendations of the Police Redistribution Committee are gradually carried out.

A scheme was submitted, which has since been approved and put in operation, for the establishment of a training school at Bhagalpur for the investigating officers of the police. They will be instructed in the criminal law and the procedure of the courts. These officers are now obtained from a better class of the community, and are more intelligent and better educated than the men whose places they are taking. An advance in the general character and efficiency of the investigating staff may therefore fairly be expected. Shortcomings are more promptly brought to notice than was formerly the case, and officers are warned that they will not be judged by statistical results, but that they must show energy, and work by fair means. An improvement in conduct is indicated by a marked diminution in the number of punishments.

Of the cases reported, 75 per cent. were investigated by the police; of those decided, 85 per cent. ended in conviction, while of the persons sent to trial 74 per cent. were convicted.

The force of the regular police is supplemented by 2,043 town chaukidars, and by rural police or village watchmen, to the number of 166,266, who for the most part are paid by means of an assessment on the villages maintaining them, which is determined by the village punchayet.

The steady increase of late years in the number of murders in Backergunge, from 27 in 1889 to 75 in 1895, and to 60 in the first six months of 1896, has compelled the Government to withdraw all licenses for firearms throughout the district; to raise the number of chaukidars; and to call upon the land-holding class to render assistance to the police, if they would avoid the necessity for more stringent measures for the detection of crime. The practice of throwing dead bodies into the rivers of Bengal has been made punishable under Section 290 of the Penal Code. It had been previously ascertained that the feeling of all educated persons was in favour of this step being taken, and that the practice had not the sanction of religion. It has been decided to discontinue the offer of rewards for the destruction of venomous snakes, as it is believed to encourage the breeding and collection of snakes by professional dealers.

Calcutta.

The sanctioned strength of the Calcutta police was 2,891 officers and men, of whom 2,169 were maintained for the town and suburbs, and the remainder, 722, for Government guards, river police, and other duties. There was an increase in the number of reported offences, but chiefly under minor heads. Of 28,071 cognisable cases sent up by the police, 90·8 per cent. ended in conviction.

The

The sanctioned strength of the police in the North-West Provinces and Oudh was 5,311 superior and subordinate officers and 20,393 men. This number is 8.45 per cent. above the total of 1891. The proportion employed on station duties was one to 3,637 inhabitants, and to 8.3 square miles. Of the subordinate officers, 53.4 per cent. were Muhammadans, and 46.6 per cent. were Hindus; but with the men the relative proportion was reversed—only 36.3 per cent. were Muhammadans while 63.7 per cent. were Hindus. The municipal and town police numbered 10,006, and the rural police, 88,568.

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Compared with an expenditure of Rx. 714,373 in 1894, the expenditure on the police force from general revenues in 1895 was Rx. 702,716, of which Rx. 402,276, or 58 per cent., was the cost of the regular force, and Rx. 262,157, or 37 per cent., was that of the village police. These figures represent a reduction for the year of 1.7 and 1.5 per cent. in the cost of the two forces, respectively, a reduction due to financial pressure and the exceptional measures taken to restrict expenditure. The pay of the municipal chaukidars was raised in compliance with one of the recommendations of the Police Committee to five rupees a month. The average pay of the village watchman was in the North-Western Provinces 36 rupees a year; in Oudh, 26½ rupees only.

The number of cognisable cases investigated by the police was 117,810; of 73,375 that were decided, 63,812 ended in conviction. These figures represent an increase, compared with 1895, of 10, 11, and 14 per cent., respectively. There was also a distinct improvement in dealing with heinous crime. For the six years ending 1888 the percentage of convictions to cases of this nature reported was 42; for the next seven years it averaged 45; in 1895 it rose to 49 per cent. A larger number of dacoities and robberies was to be expected in a season of scarcity. A large increase in the number of burglaries and thefts is attributed partly to the same cause, and partly to the fuller reporting of this class of crime, under the rules of 1893, which do not require the investigation of cases of burglary without loss, or of theft under 10 rupees, unless inquiry is demanded. This change, by giving the police more time for the investigation of serious cases, has resulted in a large increase in the number of investigated cases which have been successfully prosecuted in the courts. Since 1892 reports of burglaries have increased 44 per cent., and investigations 28 per cent., while cases taken before the courts and judicially decided, have increased as much as 57 per cent., and convictions, 68 per cent.

The Punjab police force had a sanctioned strength of (a) 73 superior officers and 14,954 subordinate officers and men, who were paid Rx. 293,691 from Imperial and provincial sources, and (b) 50 officers and 5,154 men who were paid Rx. 56,441 from other sources. In all the total strength was 20,230, and the expenditure Rx. 350,132.

Punjab.

Offences under the Penal Code account for 63,355 of those reported. Lahore heads the list with 4,210, but Ferozepur with a smaller population had 4,028, representing an increase of 47.2 per cent. Hissar is third with an increase of 27 per cent. These figures are due to a serious increase of dacoity.

Though on the whole number of offences under the Penal Code the percentage of convictions (30 per cent.) was higher than in 1894, with regard to the more serious offences the working of the police was less satisfactory; there were fewer convictions under each head. The worst result, however, appears under the head of trespass, an offence often partaking of a civil nature. The identification of old offenders under the Bertillon system has been most successful, and when the system is completely established the present elaborate inquiries will no longer be necessary, and much time will thereby be saved.

Criminal tribes are dealt with under special laws, and 505 individuals were so convicted in 1895, Ludhiana furnishing the largest number, 169, and Sialkot, 113.

The Punjab has no general reformatory school. As to reformatories for criminal tribes it is said that though useful as affording a certain immunity from crime, they fail absolutely in effecting reclamation.

The record of the police work in Burma was on the whole satisfactory. The training school and beat-patrol systems were in full working order. Increased attention was paid to the preventive provisions of the law, by which persons of bad character are placed under security; to the judicious application of the village enactments

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CRIME AND POLICE. enactments by which the people are required to co-operate in measures of self-protection; and to enlisting the sympathies of the law-abiding section of the country on the side of order. Several proposals for the improvement of the police system were under consideration, and orders were issued in respect of the necessity of co-operation between the magistrates and the police, the duty of magistrates in the investigation of offences and other matters. There was a marked decrease of violent crimes, and an absence of any formidable organised gangs of dacoits, this result being largely due to the hearty co-operation of the magistrates and police.

The sanctioned civil police force was reduced from 14,201 to 13,744. The total cost of the force (Rx. 357,218) was, nevertheless, 3·2 per cent. greater, owing to changes sanctioned in 1894 not coming into effect till late in that year, and to a long deferred increase in the pay of the lower grades of Assistant Superintendents.

The force was only 4·5 per cent. under strength at the end of the year, in place of 7·5 per cent. at the beginning. The number of deserters diminished, and there are other indications that service in the police force is becoming more popular, and that discipline is improving. There was a substantial decrease in the number of punishments and more rewards were given by judicial officers. With scarcely an exception the relations between the police and the people appear to have been satisfactory.

The proportion of convictions to true cases reported, excluding petty cases, increased from 39 to 41 per cent.

The railway police who guarded 834 miles of line numbered 237, and have since been increased. The working of this body was satisfactory during the year and crime diminished. Their co-operation with the district police has been useful in the suppression of cattle-theft.

The sanctioned strength of the military police in Upper and Lower Burma was not materially altered during the year. The force consisted in Upper Burma of 12,091, and in Lower Burma of 3,537 men, and was maintained at a cost of Rx. 404,555, or nearly 10½ per cent. less than in 1894. The decrease was almost entirely in Upper Burma, and was probably due to the absence of serious operations and to the force there being 500 under strength. The force is recruited almost entirely in India. Efforts are being made to enlist Panthays and Kachins, natives of Upper Burma and the Chinese frontier. In Lower Burma the Karens are joining this force in larger numbers.

Central Provinces.

A failure of the harvest in 1895, following on that of 1894, was accompanied by a further increase of crime. Sixty-eight per cent. of the cognisable offences reported consisted of thefts and burglaries, the majority of which were petty cases actuated by want. 76·33 per cent. were investigated, representing a reduction of 2 per cent., which in the circumstances is not to be regretted, and convictions resulted in 55·23 per cent. of the cases investigated, and 84·57 per cent. of those tried.

Burglaries were most numerous in those districts in which scarcity was most severe, viz., Jubbulpore, Saugor, Damoh, and Narsinghpur.

There were 141 murders in 1894 and 179 in 1895. While this crime has shown a tendency to increase of late years, the percentage of convictions has fallen from 40 in 1891 to 35 in 1894 and 32 in 1895. The fault seems to lie in the poor detective ability of the force.

The district executive police force numbered 29 superior officers and 8,049 subordinate officers and men, added to which there were 378 railway police. The total cost of the force was Rx. 152,631. The average pay of the foot constable was seven rupees a month.

During the year the re-armament of the police throughout the province was effected by serving out converted Sniders in exchange for the Brown Bess muskets, which had been in use since the formation of the force in 1861.

Assam.

Assam at the end of 1895 had a sanctioned force of 2,941 military and 2,294 civil police, and the year's expenditure from Imperial and Provincial revenues amounted to Rx. 130,174. In addition to these, there were 6,962 rural police, the cost of whose maintenance (Rx. 30,574) was borne by the villages, the average

average pay of a chaukidar being Rs. 3-10-7. The cost of the military police (Rx. 78,277) was Rx. 11,782 less than in 1894, when the Abor Expedition had been the cause of heavy expenditure. The only military expedition in 1895 was one in which an Assam detachment successfully co-operated with columns from the South Lushai Hills and Burma. The cost of the civil police was increased by an addition of 80 to the sanctioned strength, and by a general increase of pay and the grant of free kit to recruits, benefits which have had the effect of increasing the popularity of the service. CRIME AND POLICE.

An inconsiderable increase in the number of cognisable cases is attributed to the presence of a large number of foreigners on the Assam-Bengal Railway.

The percentage in which inquiry is refused by the police is steadily rising, and owing to the care exercised on this point time was not wasted on cases of a petty nature which might usefully be spent on those of greater importance. The percentage of convictions showed a further improvement, and though murders increased from 55 to 68, 26 persons were convicted out of 83 implicated, three only having been convicted out of 76 in 1894.

Excluding petty cases, cognisable crime has steadily decreased since 1892 in Berar, and in 1895 the number (5,158) was the lowest recorded since 1890. A diminution in the number of offences against property followed a steady fall in the price of food-grains. There were 29 murders, in respect to eight of which no arrests were made; conviction was obtained in nine cases, and six were under trial at the end of the year. Dacoities increased from 26 in 1894 to 42, and in only four cases were convictions obtained. This form of crime is encouraged by the apathy and cowardice of the villagers. On the dacoits giving noisy warning of their approach, the people shut themselves in their houses, the inmates of the house selected for attack run away, the robbers carry off their plunder undisturbed, and as they leave no clue they are rarely caught. Robberies also increased from 44 to 65, as to 15 of which conviction was obtained, but housebreaking diminished by 11 per cent. to 1,255. Berar.

The sanctioned strength of the regular police at the end of 1895 amounted to 2,910 of all ranks. There were fewer resignations but more dismissals, and the mortality (62) was heavy. Enlistments fell considerably short of the number of vacancies, and, in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining recruits from the province, it was necessary to bring in men, and especially chief constables, from other provinces. This circumstance is detrimental to the efficiency of the force, as officers so obtained are naturally not in touch with the people. The same difficulty does not arise with respect to the railway police, 282 in number, whose charges extend over 464 miles, of which the Nizam's State Railway accounts for 329.

The total expenditure on account of the regular police was Rx. 56,636, of which all but the sum of Rs. 1,838 was paid by provincial revenues. The Secunderabad Cantonment Police and the Hyderabad Residency Bazaars Police are distinct bodies, and are not paid by Government.

Omitting village police and private guards, the actual strength of the regular police at the end of 1895 was 22,088 of all ranks, or 1·3 short of the sanctioned strength of 22,394, which was higher than that of 1894 by 199. The proportion of police to population was one to 1,669, and to area one to 6·3 square miles. In towns the proportion was one to 672 of the population; in rural districts, one to 2,091. The cost of the force was Rx. 422,659, or Rx. 7,678 more than in 1894, the increase being under pay and allowances. Madras.

There was an increase in the number and percentage of convictions under the Police Act, involving fines, degradation, or suspension, which was due probably to the stricter enforcement of discipline. On the other hand, there were fewer desertions, and the general standard of education was higher.

In respect to the detection of grave crimes, there was an improvement, except in the matter of recovery of stolen property. The percentage of cases of grave crime investigated by the superior staff increased from 31·6 to 39·3, and the cases were fewer in which the police exercised the power to abstain from

CRIME AND POLICE. investigating complaints made to them. There appears to be a want of definiteness in the rules as to what constitutes a sufficient ground for refusing investigation, and the subject is engaging attention. Although 10,495 cases were reported as false, prosecution for preferring false charges was sanctioned by the magistrates in 139 cases only. It is seldom easy to prove that a complaint is wilfully false, and magistrates are reluctant to give the sanction where no reasonable probability of success is set before them.

Madras.

Cognisable crimes increased in number from 145,623, with 76·8 per cent. detected, to 166,029, with 79·9 per cent. detected. Murders diminished from 408 to 397, with an improvement in the proportion of convictions. Dacoities increased from 190 to 229, but the percentage of detection improved from 25·9 to 31·6, and there was a similar improvement in the detection of robberies, of which there were 420 against 378 in 1894. Grave crimes against property diminished in number from 7,177 to 6,779, and violent and unnatural deaths from 13,397 to 12,265.

Bombay.

The total strength of the police of the Presidency, including Aden, was 23,507 officers and men. The cost of maintenance rose by 7·56 per cent. to Rx. 488,046, owing to the reorganisation of the Mofussil police and additions to the strength of the railway police. In Bombay City the police numbered 2,225, or one to 364 of the population. The forces of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway and of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway were amalgamated. There was an improvement in the standard of education generally, the Sind police especially, though still behind the rest of the force, showing a considerable advance.

The number of reported cognisable cases in the Presidency proper, excluding Aden, increased slightly to 63,733, of which 83·4 per cent. were investigated by the police, and 63 per cent. ended in convictions, 4·4 being excluded as false. An increase of 21·3 per cent. on the Southern Maratha Railway is attributed to the larger traffic, and one of 35·7 per cent. on the Great Indian Peninsular Railway to the more accurate registration of thefts. At Aden the number of offenders fell from 460 to 306, and the percentage of convictions rose from 71·7 to 75·8.

Coorg.

The Coorg police force numbered 226 officers and men, and was maintained at a cost of Rx. 3,238. The force is at a disadvantage in having no officers of the superior grades, and the amelioration of the police department in this and other respects is one of the most urgent needs of this small province.

The cognisable cases reported in 1895 (781) were 318 less numerous than in 1894, but, after the police had declined to investigate 30 cases, there remained more for disposal than in 1895, when as many as 326 cases were not investigated. The percentage of convictions to cases disposed of (33·48) was an improvement on the preceding year, but, compared with other provinces, the result is very unsatisfactory.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

Bengal.

In Bengal, excluding Calcutta, criminal justice is administered among a population of 68½ millions and over an area of nearly 139,000 square miles by 430 stipendiary and 2,092 honorary magistrates (10 and 43, respectively, more than last year), and by 32 sessions judges.

Calcutta, with an area of eight square miles and 466,000 inhabitants, has two stipendiary and 105 honorary magistrates, and a High Court, which is presided over by 13 judges, and is the principal court of original jurisdiction for Calcutta, and of appellate jurisdiction for the whole province.

The total number of offences reported rose 2·3 per cent. to 329,820, of which 83·7 per cent. were found to be true cases. The increase, however, was mainly confined to breaches of local and special laws. The number of cases brought to trial before magistrates in the interior was 156,963; more than that number were decided, and there were 3,374 pending at the close

of

of 1895, the percentage of increase being 1·3, 1·5, and 5·17, respectively. CRIMINAL JUSTICE. Bengal.
 Honorary magistrates disposed of 52,797 cases, or 10·2 per cent. more than in 1894. The average duration of each case was 8½ days.

The number of cases committed to Courts of Session, or referred to the sessions judge for confirmation of sentence, rose by 14·7 per cent. to 1,646, and the number tried by 9 per cent. to 1,551, leaving 278 cases pending, or nine more than at the end of 1894. The number of persons tried by jury was 625, an increase of 161. As to 85·6 per cent. of these persons the sessions judge accepted the verdict; the cases of 39 were referred to the High Court, which set aside the verdict as to 17, and modified it as to two others. The number of appeals to the High Court from the various criminal courts has fallen in the three years ending 1895 from 1,072 to 881, and the number decided from 1,005 to 830. The judgment of the Lower Court was affirmed in 1895 in 676 cases, reversed in 75, and modified in 76; the corresponding figures for 1894 being 758, 46, and 85, respectively.

In the same three years appeals to sessions judges fell from 8,187 to 7,252. The decision of the Lower Court was confirmed in 49·11 per cent. of the cases, against 54·11 per cent. in 1894.

Appeals to district magistrates rose by 5·7 per cent. to 5,539, the decision of the Lower Courts being affirmed in 60·82 per cent. of the cases, as compared with 62·79 in 1894.

The North-Western Provinces and Oudh have an area of 107,502 square miles and a population of about 47 millions. Criminal justice is exercised by eight judges of the High Court, 28 sessions judges, 48 district magistrates, and 774 subordinate magistrates. North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

The number of offences reported increased 3 per cent. to 212,483, of which 167,157, or 78·6 per cent., were returned as true, and 153,334, or 72·2 per cent., were brought to trial. Both percentages show a slight improvement, indicating greater discrimination in the issue of processes. Of 249,843 persons brought to trial, nearly 45 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, 53·4 per cent. were convicted, and about 1·6 per cent. were under trial at the year's close.

In the North-Western Provinces the work of the honorary magistrates was satisfactory, but in Oudh the low percentage of convictions noticed in 1894 further declined to 35·14 in 1895. The cases decided by the Courts of Session increased by 327 to 2,831, and fewer cases were pending at the end of the year. The jury system was in force at Allahabad and Lucknow, and the number of jury trials increased from 153 to 161. In the remaining cases the Courts of Session were assisted by assessors. The proportion of cases in which the judge agreed with the assessors, to those in which he partially or entirely disagreed, was 4 to 1·5 in the North-Western Provinces and 4 to 1·7 in Oudh. The native magistrates are said to be reluctant to pass sentences of whipping on juvenile offenders in lieu of imprisonment with its contaminating influences; but in 1895 the number of whippings was in the North-Western Provinces 25·38 and in Oudh 27·35 per cent. of the possible cases.

Appeals lie to some superior magistrates, to the Courts of Session, and to the High Court. The total number of appellants was 28,025. In the case of 46·5 per cent. the appeals were confirmed, showing an improvement in the working of the inferior courts; about 24 per cent. were modified or reversed; and 23 per cent. were rejected. The average duration of each appeal was 35·59 days.

Excluding Feudatory States and some scattered territory the area directly administered by the British Government in the Punjab is 101,827 square miles, with a population of about 21 millions. Criminal jurisdiction was exercised by 48 special magistrates (19 being natives), 108 honorary magistrates (all but two being natives), 133 benches of magistrates (all natives), 402 stipendiary magistrates (344 natives), 35 magistrates of the district (four natives); 13 Sessions judges (two natives), and five judges of the Chief Court (one native). Punjab.

The number of offences, 184,060, reported in 1895 exceeded that of 1894, and also the average of the past five years, by about 7 per cent. Of these, 138,459, or 75·22 per cent., were under the Penal Code, and the balance were

CRIMINAL JUSTICE. under special and local laws. The Penal Code cases exceeded the figure of 1894 by 7 per cent., and the five years' average by 6·86 per cent. The increase was spread over 21 districts, and was highest (39 per cent.) in Ferozepur, where there was a scarcity of grain and fodder. In Montgomery, which showed an increase of 29 per cent., as many as 45 per cent. of the reported cases were rejected as false. In Dera Ismail Khan the increase (24 per cent.) is under crimes of a trivial nature, and "indicates a growing tendency among the people to drag each other into the criminal courts on the slightest provocation." In the Jhang District also the increase (23 per cent.) is in petty crime. On the other hand, in 10 districts there was a decrease in reported crime, and Bannu especially shows a steady improvement, due to a succession of good harvests and to sustained efficiency in the administration and improved control of the frontier Waziris. Of the reported offences 59,144, or 32 per cent., were rejected as false, leaving 124,916 admitted to have occurred. This number is 7·28 per cent. more than in 1894 and 6·12 per cent. more than the average of five years, and represents about six offences per 1,000 of the population. The Simla district was worst with 76 per mille, Kohat was next with 10 per mille, and Rohtak was least criminal having but three offences per mille.

The number of offences brought to trial was 102,074, or 81·6 per cent. of those returned as true, involving 223,003 persons. In 45 per cent. of the cases conviction was obtained, and 34 per cent. of the persons were convicted; the percentages in 1894 were 46 and 35 respectively. This result is a continuance of a falling off in convictions which began in 1893.

About 69 per cent. (86,013) and 31 per cent. (38,903) of the true cases fell under the Penal Code, and under local and special laws, respectively, the proportion being the same as in 1894. Of the former 44 per cent. were against the human body, 43 per cent. against property, and 5 per cent. against marriage; all other offences made up the balance of 8 per cent. The proportion of offences returned as true falling under the heads of hurt, criminal force and assault, mischief, and criminal trespass, was the same as in 1894, viz., 64 per cent. Offences affecting the human body returned as true (37,809) were 7·9 per cent., or 2,771 more numerous than in 1894, the increase being chiefly in cases of hurt and criminal force and assault.

Offences against property returned as true (36,965) were 2,449, or 7·1 per cent more numerous, the increase being mainly in cases of theft and criminal trespass.

The number of murders has increased in each year since 1892. Of 632 reported in 1895, 553 were returned as true, of which 507 were brought to trial, or only three more than in 1894; the number reported as true was 26 smaller; and the proportion of convictions to the number of cases disposed of fell from 45 to 34 per cent.

Of reported offences under local and special laws, 38,903, or 85·3 per cent., were returned as true, a large increase in some districts being due to a stricter enforcement of sanitary rules under the Police or Municipal Acts; in Hazara to incendiary forest fires; in Jhang, mostly to proceedings on the part of contractors against workmen on the Chenab Canal; in Karnal, to cases under the Criminal Tribes Act; in four districts, to offences under the Canals Act in a year of drought.

Compensation was awarded to accused persons on account of frivolous or vexatious complaints against them in 1,691 cases, or nearly double the number for 1894.

Of 219,052 persons whose cases were disposed of in magistrates' courts, 36 per cent. were convicted, as in 1894; and of 103,268 cases for disposal, all but 1,773 were disposed of; their average duration being, as in 1894, eight days.

District magistrates disposed of 798 cases under their enhanced powers, the average duration being 21 days, or one day less than in 1894. They disposed of 7,660 criminal appeals, an increase of 18 per cent.

There were, on the whole, fewer convictions under references to Councils of Elders. In Kohat it was difficult to get satisfactory findings and in several cases the district magistrate had to reject the verdict of guilty as given on wholly insufficient grounds. In Bannu the district magistrate remarks that an act of murder according to the Penal Code may be justifiable homicide with the

the Waziris, punishable by compensation to the relatives of the murdered man, and that unless we make some allowance for considerations of this kind Jirgas will simply not convict. CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

Of 719 original cases which came before the Courts of Session, 464 were sessions trials, the remainder were referred cases. The percentage of convictions in the former was 61, against 59 in 1894. The number of persons sentenced to death was 152, an increase of nearly 18 per cent.

The number of persons who appealed were; to District Courts, 11,713; to Sessions Courts, 7,726; to the Chief Court, 767; in all 20,206, or 35 per cent. of those to whom appeals were open.

In the District Courts 26 per cent. had their sentences reversed, 14 per cent. had them reduced or altered, while as to 60 the appeals were dismissed.

In the Courts of Session 31·8 per cent. of the appeals were rejected while 30·5 per cent. of the appellants had their sentences confirmed; 14·85 per cent. of the sentences were reduced, and 18·67 per cent. were reversed; the cases of 237 persons were pending at the close of the year.

Only two original cases came before the Chief Court in the exercise of its criminal jurisdiction; but there were 569 appeals against decisions of the Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, 216 or 38 per cent. being from sentence of death or transportation for life. This number of appeals was disposed of in the year, leaving the same number pending as at the close of 1894, viz., 104. Of 751 persons concerned in these appeals, 30·1 per cent. had their appeals rejected, while the sentences were confirmed as to 26 per cent. of them, reduced as to 27 per cent., and reversed as to 17 per cent.

Lower Burma has an area of 87,831 square miles, and a population of Burma. 4,658,627. Criminal jurisdiction was exercised by a Judicial Commissioner, a Recorder, seven Sessions Judges, 20 District Magistrates, and 178 subordinate Magistrates.

The reported offences numbered 55,653, of which 53,268 or 94 per cent. were classed as true, and 47,842 or 84 per cent. were brought to trial. The increase of 1·9 per cent. in reported offences, was confined to minor offences, and compares favourably with the increase of over 11 per cent. which occurred in 1894 under cattle-theft, robberies and dacoities. The number of cases disposed of was 47,412, an increase of 3 per cent.; out of 74,692 persons accused, 44,930 were convicted, or over 60 per cent. The increase of work was borne chiefly by the honorary magistrates, who disposed of 10·3 per cent. more than in 1894, over two-thirds coming before the Rangoon Bench. The percentage of convictions in magisterial courts rose from 60·64 to 61·76.

Transportations and sentences of imprisonment above seven years diminished, but there were more imprisonments for shorter terms. Fewer capital sentences were passed, but more were confirmed.

The work of the Sessions Courts fell off, and fewer persons were committed for trial. Appeals were more numerous but less successful.

Upper Burma is little smaller in area than the older division of the province, but the population is one-third less. Criminal jurisdiction is exercised by a Judicial Commissioner, five Sessions Judges, 16 District Magistrates, and 186 subordinate Magistrates.

An increase of 3·7 per cent. in the number of reported cases (16,973) was due, as in Lower Burma, to greater activity in prosecuting offences under the municipal, gambling, forest, excise and other special and local enactments. Dacoities and robberies continued to decrease, but grievous hurt maintained the steady rise which began in 1892. There were 24,558 persons under trial (an increase of 5·8 per cent.), of whom 63·5 per cent. were convicted. District magistrates tried fewer cases, Sessions Courts considerably more; of 283 persons who came before the latter nearly 69 per cent. were convicted.

In 1,002 appeals disposed of by subordinate Appellate Courts, 880 were rejected or dismissed, about 4 per cent. more than in 1894. The Judicial Commissioner examined the cases of 1,561 persons, and confirmed the sentences of 1,316 or 84·3 per cent.

This province has an area of 86,606 square miles, and a population of about Central Provinces. 11 millions. Criminal justice was administered by a Judicial Commissioner, seven Sessions Judges, and by 396 Magistrates, of whom 348 were natives.

34 STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

CRIMINAL JUSTICE. The "true" cases (28,478) were 90·3 of the number reported. 45,102 persons were tried by magistrates, of whom 40 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, and 57·5 per cent. were convicted; 1,200 were still under trial at the close of the year. In 1894 the percentage of convictions was 52·4. Though offences against the person diminished 9·27 per cent. to 6,850, there was a marked increase under every head of heinous crime; murder, attempts at murder, and culpable homicide, increased nearly 33 per cent. to 182, dacoities 50 per cent. to 36, and robberies 60 per cent. to 101.

Appeals to District Magistrates decreased 7 per cent.; appeals to Courts of Session and the Judicial Commissioner increased 10·5 and 8·3 per cent. respectively.

Assam

Criminal jurisdiction in Assam is exercised by two Sessions Judges, 60 Stipendiary and 18 Honorary and Special Magistrates, the province having an area of 28,755 square miles, and a population of 4,971,917.

The reported offences numbered 32,408, of which 23,905, or nearly 74 per cent. were accepted as true. Exactly the same number of persons (13,943) were convicted as in 1894; they were 60·2 per cent. of the number brought to trial. The number of murders (51) was more than double the number committed in 1894, but while four persons only were convicted in the latter year, 22 were convicted in 1895, of whom 21 were transported for life and one was executed. The cases of serious hurt (114) were also 34 per cent. more numerous, and 128 resulted in conviction, as compared with 88 in 1894.

Fifty-seven persons were tried by jury in 1894, and in 1895 only 27. The Sessions Judge agreed with the verdict with respect to all but two of the prisoners, whose cases were referred to the High Court of Calcutta. The number of persons tried with the assistance of assessors was 130, or 25 less than in 1894. With respect to 73 the Sessions Judge concurred with the assessors.

In cases referred to the High Court for revision the orders of the Lower Court were upheld in 71·4 per cent.; 61·6 per cent. in 1894; the orders were reversed in 14·2 per cent., or only half the proportion reversed in the preceding year.

Berar.

Berar has an area of 17,720 square miles, and a population of 2,897,000. Criminal jurisdiction is exercised by the Judicial Commissioner, two Sessions Judges, 12 District and 68 Subordinate Magistrates.

Of a total of 17,468 reported offences, 14,288 were returned as true, and 12,004 were brought to trial. Though the actual numbers are less than in 1894, the decrease is attributable to ordinary fluctuations only, and not to a real diminution in crime or in criminal business.

The original work of the Sessions Courts increased from 40 to 55 cases, and the percentage of persons convicted from 46·5 to 58·2. Twenty-one of the cases, against 10 in 1894, were of actual or attempted murder.

The number of appeals was 955, an increase of 49, the appeals to the Session Judge and the Judicial Commissioner having increased by 14·2 and 100 per cent. respectively, to 363 and 157; while, owing to altered arrangements for the distribution of work, appeals to District Magistrates decreased by nearly 15 per cent., to 435. Forty-eight per cent. of appellants in Magistrates' Courts, 77·8 per cent. in Sessions Courts, and 62·5 per cent. before the Judicial Commissioner were unsuccessful; the corresponding figures for 1894 having been 50·6, 77·1, and 62·8. The appellate work was disposed of completely and with reasonable expedition. The procedure of the Subordinate Magistracy generally was considered satisfactory.

Madras.

This province has an area of 141,089 square miles and about 36 million inhabitants. Criminal jurisdiction is exercised in the Presidency town by the High Court, and by four Presidency Magistrates; and up-country by 5,631 Village Munsiffs, 687 Magistrates, and 20 Courts of Session.

Of

Of 320,286 offences reported, 306,966 were returned as true, and 299,002 were brought to trial during the year; and of 470,471 persons under trial, 48 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, while 50 per cent. were convicted. An analysis of the distribution of work shows that 78½ per cent. of the cases were tried by the up-country Magistrates, 17·35 by the Presidency Magistrates, 3·52 by village Magistrates; 1,124 cases went before the Courts of Session, and 56 before the High Court. Appeals to the number of 10,210 (231 more than in 1894) were disposed of by the Magistrates, the Courts of Session, and the High Court, in the proportion of 81, 11·9, and 7·1 per cent. CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

The percentage of convictions in cases tried by the Magistrates rose from 44·9 to 45·5, and that in cases before the Sessions Courts from 45·0 to 46·6. In appeals the percentage of sentences confirmed by the Magistrates fell from 54·3 in 1894 to 52·2; in those which went before the Sessions Courts and the High Court the proportion of confirmations fell from 73·1 and 77·2 to 67·9 and 68·6 respectively. Capital sentences were referred to the High Court for confirmation in 89 cases, and of 111 persons concerned, 82 were convicted, sentence of death being confirmed in the case of 56.

Criminal jurisdiction is exercised in the Districts of the Bombay Presidency, which have an area of 125,064 square miles and about 19 million inhabitants, by 24 District and 675 Subordinate Magistrates, from whom appeal lies in the last instance in Bombay to the High Court and to the Judicial Commissioner in Sindh. Bombay.

The number of offences reported was 244,041, of which 184,314 (75·4 per cent.) were returned as true; in 1894 the corresponding figures were 231,534 and 189,803. The increase was mainly under the more serious heads of offences, the number of murders (258) being 36 more than in 1894. The number of persons under trial was 295,590, an increase of 3·3 per cent. Of these 52 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, 36·6 per cent. were convicted, and 11·1 per cent. were under trial at the end of the year. These figures compare unfavourably with 1894, when the percentages were—acquitted or discharged, 50·6; convicted, 39·5; pending, 9·1. The Courts of Session tried 2,240 persons, and 160 went before the High Court or the Judicial Commissioner; in 1894 these numbers were 2,037 and 130. On the appellate side of the High Court there were 30 references, involving 44 persons, for confirmation of sentence of death, besides 14 other cases, involving 29 persons, referred by Sessions' Judges. Of these 73 persons, 21 were acquitted and 50 convicted, sentences of death on 26 persons being confirmed. The High Court on its original side passed two sentences of death. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision before all Courts was 9,219. The result of their appeals was as follows—sentence rejected, 34 per cent.; sentence confirmed, 36·5 per cent.; sentence modified, 7·7; sentence reversed, 15·3; pending at close of the year, 5 per cent.

JAILS.

There were throughout British India 40 central jails, 192 district jails, and 496 subordinate jails and lock-ups, the numbers varying little from those of 1894. The year opened with a jail population of 96,422; the aggregate number of prisoners in jail during the year was 556,971; the total daily average was 101,085. Compared with 1894 these figures represent an increase, respectively, of 1·34, 3·55, and 6·2 per cent. JAILS.
Number of jails,
&c.

Owing in a large measure to the scarcity which prevailed over a considerable area in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and in the Central Provinces, a larger proportion than usual of the jail population were convicts. The number of convicts admitted was 177,974, of whom 85·6 per cent. were illiterate; the total number in jail was 267,446, and the daily average was 93,312, the increase being respectively 2·1, 1·85, and 5·81 per cent. The number of executions increased, by 3·4 per cent., to 395. The number of deaths decreased, by 1·33 per cent., to 2,491. Convicts.

All castes and persuasions contributed to this increase, excepting Buddhists and Jains, whose number declined slightly. Christians increased 7·77 per cent., Nationality and
religion.

JAILS.	to 2,215, but the increase was confined to Europeans and Eurasians. Muhammadans increased 3·58 per cent., to 45,046; Hindus and Sikhs, 1·46, to 110,641; and all other classes, 16·44 per cent., to 4,172.
Age.	The largest proportion of convicts, 79·2 per cent., were between 16 and 40 years of age; 17·7 per cent. were between 40 and 60, 1·03 were under 16, and 2·07 were over 60. It is recognised that juvenile offenders should not ordinarily be subjected to the demoralising influence of jail life, that the punishment of whipping, rather than imprisonment, should be awarded where the law permits, and that in other cases the youthful offender should be sent to a reformatory school.
Reformatory Schools.	Of these schools it is said that if they have not been uniformly successful in the reformation of criminals, they have at any rate amply fulfilled the expectations with which they were originally established. There were seven Reformatories, which contained at the close of the year 1,224 boys, an increase of 4·7 per cent.
Employment previous to admission.	With regard to the occupation of convicts before their admission, it appears that 56·5 per cent. were engaged in agriculture, 9·4 per cent. in service, and 4·7 in trade; 4·38 were professional persons, 2·62 were employed under Government or local authorities, 3·38 were engaged in the mechanical arts, manufactures, &c., and 19 per cent. in miscellaneous pursuits. The only marked increase, nearly 11 per cent., was under the head "professional persons."
Sentences.	In spite of the scarcity of the year being conducive to petty crime, there was a decrease in short terms of imprisonment, the sentences of 56,022, or 31·49 per cent. of the total admissions, being for terms of less than one month, as compared with 59,483, or 34·14 per cent., in 1894. 19·34 were admitted for less than three months, against 19·43 in the previous year; 18·46, for less than six months, against 17·95; 15·27, for less than one year, against 14·05; 8·77, for one to two years, against 8·39; 4·16, for two to five years, against 3·65; 1·25, for five to 10 years, against 1·14; 0·04 per cent., for more than 10 years; 1,520, or ·86 per cent., were transported; and 638, or ·36 per cent., were sentenced to death. The Bertillon system of anthropometry is now generally in force, and in Bengal, where it has been longest in operation, it has materially assisted in bringing old offenders to justice.
Occupation in prison.	Of the average number under sentence of labour (90,259), 8·52 per cent. were employed as prison officers, 11·04 per cent. as prison servants, and 37 per cent. on manufactures.
Prison Discipline.	The rise of 2·22 per cent. in the number of offences committed by convicts in 1894 was more than maintained in 1895 by an increase of 6·7 per cent., which bears some proportion to the increase in the total number of convicts. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, with a daily average convict population of 30,575, the number of offences recorded was 10,681, but in some other provinces every prisoner on the average committed two to three offences, and even more. It would appear from these figures either that there has not been that improvement in behaviour and discipline among the convicts which was expected to result from the mark system, or that offences are still not recorded upon uniform principles.
Gross Expenditure.	The gross expenditure in 1895 rose by 2·14 per cent., to Rx. 573,711, but, though greater than in 1893-94, it was less than the expenditure of 1892. At the same time, owing to the increased number of prisoners, the gross cost per prisoner fell from Rs. 58. 11. 9 in 1894 to Rs. 57. 2. 2.
Establishment.	The cost of establishment increased by 5 per cent., to Rx. 220,029, but the cost per head diminished from Rs. 22. 1. 5 to Rs. 21. 14. 7. The highest rate per man was in the Punjab (Rs. 30. 12. 0), where during the reorganisation of the jails a temporary establishment had to be maintained, and it was smallest in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh (Rs. 13. 2. 9).
Dieting Charges.	Dieting charges amounted to Rx. 237,268. The cost per prisoner was, excluding Coorg, greatest in the Central Provinces (Rs. 30. 9. 6). In Assam the cost per head was Rs. 29. 9. 2, in Burma it was Rs. 28. 12. 2, in Bombay Rs. 27. 12. 11, in Bengal Rs. 27. 1. 3, in Madras Rs. 26. 2. 7, in Berar Rs. 21. 5. 2, in the Punjab Rs. 19. 7. 11, and in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Rs. 18. 4. 4. A considerable saving in diet charges was effected in some provinces by purchasing grain during harvest time at cheap rates and storing it till wanted.

Hospital

Hospital charges rose 4·4 per cent., to Rx. 28,517, representing a rise in the cost per head of the average number sick from Rs. 53. 1. 1 to Rs. 65. 14. 9, and per head of average strength from Rs 2. 1. 4 to Rs. 2. 13. 5. The average hospital expenses of a sick prisoner were highest in Bengal (Rs. 116. 14. 10), and lowest in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh (Rs. 40. 7. 6). JAILS.
Hospital Charges.

The cash earnings of prisoners, which had risen steadily from Rx. 125,142 in 1892 to Rx. 167,056 in 1894, fell in 1895 to Rx. 141,606, or by 15 per cent. In Bengal alone the decrease was from Rx. 49,054 to Rx. 28,000. Deducting the cash earnings from the gross cost, the net cost of jail administration was Rs. 432,055, or 8·5 per cent. more than in 1894, while the average net cost of a prisoner, which had fallen in the three preceding years to Rs. 41. 1. 11, rose in 1895 to Rs. 43. 0. 5. The rise in the net cost was, as might be expected from the figures already given, most marked in Bengal—from Rs. 46. 7. 9 to Rs. 58. 1. 3, and in the Central Provinces, from Rs. 43. 5. 11 to Rs. 53. 7. 1. On the other hand, the net cost diminished in Assam and Coorg from Rs. 48. 3. 8 to Rs. 40. 5. 9, and from Rs. 20. 15. 4 to Rs. 8. 5. 4 respectively. Earnings of
Prisoners.

A very satisfactory feature of the year was the improvement in the health of the prison population. The proportion (42·95 per 1,000) borne by the daily average number of sick to average strength was higher than in 1894 (39·29 per 1,000); but the ratios to average strength of all admissions into hospital (1,005·56 per 1,000), and of deaths from all causes (26·59 per 1,000), were much lower than in 1894, when the ratios were 1,030·08 and 31·84 per 1,000 respectively. Health of Prisoners.

Of the total number of prisoners discharged during the year, 19·8 per cent. had lost weight, 20·3 per cent. had neither lost nor gained, and 56·5 per cent. had gained weight. Of the remaining 3·4 per cent. particulars are not available. Bengal, with a death-rate reduced from 47·12 per 1,000 to 27·47, shows the lowest mortality on record in that province, a result which is due in some degree to recent improvements in the sanitary conditions of jail life, and to more careful supervision of all the details of jail management. Burma also shows a remarkable improvement—from 28·78 per 1,000 to 17·93. Madras comes next, with a ratio of 18·18, then the Punjab (21·81), and Berar stands fourth, with a ratio of 23·26. On the other hand, the death-rate rose in the Central Provinces, from 31·74 per 1,000 to 55·96, and in Assam from 51·05 to 58·41, these two being considerably the highest rates in the ten provinces. In the Central Provinces many of the prisoners were in a very emaciated condition on their first admission to jail. The high death-rate in Assam is stated to have been mainly due to the want of proper attention to the food, water, and clothing of prisoners employed on extra-mural labour. As a general rule, it is said that the mortality returns must to a great extent be taken as an index of the care bestowed on the preparation and cooking of food. The authorised scale of diet for healthy men requires modification in the case of prisoners who are admitted in a weakly condition, and the recommendation is made that jail authorities should occasionally meet to interchange views, and by visiting jails in different provinces should acquire a practical knowledge of the various systems in vogue, and of those details of management which conduce to efficiency and which tend to improve the health of the prisoners. Health.
Mortality.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

The number of original suits in the Civil Courts of Bengal subordinate to the High Court of Calcutta rose nearly 1·3 per cent. to 565,642, of which 48·5 per cent. were for money or moveables, 39·5 per cent. were under the Rent Law, and 12 per cent. were title and other suits. The total number for disposal, including those pending from 1894, was 667,654, of which 87 per cent. were decided, leaving 86,536 cases pending at the end of the year. The disposal of contested cases shows a steady improvement. The total value of suits was Rx. 13,271,220 up-country (Civil Courts 94·5 per cent., Revenue Courts 5, Calcutta Courts 5 per cent.). The total amount realised in execution rose more than 15 per cent., to Rx. 1,944,787. Appeals to the number of 19,240 were instituted in the lower appellate courts; the number determined fell from 20,771 to 20,125, and at the close of the year 11,450 remained undisposed of. Of the pending cases, 32 per cent. had been on the files for over three months, and 8 per cent. for more than a year, the majority being appeals in title suits. The High Court CIVIL JUSTICE.
Bengal.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

on its original side had 1,831 cases for disposal, of which 773 were instituted in 1895; 883 cases were decided, and the number undisposed of at the end of the year was reduced from 1,058 to 948.

North-Western
Provinces and
Oudh.

Though the North-Western Provinces and Oudh now form one province they retain their separate judicial systems. In the North-Western Provinces 92,095 suits were instituted, a number which, though 3·27 per cent. more than in 1894, was only '67 per cent. more than the average of the preceding five years. Including pending cases, remands, &c., the number for disposal was 106,205; at the end of the year the pending cases were reduced to 9,860, or nearly 18 per cent. less than at the close of 1894. The larger amount of work done was partly due to the appointment of additional Munsifs, and the increase in institutions is partly explained by an apprehension that an enactment was contemplated limiting the amount of interest recoverable to that of the principal sum.

In Oudh institutions increased nearly 3 per cent., to 57,580, and the total number for disposal 3½ per cent., to 68,572. Disposals numbered only 57,120, and consequently the pending file increased by 15 per cent., to 11,452. The average duration of contested cases rose from 81 days in 1893 and 85 in 1894 to 90 days in 1895. In the Courts of Subordinate Judges a rise from 52 days to 102 was followed in 1895 by a decline to 49. With the object of relieving Subordinate Judges of petty original business, in order to enable them to be of greater assistance to District Judges in the disposal of Munsifs' appeals and the trial of original suits of high valuation, the small cause jurisdiction of Munsifs was considerably extended.

Appeals to courts in the North-Western Provinces other than the High Court fell off more than 12 per cent., and the pending file was reduced. The average duration of appeals before Subordinate Judges rose from 100 days to 182; in the District Courts it decreased from 242 days to 194. In Oudh, also, there were fewer appeals and the pending file was reduced. Their average duration was 128 days before Subordinate Judges and 324 days in District Courts—in both cases a considerable reduction.

First appeals in the High Court decreased nearly 14 per cent., to 728, and disposals 17 per cent., to 297, leaving a reduced pending file of 431. The average duration of these appeals, however, increased from 597 to 606 days. On the other hand the average duration of second appeals was reduced from 394 days to 361. In the Court of the Judicial Commissioner in Oudh first appeals increased 26·6 per cent. to 119, and disposals 68·5 per cent. to 91, leaving an increased pending file of 195 cases. The average duration was reduced from 728 days to 711 in civil appeals, and in rent appeals from 1,206 to 612. Second appeals increased 49 per cent. to 942, leaving a largely increased pending file of 1,248. The average duration of civil and rent second appeals was 349 and 427 respectively.

Punjab.

In 1894 the number of civil suits in the Punjab diminished 3 per cent. In 1895 they increased by 5 per cent., to 262,453, exceeding the average (249,800) of eight years (1888-95) by more than 5 per cent., and giving an incidence of 13 suits per 1,000 of the population. The increase of former years took place chiefly in suits for money or moveables otherwise than on registered bonds, and was largely contributed to by the number of suits brought by bankers and shopkeepers against Zamindars, which amounted to 121,616, or 5·1 per cent. more than in 1894. Out of 229,538 suits for money, the percentages 19·8, 48·3, and 18·26 represent the number of suits, of which the value did not exceed Rs. 10, 50, and 100 respectively; 13·5 per cent. were for sums above Rs. 100. The aggregate value amounted to Rs. 2,325,938, and the average value was Rs. 89. 3. 10. About 72 per cent. of the suits were, as usual, disposed of without contest; about 28 per cent. were contested, and, of these, plaintiffs were successful in about 20 per cent. About 70 per cent. of the entire litigation of the province is usually disposed of by Munsifs. The percentage of suits dismissed for default was 19·6, a little below that of the previous year, but so large a percentage as 17·4 has not before been decided *ex parte*. Applications for restoration and to set aside *ex parte* decrees were more numerous than before, indicating that the procedure of the Courts in dealing with

with cases in default and *ex parte* may call for improvement. But in spite of this and other defects which have been noticed, and of the occasional resort to improper devices by judicial officers to increase the apparent outturn of work and decrease average durations, the work of the subordinate Courts has on the whole been satisfactory. The investiture of selected Munsifs with Small Cause Court powers continued to give good results, and the Honorary Civil Judges of the Province afforded considerable help by disposing of 7 per cent. of the civil business of the year. The work of the higher and Appellate Courts was good, the only apparent shortcoming being inadequate supervision of subordinate Courts. There was a slight fall in the number of appeals in the Chief Court, but though the work disposed of was equal to that which came in, the arrear list was not reduced and represented about a year's work.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

A decline in the market price of paddy, the chief staple of the Province, reacted on land values and loan transactions, and caused a considerable falling off in litigation in Lower Burma, the bulk of the decrease being in suits for money or moveable property. The number of suits instituted (38,603) was nearly 9 per cent. less than in 1894. The same reason accounts for the value of the suits declining by nearly 18 per cent. to Rx. 612,153. The duration of suits outside Rangoon increased from 30 to 35 days for contested, and from 19 to 21 days for uncontested cases. Appeals were slightly more numerous and special assistants were appointed in the heavier districts to relieve the Deputy Commissioners of a portion of the civil appellate and other judicial work. An unsatisfactory feature of the year's work was that the Judicial Commissioner confirmed the decrees of the Lower Appellate Courts in only 41·8 per cent. of the cases which he disposed of.

Burma.

In Upper Burma the number of suits filed (11,750) was slightly more than in 1894, but the increase consisted for the most part of petty suits of small value. Claims relating to immovable property fell off; divorce and other matrimonial cases increased. Out of 1,131 appeals disposed of in District Courts, the original decree was confirmed in 62 per cent. The total value of the suits is returned at Rx. 180,214, and the average value at Rs. 153, against Rs. 159 in Lower Burma.

After eight years' decline in civil litigation in the Central Provinces, there was in 1895 a rise to the extent of 8·34 per cent. Nearly one-half of this increase occurred in Saugor and Raipur, the percentage of rise in these two districts being 67·2 and 37·6 respectively. In 1894, however, owing to the failure of the crops, the figures had been abnormally low. It is evident that continued agricultural depression must in the end promote litigation, though for a time it may have the opposite effect. With regard to the description of suits, 75·4 per cent. were for money or moveable property, 15·9 per cent. were under the rent law, and the balance, 8·7 per cent., were title and other suits. Suits for arrears of rent increased by 47·6 per cent. to 15,382, and were most numerous in Saugor and Damoh. The explanation as to Saugor is that the instalment of land revenue due in June 1894 having been suspended, the tenants in 1895 made default and had to be coerced.

Central Provinces.

Of 104,846 suits disposed of, 68·1 per cent. were uncontested. Judgment was given for plaintiff in 22·8 per cent., and for defendant in 8·2 per cent., of the contested cases. The work done was 7·6 per cent. more than in 1894. The average duration of suits was in contested cases 69·7 days, and in uncontested 40·2 days.

The number of appeals in all Courts, exclusive of that of the Judicial Commissioner, was 6,487, or 20·6 per cent., of the cases appealable, as compared with 23·9 per cent. in 1894. The decline is attributed to the falling off in litigation in the previous year. In the Judicial Commissioner's Court the number of institutions fell from 709 to 511. Of a total of 1,111 for disposal, he disposed of 624. The average duration of appeals in his Court has increased in five years from 122·4 to 314·4 days. In the Courts of the Judicial Assistants the average duration of cases rose from 114 days in 1894 to 167 in 1895.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

By the recent appointment of an additional Judicial Commissioner the accumulation of arrears will be greatly diminished.

Assam.

The number of suits instituted in the Civil Courts of Assam was 28,946, or 1 for every 169 of the population, and exceeded that of 1894 and 1893 by 9 and 17 per cent. respectively. Their value (Rx. 224,908) was 10 per cent. more than in 1894, but 4.5 per cent. less than in 1893. The disposal of suits keeps pace with their increase. The number disposed of in 1895 was 29,610, of which 24.7 were contested, the decision being in plaintiffs' favour in 61.3 per cent. of the cases. 8.6 per cent. were compromised.

Appeals were preferred in 861 cases, and in 19 per cent. only was the decision reversed.

Madras.

The number of original cases instituted (314,673) was not much greater than in 1894, but compared with 1891 it represents a steady increase of over 21 per cent. in four years. The disposal of work has, however, kept pace with its increase, and the arrears at the beginning of the year were considerably reduced before its close.

In spite of a decrease in the number of Village Courts trying suits the cases instituted in them (70,136) were 3.6 per cent. more numerous than in 1894, the people in some districts showing a greater readiness to resort to this class of court. In the regular Courts of the Mufassal the institutions were, in ordinary suits, 87,560, and in small causes, 136,075. As usual, by far the greater number, about 87 per cent., were instituted before District Munsifs. By a more prompt disposal of work the arrear list was considerably reduced. In the Presidency Court of Small Causes, owing it is said to depression of trade, the number of cases diminished by 5½ per cent., to 20,171. The number of appeals, amounting in all to 13,139, was unprecedented, and nearly 17 per cent. more than in 1894. The increase was, however, almost entirely due to the large number of rent appeals in two districts.

The High Court had more work and disposed of more, but it failed to reduce the arrear list, and has lately been strengthened by the appointment of another Puisne Judge.

Bombay.

The number of suits instituted in all the Courts of the Bombay Presidency (216,594) was only 1¼ per cent. higher than in 1894. An increase in the work of the Subordinate and District Courts was partially balanced by a decrease of that in the Small Cause Courts of the Presidency and the Mufassal, and in the Village Courts. The aggregate value of the suits rose nearly 19 per cent., to Rx. 3,707,500. The number of suits disposed of (214,579) was not so large as to reduce the arrear list, which rose to nearly 39,833.

Of a total of 12,712 appeals which came before all the Appellate Courts, 6,021 were disposed of.

The Dekkan Agricultural Relief Act continued in operation in the Collectories of Poona, Satara, Sholapur, and Ahmednagar. It was amended by Act VI of 1895, which came into force on the 1st May 1895. There was a slight decrease in the amount of litigation under it. In the 16 years during which the Act has been in existence, claims amounting to Rx. 412,500 have been settled for Rx. 292,500.

IV.

REGISTRATION.

In a previous Statement was given a short account of the Registration Law. It will suffice to say here that the law makes compulsory the registration of all non-testamentary documents affecting immovable property of the value of Rx. 10 or upwards, while it permits the optional registration of other documents. Officers are established in every district for the registration of documents, and for keeping copies of such documents. *Ad valorem* fees are charged for registration, and a small fixed fee for searching the records. At the end of 1895-96 there were in British India 1,965 registration offices; the total number of documents registered during the year was 2,677,630, or 1 per cent. less than in 1894-95. The total registration fee receipts of the year 1895-96 were Rx. 424,000, as compared with Rx. 417,000 in the preceding year; and the cost of the registration offices was Rx. 233,000, leaving a surplus of Rx. 191,000, against Rx. 186,000 in the year 1894-95. It is claimed for the Indian registration system that it operates to prevent fraud, as well as to secure and simplify titles.

REGISTRATION.
General.

The number of registration offices in Bengal increased from 383 to 397. The total number of documents registered fell from 1,202,675 in 1894-95 to 1,144,508 in 1895-96. The decrease occurred under documents of which registration is optional, as well under those for which it is compulsory; nearly 86 per cent. of all the documents brought for registration related to immovable property. The number of registered transfers of holdings by ryots (tenants), paying at fixed rates or enjoying occupancy right, after rising for several years, fell from 208,395 in 1894-95 to 195,203 in 1895-96; the transfer was made in 130,266 cases to other ryots, and in 23,491 cases to money-lenders. The average price of occupancy holdings was 16 years' purchase of the rent. The number of ceremonies registered under the Muhammadan Marriage Act rose from 14,743 to 16,061, the highest number since the law was passed. The Act was extended to five additional districts, and is now in force in 20 districts, as compared with 19 districts in the year 1894-95; and 23 new offices for registering such marriages were opened in the year. The total fee receipts from all registrations were Rx. 134,359, or two-thirds per cent. less than in the previous year; the expenditure increased from Rx. 80,200 to Rx. 80,370; and the surplus decreased from Rx. 55,000 to Rx. 54,000. The decrease in fee receipts was due to the reduction in registrations which was attributed to the better condition of the ryots during the year.

Bengal.

The number of registration offices in the North-West Provinces and Oudh fell from 317 to 289, and the total number of documents registered rose from 225,685 to 230,268. The rate of increase was largest under documents for which registration was optional. The decrease in the number of registration offices was confined to Oudh, where the system was reorganised and separate whole-time Registrars were appointed. There was an increase of 1 per cent. in the registration receipts as compared with 1894-95. The surplus of receipts over expenditure was Rx. 21,000, compared with Rx. 21,100 in the previous year. The number of mortgages registered showed an increase of 8½ per cent. as compared with the preceding year; the number of leases increased 5 per cent.; sales of land increased 7 per cent. The number of documents relating to movable property, for which registration was optional, rose from 49,608 in the previous year to 50,108 in the year 1895-96. The total value of the property regarding which documents were registered during the year was Rx. 9,330,000, as compared with Rx. 9,013,000 in the previous year. Prosecutions for breach of the Registration Law fell from 17 to nine; in six cases the accused were convicted and punished; and six of the cases were for "false personation."

North-West
Provinces and
Oudh.

The number of registration offices in the Punjab was 283, or 3 more than at the end of the previous year. The total number of documents registered was

Punjab.

REGISTRATION. was 125,701, or 16 per cent. above the previous year's total, while the fee receipts increased by 13 per cent., and the surplus of the Department by 19 per cent. The increase of registration business, following after two successive years of decrease, was attributed to the failure of the spring harvests of the year 1895; the increase was most marked under the head of both compulsory and optional registrations of deeds of sale and mortgage of agricultural land. The proportion of optional registrations of immovable property was 30 per cent. of the total transactions. The total value of property to which registered documents related was Rx. 4,826,000, or Rx. 513,000 more than in the preceding year. The registration receipts rose from Rx. 27,765 to Rx. 31,698, and the surplus from Rx. 15,924 to Rx. 18,960.

Burma. The number of registration offices in Lower Burma was 115, or six less than in the previous year; and the number of registrations decreased from 16,493 in the previous year to 15,705. The price of land fell in consequence of the decline in rice prices; and the number of registrations relating to immovable property decreased. The aggregate value of all property registered was Rx. 2,115,000, or 13 per cent. less than in 1894-95. The fee receipts fell to Rx. 5,498, or 1.3 per cent. below the income of 1894-95. The surplus of receipts over expenditure was Rx. 3,061, against Rx. 3,086 in the previous year.

Thirty-one registration offices were open in Upper Burma as compared with 20 in the year 1894-95; the number of documents registered was about the same as in the previous year; but the value concerned rose from Rx. 111,300 to Rx. 161,000. The total income from fees was Rx. 635, and the expenditure was Rx. 364. In both Upper and Lower Burma the majority of registered deeds continue to be sales and mortgages of land; but the whole registration business is very small.

Central Provinces. The number of registration offices was 89, against 87 in the previous year, and the number of documents registered during the year in the Central Provinces was 37,941, or 8 per cent. more than in the preceding year. The increase was mainly under compulsory registrations, and was attributed to the stimulus given by three successive bad seasons to sales and mortgages of land. The value of the property concerned was Rx. 1,509,000, an increase of 13 per cent. over the previous year. Of the documents registered 78 per cent., as compared with 77 per cent. in the preceding year, were of classes for which registration is compulsory. The cost of the Registration Department was 37 per cent. of the receipts, and the net revenue was Rx. 9,036, as compared with Rx. 8,346 in the preceding year.

Assam In Assam there were 25 registration offices, as in the previous year; 38,217 documents were registered, or 9 per cent. more than the total of the preceding year; the increase was mainly in documents, of which the registration is obligatory. The value of the property registered rose to Rx. 687,000 from Rx. 605,000 in the previous year. The fee receipts were Rx. 4,762, and the expenditure was Rx. 2,674, leaving a surplus of Rx. 2,088, which is slightly below the surplus of 1894-95.

The marriages registered under the Muhammadan Marriage Act were 345, as compared with 172 and 222 in the two preceding years; the number of these marriage registrations in Assam, after decreasing for several years, has now doubled.

Berar. The number of registration offices in Berar was 68, or five more than at the end of the previous year; the number of documents registered was 33,942, or 736 fewer. The value of the property registered was Rx. 1,082,000, or 7 per cent. larger than in the preceding year; the fee receipts decreased 2 per cent.; the expenditure increased 5 per cent., and the surplus decreased from Rx. 3,800 to Rx. 3,400.

Madras. Six new registration offices were opened in Madras, bringing up the total to 419. The number of documents registered was 844,943, showing a decrease of 1 per cent. compared with the previous year, and of 3½ per cent., as compared with the year 1892-93, when the number of registrations was the largest on record. The decrease was in documents of which registration was optional, was confined to the southern districts, and occurred chiefly under mortgages

mortgages valued at less than Rs. 100 each. Nearly 95 per cent. of all the registrations in Madras concerned immovable property. The total value of the property concerned in all the registrations was 18½ millions, against 16½ million Rx. in the preceding year. The registration receipts were Rx. 121,809; the expenditure was Rx. 100,985; and the surplus was Rx. 20,824, or 23 per cent. less than in the previous year. The decrease in the surplus was due to expenditure on newly-established registration offices. The number of documents of which registration was refused fell from 1,997 to 1,941; of this latter total 428 cases were due to denial of execution, 555 to non-appearance of executants; and 453 to unwillingness to complete registration.

The number of registry offices in Bombay was 249, or three more than in the previous year. The number of registrations was 203,543, or 2½ per cent. larger than in 1894-95. The increase took place entirely under compulsory registrations, which formed more than 88 per cent. of the whole number. Registered deeds of sale and mortgages of immovable property numbered 68,546 and 81,008 respectively. The value of the property affected was Rx. 10,228,000. The fee receipts were Rx. 58,491. The registration surplus of the year, including Rx. 1,576 under the Joint Stock Companies Act, was Rx. 31,462, as compared with Rx. 29,864 in the year 1894-95.

Under the special law for the protection of Dekkhan agriculturists in the four districts of Poona, Sattara, Ahmadnagar and Sholapur, there were 144,956 registrations, or 2 per cent. above the total of the previous year. Of the registered sales, leases, and mortgages of land, 47.4 per cent., or somewhat larger proportion than in the three previous years, were between agriculturists on both sides, and 52.6 per cent. between agriculturists and money-lenders. The aggregate value of property concerned in these special registrations was Rx. 770,000, or 2 per cent. larger than in the previous year. There was an increase of nearly 2 per cent. in the fee receipts; and the net deficit on these registration proceedings was Rx. 884, as compared with Rx. 718 in the preceding year, and over Rx. 1,600 in earlier years.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

During the year 1895-96, in all provinces of India, the number of new joint stock companies registered was 168, with a nominal capital of Rx. 4,755,000 and a paid-up capital of Rx. 856,000; while 63 companies, with a paid-up capital of Rx. 951,000, ceased to work, as compared with 196 new companies registered in the previous year. At the end of the year there were in operation 1,309 companies, with a nominal capital of Rx. 41,891,000 and a paid-up capital of Rx. 29,387,000. The companies work chiefly in the provinces of Bengal and Bombay; 85 per cent. of all the company capital pertains to those two provinces: in Madras the paid-up capital was Rx. 2,041,000, and in the North-West Provinces it was Rx. 1,123,000; in no other province did the aggregate paid-up capital of registered companies reach one million. The distribution of paid-up capital among registered companies for different classes of industry was somewhat as follows:—

	Rx. of Paid-up Capital.		Rx. of Paid-up Capital.
Banking and insurance	- 4,136,000	Brewery companies	- 170,000
Trading and shipping -	- 4,100,000	Mills and presses	- 13,688,000
Mining and quarrying	- 1,924,000	Tea and planting	- 3,674,000

The companies with the largest aggregate subscribed capital, Rx. 13,688,000, were for weaving and spinning or for pressing cotton, jute, wool, and silk, and nearly two-thirds of the capital of such undertakings belonged to the Bombay Presidency. The capital invested in mills of these kinds increased 7 per cent. during the year; but the capital invested in tea, sugar, and some other industries decreased. In the 12 years 1884-96 the number of joint-stock companies at work has risen from 694 to 1,309; the paid-up capital has risen from 20¾ to 29½ millions; so the expansion of joint-stock enterprise has not been very rapid.

In Bengal 101 new companies were registered during the year, with a nominal capital of Rx. 1,950,000.

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JOINT STOCK
COMPANIES.
Bombay.

In Bombay 44 new companies were registered. Nine companies went into liquidation. At the end of the year 312 joint-stock companies were in existence, with a paid-up capital of Rx. 11,667,000. Of these, 200 companies, with a paid-up capital of Rx. 8,848,000, were working cotton mills and presses.

PATENTS AND DESIGNS.

Patents.

The total number of applications filed in 1895 for the registration of inventions under the Patents' Law was 417, as compared with 375 in the preceding year. Of these, 308 were granted, 30 were refused, and 79 were undecided at the end of the year. Of the applications, 127, as compared with 131 in the year 1894, were referred for the opinion of experts. The number of specifications filed during the year was 320, or 26 more than in the preceding year. There were 40 applications for the registration of designs, of which 15 only were granted. The number of applications for patents made by natives of India rose from 22 in 1893 to 32 in 1894, and to 42 in 1895. The increase in other applications was mainly due to the desire of European and American inventors to acquire Indian protection for their inventions. The fee receipts of the Indian Patent Office during the year were, after refunds, Rx. 2,397, against Rx. 2,180 in the previous year.

V.

FINANCE.

FINANCE.

[The denomination Rx. means tens of rupees.]

THE gross revenue and expenditure of British India in 1895-96 may be thus compared with the figures for 1894-95 :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Revenue - - - - -	95,187,429	98,370,167	3,182,738	—
Expenditure - - - - -	94,494,319	96,836,169	2,341,850	—
Surplus - - - - -	693,110	1,533,998	Result better by - Rx. 840,888	

In the gross revenue are included very large receipts, amounting altogether to about one-third of the whole, which (being derived from the working of the railways and canals, the operations of the Postal and Telegraph Departments, the interest received on loans to municipalities, landholders, &c., and on the investments of the Currency Department, the contributions by officers towards their pensions, the sale of stores, and the receipts of the various administrative departments,) are rather of the nature of a set-off against the corresponding charges than revenue proper; and, on the other hand, there are included in the expenditure, firstly, the refunds and drawbacks, assignments and compensations, which are a direct set-off against the revenue; and, secondly, two very variable charges, viz., (1) that which is incurred for the production of opium, and is subject to variations caused by the state of the season and of trade, and (2) that which is due to the establishment and maintenance of public works, and necessarily increases as more works are brought into operation. The financial position of the Government can, therefore, be much better appreciated by looking at the net income and expenditure, a statement of which is now annually laid before Parliament.* The following is the comparison of the net revenue, i. e., of the gross revenue after the deduction of the above-mentioned direct demands, with the net expenditure, i. e., the expenditure after the deduction of the various departmental receipts :—

NET REVENUE.

Net Revenue.

	1894-95.		1895-96.		Increase or Decrease (—).	
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue, &c. :						
Land Revenue - - - - -	24,903,402		25,064,280		760,818	
Forests - - - - -	1,023,244		1,050,647		33,403	
Tributes from Native States - - -	743,471		751,454		7,983	
		26,670,177		27,472,381		802,204
Opium : Net Receipts - - - - -	—	5,702,558	—	5,049,894	—	—652,664
Taxation :						
Salt - - - - -	8,291,929		8,467,493		175,564	
Stamps - - - - -	4,568,484		4,676,087		107,603	
Excise - - - - -	5,444,206		5,652,923		208,717	
Provincial Rates - - - - -	3,535,623		3,606,480		160,857	
Customs - - - - -	3,757,433		4,888,383		1,130,950	
Assessed Taxes - - - - -	1,794,708		1,822,418		27,710	
Registration - - - - -	416,993		423,573		6,580	
		27,809,376		29,627,357		1,817,981
Miscellaneous Receipts :						
Mint - - - - -	— 16,840		— 12,311		4,529	
Exchange on Remittance Trans- actions.	227,675		178,306		— 49,369	
Miscellaneous - - - - -	259,950		226,458		— 33,492	
		470,785		392,453		— 78,332
TOTAL NET REVENUE - - - - -	—	60,652,896	—	62,542,085	—	1,889,189

* See Parliamentary Paper 110, of 1897, in which the form differs from that previously adopted, chiefly by the treatment of the collection of revenue as a charge, instead of a deduction from revenue.

FINANCE.

Net Expenditure.

NET EXPENDITURE.

	1894-95.		1895-96.		Increase or Decrease (—).	
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Debt Services :						
Interest on Public Debt (other than that charged to Railways and Irrigation) and other Obligations.	—	4,308,955	—	3,219,747	—	1,089,208
Military Services :						
Army - - - - -	23,085,894		24,420,140		1,334,252	
Buildings and Roads : Military -	948,297		1,156,230		207,942	
Special Defence Works - - - -	217,867		101,340		116,518	
		24,252,058		25,677,734		1,425,676
Collection of Revenue - - - -	—	6,319,031	—	6,427,548	—	108,517
Commercial Services :						
Post Office - - - - -	25,534		69,697		44,163	
Telegraph - - - - -	170,749		188,087		17,338	
Railways - - - - -	2,348,489		1,620,268		728,221	
Irrigation - - - - -	613,065		676,358		62,393	
		2,766,171		2,038,842		727,329
Civil Services :						
Civil Departments - - - -	13,206,240		13,488,338		282,080	
Miscellaneous Civil Charges - -	5,326,311		5,242,182		84,129	
Famine Relief and Insurance -	610,235		580,485		29,750	
Construction of Railways (charged against Revenue, in addition to that under Famine Insurance.)	19,600		7,661		11,938	
Buildings and Roads : Civil - -	3,712,027		3,940,441		228,414	
Provincial and Local Surpluses or Deficits.	260,860		379,100		118,240	
		22,913,571		23,044,216		1,330,645
TOTAL NET EXPEN- DITURE	—	59,959,780	—	61,008,087	—	1,048,301

Result of the Year.

Thus, there was an increase of the net revenue by Rx. 1,889,189, and of the net expenditure by Rx. 1,048,301, making the result better by Rx. 840,888, and producing a surplus of Rx. 1,533,998 in 1895-96, as compared with one of Rx. 693,110 in 1894-95. This result is attributable to a reduction of the charges connected with exchange by Rx. 1,054,019; the gold value of the rupee having risen from an average of 13.1*d.* in 1894-95 to 13.64*d.* in 1895-96, and the total charge in connection with exchange having been Rx. 13,990,949 in 1895-96, as compared with Rx. 15,044,968 in 1894-95, including in both cases the portion (about Rx. 430,000) borne by Provincial revenues, which does not affect the surplus of the year.

Alterations in Net Revenue and Expenditure.

Omitting the figures of exchange, the net revenue showed an improvement of 1,919,467, while the net expenditure was increased by 2,132,598. In the former the main increase occurred under Customs, owing to the reimposition of the duty on cotton goods in December 1894; the increase in the receipts from imports was Rx. 1,056,370, of which Rx. 779,778 was realised on cotton manufactures, and there was also an increase of Rx. 50,603 in the Excise duty on such goods; of the remaining increase under Customs, Rx. 86,945 was from imports of oil. The net revenue from Land Revenue was larger by Rx. 760,818, from Salt by Rx. 175,564, from Excise by Rx. 208,717, from Stamps by Rx. 107,603, from Provincial Rates by Rx. 160,857, and under minor heads by 27,746; there was, however, a diminution of Rx. 653,427 under Opium.

Of the increase in the net expenditure, 1,684,038 occurred under Army, which is almost entirely attributable to the Chitral Expedition, the cost of which under this head in 1895-96 was reckoned at Rx. 1,647,500. The other heads under which a material increase occurred were, Civil Works, 228,507; Military Works, 203,337; Political, 144,321, owing to irregularity in the dates

dates of payment of the subsidy to the Amir of Afghanistan; Collection of Revenue, 102,666; Irrigation, 65,385; Civil Superannuation, 55,916; and Law and Justice, 53,399; while the portion defrayed from the balances of the Provincial Governments was smaller by Rx. 939,969. On the other hand, the net charge for Interest on Ordinary Debt and other Obligations was reduced by 901,685, for Railways by 316,217, for Special Defence Works by 81,108, and under other heads by 45,930.

FINANCE.

In the tables in the Appendix, the net revenue and expenditure in India of the several Provinces under the chief heads are shown for the years 1894-95 and 1895-96, to which is added a table of the net payments in England, with the loss by exchange thereon, the figures in all the tables combined resulting in the totals of net revenue and expenditure given above. The revenue and expenditure of Berar, which form no part of the general finances of the Government of India, are not given in this chapter, but are referred to under Hyderabad, in the chapter on Native States. The surplus revenue of the various Provinces, as shown in the Summary on page 214, were applied to meet the general charges in India and in England in approximately the following proportions:—In 1894-95: Bengal 36, North-West Provinces 18, Bombay 17, Madras 11, the Punjab 9, Burma 5, Central Provinces 3, and Assam 1. In 1895-96: the North-West Provinces 17, the Punjab 10, and the other Provinces as in the previous year.

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PUBLIC WORKS.

The total capital outlay on railways and irrigation works, the expenditure in England being converted into Indian currency at the average rate obtained for the Secretary of State's bills during the year, was as follows:

Capital Outlay on Public Works.

	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Amount supplied by borrowing or from the Cash Balances, without being charged against the Revenue of the Year:				
State Railways - - - - -	3,862,080	3,387,227	-	464,859
Irrigation Works - - - - -	594,145	699,967	105,822	-
TOTAL - - - - -	4,446,221	4,087,194	-	359,037
Amount defrayed from Revenue:				
Provincial Railways, &c. - - - - -	19,609	7,661		
Surveys of Railways charged to revenue in previous years - - - - -	58,989	-		
Protective Railways - - - - -	566,867	529,867	-	104,525
Protective Irrigation Works - - - - -	43,110	38,317		
Other Irrigation Works* - - - - -	21,663	19,868		
TOTAL Direct Outlay by the State -	3,146,409	4,682,907	-	463,562
In addition to this, the outlay by companies guaranteed or subsidised by the Government was - - - - -	1,550,464	1,709,664	249,200	-
So that the TOTAL Outlay was -	6,096,933	6,482,571	-	214,362

* Excluding capital outlay on the minor works, against which interest is not charged in the Accounts.

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FINANCE.
Debt.

DEBT.

The following table shows the alteration in the amount of the debt that took place in 1895-96 :—

	Amount of Debt on 31 March 1895.	Amount of Debt on 31 March 1896.	Increase.	Decrease.
In India Rx.	104,373,740	103,788,928	—	584,812
In England £.	114,005,628	113,903,732	—	102,004

In 1894-95 the Government of India effected a most important conversion of the Public Debt from 4 per cent. to 3½ per cent. Securities. A detailed account of this operation will be found at paragraphs 59 to 74 of Sir James Westland's Financial Statement for 1895-96 (Parliamentary Paper 283 of 1895). The result of the year's transactions was that interest was reduced from 4 to 3½ per cent. on debt to the amount of Rx. 91,940,760; that 4 per cent. debt was discharged, amounting to Rx. 1,172,338; and that the amount of debt not bearing interest, and payable when demanded, was increased by Rx. 2,036,288.

In England a loan of 6,000,000*l.* India 3 per cent. Stock was issued, at an average rate of 99*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* Of the sum received, 4,000,000*l.* was applied to the discharge of India sterling bills issued in the previous year, and the remainder to strengthen the cash balance in England. 5,000*l.* of old debt was discharged, and 102,966*l.* cancelled through the operation of the Sinking Funds; so that the net addition to the debt (permanent and temporary) was 1,892,034*l.*

In 1895-96 the Government of India, according to agreement, repaid the first instalment, Rx. 120,000, of the 4 per cent. Gwalior Loan of 1887, and they also discharged debt to the extent of Rx. 21,988 bearing, and Rx. 442,824 not bearing, interest. In England, 100,494*l.* of India 3½ per cent. Stock was cancelled through the operation of the Sinking Funds, and 1,600*l.* of 4 per cent. Stock not bearing interest was repaid.

SAVINGS BANKS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS.

Savings Banks and other Obligations.

The following table shows the amount received and paid on account of savings banks, loans to municipalities, and other obligations in India :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.
Savings Banks, &c (net deposits)	238,610	695,080
Loans to Port Trusts, Municipalities, Native States, &c. (net receipts or disbursements)	96,682	—74,446
Provincial Advances and Loans (net disbursements)	—271,221	—164,097
Other Obligations (net receipts or disbursements)	—48,087	340,586
TOTAL	15,984	706,123

CASH BALANCES.

Cash Balances.

The following statement shows the amount of the cash balances, and the extent to which they were increased or reduced by the transactions of the year :—

	On 1st April			Increase or Decrease.	
	1894.	1895.	1896.	In 1894-95.	In 1895-96.
In India . . . Rx.	25,565,538	22,520,488	16,500,510	—3,036,100	—6,025,978
In England . . . £.	1,300,564	2,503,124	3,303,798	1,202,560	890,674

COINAGE AND PAPER CURRENCY.

The value of the coinage at the Mint of Calcutta was :—

Coinage and Paper Currency.

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.
Silver - - - - -	94,594	292,713
Copper - - - - -	120,095	82,062
TOTAL - - -	214,689	374,775

The coinage of silver was limited to half-rupees and eighth-rupees. There was no coinage at Bombay.

The receipts and expenditure of the Indian Mints were as follows :—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.
Receipts - - - - -	35,106	40,918
Expenditure - - - - -	51,946	53,229
Net Receipts or Charges - - -	— 16,840	— 12,311

On the 31st of March 1896 the amount of notes in circulation was Rx. 25,940,699, being less by Rx. 4,759,312 than on the corresponding date in 1895. The reserve was, in silver coin, Rx. 17,940,699, and in Government securities, Rx. 8,000,000.

OPIUM.

The opium revenue is raised partly by a monopoly of opium in Bengal and partly by the levy of a duty on all opium exported from Native States. Though the poppy can be grown in most parts of India, its cultivation in British territory is permitted only in parts of Bengal and of the North-West Provinces and Oudh. A few thousand acres of opium are grown in the Punjab for local consumption. The cultivator of opium in the monopoly districts receives advances to enable him to prepare the land for the crop, and he is required to deliver the whole of the produce at a fixed price to opium agents, by whom it is dispatched to the Government factories at Patna and Ghazipur to be prepared for the China market. The price for some years had been Rs. 5 per seer (two lbs.); and was raised to Rs. 6 per seer, with effect from the spring of 1895. The chests of manufactured opium are sold by auction at monthly sales which take place in Calcutta; and, in order to prevent speculation and to steady prices, the quantity to be offered at each sale during each year is notified in the previous year. A sufficient reserve has in past years been retained to supply the deficiencies of bad seasons; but, owing to a succession of six bad opium crops, no reserve at present exists. A small quantity of opium is used by the Indian Excise Departments. In 1861 the average price of opium sold by auction for the China market was as high as Rx. 185 per chest of 140 lbs. weight, but since that year it has fallen; in February 1895 the price rose to Rx. 154, the highest average at any monthly sale for the previous 23 years; it fell to Rx. 109 in January 1897. In the calendar year 1896 the average price per chest was Rx. 131; it had been Rx. 141 in 1895, and 125 in 1894.

OPIUM.
General.

Opium is grown in the Native States of Rajputana and Central India. Some of these States have agreed to assimilate their internal opium arrangements to the British excise system, and to prevent contraband dealings. They levy heavy

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Opium.

dues on opium exported from their territories for the China market, and such opium pays to the Indian Treasury a duty, which had been Rx. 60 per chest for several years until December 1894, when it was raised to Rx. 65. The duty was again reduced to Rx. 60 in July 1896.

The yield of the opium revenue during recent years has been :—

	1889-90.	1892-93.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Opium Receipts :				
Auction sales of monopoly opium - -	6,477,079	6,096,227	5,321,390	5,240,349
Duty on Bombay or Malwa opium - -	1,890,854	1,675,653	1,805,552	1,659,697
Cost of opium issued to the Excise and other Departments.	215,123	221,300	196,815	223,876
Total - - -	8,583,056	7,993,180	7,323,757	7,123,922
Opium expenditure, chiefly in Bengal - -	1,605,107	1,602,496	1,616,105	2,068,941
Net Opium Revenue - - -	6,977,949	6,390,684	5,707,652	5,054,981

* These receipts are outside the provincial opium duties of Rx. 1,011,000. shown in the Excise section of this Statement as the receipts of 1895-96.

The number of chests of Bengal opium sold in the two years 1889-91 was 57,000, but it fell to 48,852 chests in the year 1892-93, to 39,780 in 1894-95, and to 37,695 chests in the year 1895-96. The number of chests of Bombay opium exported to China was 31,233 in the year 1893-94, 29,288 in the year 1894-95, and 21,693 in the year 1895-96.

The decrease in the net opium revenue for 1895-96 was a result partly from the reduced quantity sold at the monthly Calcutta sales, partly from the enhanced rate (Rs. 6 instead of Rs. 5 per seer) paid to opium producers for their crop, and partly from the large fall in the exports of Bombay (or Malwa) opium. The net opium revenue during the past 24 years has been as follows :—

Net Opium Revenue in		Net Opium Revenue in	
	Rx.		Rx.
1872-73 - - - -	6,870,423	1890-91 - - - -	5,698,385
1878-79 - - - -	7,700,671	1893-94 - - - -	4,750,964
1880-81 - - - -	8,451,276	1894-95 - - - -	5,707,652
1888-89 - - - -	5,964,404	1895-96 - - - -	5,054,981

Bengal.

The area actually cultivated with the poppy in the Ganges Valley has fluctuated much, thus :—

Area of Bengal Opium Cultivation in Acres.

1886 - - - -	594,921	1895 - - - -	513,804
1894 - - - -	458,181	1896 - - - -	519,640

The rise in the two later years occurred entirely in the districts of the Benares agency, and was partly due to the increase of 20 per cent. in the price paid by Government to the cultivators for their raw opium. Notwithstanding the increased price, the area of opium crop still continues to shrink in the Behar

Behar agency. The opium harvest has for six successive seasons been much below the average of former years; the yield was very poor in 1894, was a little better in 1895, and somewhat larger again, though still much below the old average, in 1896. The average yield of opium was 13½ lbs. per acre, as compared with 11 lbs. per acre in 1895 and with a normal outturn of 18 lbs. per acre in a year of good harvest. The opium reserve in Calcutta has all disappeared, though the sales of 1896 and 1897 have been reduced to 39,000 chests, or 19,000 chests below the number that used to be sold every year.

The number of prosecutions for breaches of the Opium Laws was 1,889, as compared with 2,216 in the preceding year; in these cases 1,635 persons were convicted, and 337 were acquitted, as compared with 1,909 and 378 respectively in the previous year.

SALT.

The salt revenue is raised by a duty on all salt imported into, or manufactured in, India. The rate of duty has in past times ranged from ¼th of a rupee (in Burma) to 3½ rupees (in Bengal) per maund of 82½ lbs.; during the year 1895-96 the rate was 2½ rupees over the whole of India, except Burma, where it was one rupee per maund. The Indian sources of salt supply are the coast, where salt is manufactured for the consumption of all southern and western India and part of Burma and Central India; the salt lakes and pits of Rajputana, which supply the North-Western provinces, Oudh, and a part of Central India; the salt mines of the Punjab, which supply that province and a varying area southward; importations from beyond the sea, which supply Bengal and the greater part of Burma. The duty is levied on salt at the place of manufacture, or at the port of importation, before it passes into consumption. The regions supplied from each source contract or extend, according to varying circumstances of the season, or of markets, or of means of carriage; for instance, when an unusually wet season prevented salt production by solar evaporation at the Sambhur Lake in Rajputana, special supplies from the Bombay coast factories were carried inland, and partly made up for the deficiency; when a railway was opened to the Punjab mines, salt made its way thence further south and east.

The SALT REVENUES and CHARGES in the year 1895-96 were as follows:—

PROVINCE.	Price of and Excise on Salt made Locally.	Duty on Imported Salt from England.	Duty on Salt Imported from other Sources.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.	Charges.	Net Salt Revenue.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Northern India - - -	1,888,717	—	—	16,608	1,905,325	118,587	1,786,738
Burma - - - - -	22,041	124,400	9,562	—	156,032	838	155,194
Bengal - - - - -	—	1,587,348	283,431	17,841	2,488,620	5,284	2,483,336
Madras - - - - -	1,980,430	402	521	16,076	1,997,489	230,233	1,767,256
Bombay - - - - -	2,222,601	892	82,328	8,558	2,314,379	166,102	2,148,277
TOTAL 1895-96 - -	6,113,806	1,713,111	975,842	59,083	8,861,845	521,044	8,340,801
1894-95 - - - - -	5,985,078	1,744,600	805,092	130,070	8,665,740	498,415	8,167,334

The charges above shown do not include a sum of about Rx. 300,000 paid under treaties to Native Chiefs who have assigned the management of their salt sources to the British Government. A large increase in the salt revenue was shown in 1894-95; the year 1895-96 showed a further small increase of Rx. 44,000. The total salt revenue is still below that of the year 1892-93, which yielded the largest salt revenue as yet attained in India. The rate of salt consumption per head of the population differs widely in the several provinces. It is over 17 lbs. per head in Burma, where the rate of salt duty is one rupee a maund; it is 18 lbs. a head over the greater part of Madras, where the duty is 2½ rupees per maund; and it is about 8 lbs. a head in the North-West Provinces and Oudh, where the duty is also 2½ rupees per maund. The small difference, about 15 per cent., due to longer distance from salt sources,

SALT.
General.

sources, in the retail prices of salt between northern and southern India, does not explain the great differences in the rate of consumption per head.

During the last eight years the total salt consumption of India has been as follows:—

In the Year	Total Actual Consumption of Duty-paid Salt in India, inclusive of Burma.
1885-86 - - - - -	32,289,000 maunds, each maund being equal to 82½ lbs. avoirdupois.
1886-87 - - - - -	34,330,000 "
1888-89 (The rate of duty was raised in January 1888 from 2 Rs. to 2½ Rs. per maund).	31,474,000 "
1890-91 - - - - -	33,722,000 "
1892-93 - - - - -	35,451,000 "
1893-94 - - - - -	34,029,000 "
1894-95 - - - - -	34,555,000 "
1895-96 - - - - -	35,090,000 "

These figures are not absolutely accurate, because the amount of local salt consumed in Burma is not precisely known, but in the foregoing figures it is estimated at 500,000 maunds for the year 1895-96, at 400,000 maunds in the years 1889-95, and at 560,000 maunds in earlier years.

Northern India.

The Northern India Salt Department controls the salt sources of the Punjab and of Rajputana, whence are supplied the wants of the Punjab, Oudh, the North-Western Provinces, the northern districts of the Central Provinces, and the greater part of the Rajputana and Central India States. The sales of duty-paid and free salt at the northern salt sources amounted in 1895-96 to 7,949,000 maunds, or nearly 1 per cent. below the sales of the previous year. Compared with the preceding year sales of salt decreased largely at the Sambhur Lake and other Rajputana salt sources, while they increased at the Punjab salt mines. The season was not favourable for the manufacture of salt at the Sambhur Lake or at other salt sources of Rajputana. The price of salt ex-duty at the Sambhur Lake, where about one-half of the total supply is produced, was 4 annas per maund as compared with 4½ annas in the preceding year. Of the total duty-paid salt consumed, the Sambhur salt lake supplied 3,715,000 maunds, the Mayo mine in the Punjab supplied 2,151,000 maunds, and the remainder came from minor salt sources. The gross receipts on account of salt revenue decreased from Rx. 1,938,000 in 1894-95 to Rx. 1,861,000 in the year 1895-96; the charges came to 6½ per cent. on the receipts, as in the previous year. The average wholesale price of duty-paid salt, at the chief marts of the provinces supplied from the northern salt sources, ranged during the year: in the Punjab, from 2½ rupees a maund at Rawul-pindi to 3½ rupees at Amritsar; in the North-West Provinces, from 3½ rupees at Agra to 3½ rupees at Fyzabad; in the Central Provinces, from 3½ in Nimar to 4½ rupees at Saugor. The price of imported salt in the adjoining province of Behar ranged from 3½ rupees at Patna to 3½ rupees at Churnparan. Prices were somewhat lower than in 1894-95.

The number of persons prosecuted for breach of the salt law rose from 560 to 578; of this latter number 18 persons were acquitted and 558 were convicted, of whom 246 were imprisoned in default of payment of fine. The number of serious cases of salt smuggling were very few; 86 persons were sentenced to over two months' imprisonment.

Bengal.

The total quantity of salt paying duty in Bengal during the year was 10,441,000 maunds, or about the same as the previous year. The quantity consumed in Bengal, after deducting net exports by land, was 9,567,000 maunds against 9,753,000 in 1894-95. The decrease was partly a consequence of the short crops and impetus given to illicit transactions in the saliferous tracts. The amount of salt imported and manufactured during the year was 10,433,000 maunds, of which there came from,

	Maunds.		Maunds.
The United Kingdom - - - - -	6,394,000	Red Sea and Persian Gulf Ports	2,329,000
Germany - - - - -	1,113,000	Aden - - - - -	782,000
Bombay - - - - -	418,000	Orissa Coast Factories - - -	75,000
Madras - - - - -	2,000		

There were considerable decreases under all heads, except in the Red Sea SALT. imports and production of Orissa salt, which was nearly double the previous year's output. The stocks in hand at the beginning of the year were 3,631,000 maunds as compared with 1,076,000 at the beginning of the previous year, and this fact explains the large reduction in salt importations. The gross salt revenue was Rx. 2,510,000, or 1·6 per cent. above the receipts of the preceding year, against an expenditure of Rx. 46,000. The Bengal salt revenue for the first time exceeded that collected in 1881-82, the last year in which the Bengal salt duty was 2½ rupees per maund. The consumption of licit salt in Bengal, outside Orissa, was 10,453,000 maunds, or 9,000 maunds less than in 1894-95. In Orissa the consumption of locally-manufactured salt rose from 39,000 to 75,000 maunds; but the sales of Ganjam decreased somewhat; and the total consumption of Orissa was slightly larger than in the previous year, though still much less than in the year 1893-94. The average price of salt, including duty, at the nine chief marts of Bengal decreased by 1 anna 9 pie, or 3 per cent., as compared with the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to the fall in the price of Liverpool salt. The average consumption of salt in Bengal, allowing for increased population since the census of 1891, was about 10 lbs. per head; it was about 10½ lbs. in the previous year.

The number of cases in which contraband salt was confiscated fell from 1,098 in the previous year to 504. There were in all 506 prosecutions for salt offences; and 33 persons out of a total of 523 accused persons were acquitted.

It was explained in a previous number of this Statement* that in Madras, where Madras salt is made on the coast by solar evaporation, a limited number of Government salt factories had been re-opened in order to remedy the evils of high prices and small stocks, which had resulted from the handing over of the manufacture of salt to capitalists under an excise system. The intention was to create as soon as possible a reserve of Government salt, but not to disturb the market by selling Government stocks unless the supply should run short or prices be forced up to any salt mart; the Government reserve stocks were eventually to be somewhat more than one-third of a year's consumption.

During the year 1895-96 there were 69 factories at work, or three more than in the previous year; of these 17 were Government, and 52 private, establishments. The season was not favourable to salt manufacture, and it was worst on the southern coast. The average price of bonded salt throughout the Presidency, which had been 6¼ annas per maund under the excise system in 1887-88, was 3·3 annas per maund in 1895-96, or slightly cheaper than in the previous year. The average retail price of salt in the several districts of the plains ranged during the year from 10·72 seers per rupee in Bellary to 12·92 seers per rupee in Chingleput. The total quantity of salt manufactured during the year was 8,832,000 maunds, besides 1,303,000 maunds of salt imported from Bombay, against 9,037,000 maunds manufactured in the preceding year, and an average of 5,260,000 maunds in the two years 1885-87, when the output of salt was too low. The salt stocks at the end of the year were equal to 23 months' supply, as at the end of the previous year, compared with five months' supply at the end of 1886-87. The reason for the maintenance of such large stocks is that an unfavourable season may in any year reduce the output of existing factories by 50 per cent.

The issues of Madras salt for home and inland consumption were 8,271,000 maunds, or ½ per cent. above the issues of the preceding year, and were larger than in any previous year. The consumption of salt by 34,288,000 of the population of South India, including Mysore, Coorg, and certain Native States, but not including certain districts on the northern coast of Madras, came to 16·18 lbs. per head, or slightly more than in 1894-95; the consumption by a population of 18½ millions in the Tamil districts south of Madras came to 18 lbs. per head.

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* See the Twenty-fourth Number of this Statement (for 1887-88), p. 76, and the Twenty-fifth Number (for 1888-89), p. 73.

SALT.

The gross revenue from Madras salt was Rx. 1,977,000, and was higher than in any preceding year. The sales of salt on credit decreased by 486,000 maunds as compared with the year 1894-95.

During the year 1895-96 there were 132 bonded yards in the Madras Presidency open for curing fish under special regulations, whereby cheap salt is sold to fish-curers. The quantity of fish brought to be cured was 48,000 tons, or 7,000 tons more than in the previous year. The cost of the yards to the treasury was more than covered by the reduced price (10 annas per maund) realised for salt. Most of the salt fish is consumed within the Presidency, the net exports being returned at 3,600 tons, valued at $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas (about $1\frac{1}{2}$ pence) per pound.

Prosecutions under the salt laws, though 12 per cent. fewer than in the previous year, were still numerous in comparison with other provinces; 13,247 persons were charged with salt offences, of whom 2,404 were released by departmental officers with a warning, and 10,843 were sent for trial. Of the persons tried during the year by magistrates, more than '98 per cent. were convicted. The average fine imposed on offenders against the salt laws was $1\frac{1}{2}$ rupees per head.

Bombay.

On the Bombay coast salt is made partly by boiling and partly by solar evaporation, at 436 factories; or 18 less than in the year 1894-95; all but three of the closed factories were small works at Sanikatta on the North Kanara coast. The amount of salt manufactured was 11,358,000 maunds, or 233,000 maunds less than in 1894-95; the quantity of salt written off as wastage was slightly larger than in the previous year. The total removals of salt for consumption came to 9,070,000 maunds, or 459,000 less than in 1894-95. The reduction of consumption was mainly due to the decreased exports of salt to the North West Provinces, to the Nizam's dominions, and to Calcutta, all of which markets have other sources of supply. The issues of salt for local consumption were larger than in previous years. The amount of duty-paid salt taken for consumption in the Bombay Presidency was 3,325,000 maunds, or $11\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per head of the population, as compared with 11½ lbs. in the previous year. In Guzerat, the richest part of the Presidency, the rate was 8·3 lbs. per head, and in the rest of the Presidency it was 13·21 lbs. The chief exports of Bombay salt outside the Presidency were, 1,362,000 maunds to the Central Provinces, 557,000 maunds to the Nizam's territory, and 445,000 maunds to Calcutta by sea. The gross salt revenue receipts were Rx. 2,247,000, or Rx. 88,000 below the total of the previous year. During the year the average price of salt, exclusive of duty, ranged from $1\frac{1}{4}$ annas per maund at the Baragra works to 4 annas per maund at the dearest of the sea-salt works; the wholesale price of duty-paid salt ranged, precisely as in the previous year, from Rs. 2½ per maund in the cheapest district, Ahmedabad, to Rs. 4½ per maund at Bombay, the dearest market. In the province nine fish-curing yards were at work; the quantity of fish brought to be cured in bond was 2,701 tons, and 1,100 tons of cheap salt were issued to fish-curers.

The number of persons tried for offences under the salt laws was 733, against 689 in the previous year; the number convicted was 688 against 659.

Sind.

In Sind the amount of duty-paid salt passed into consumption was 269,000 maunds, or 2 per cent. more than in the previous year; and the salt revenue was Rx. 70,700, or Rx. 300 above the receipts of 1894-95. The consumption of duty-paid salt came to 7·73 lbs. per head of the population, against 7·42 lbs. in the previous year. The average price of salt fell slightly, and was Rs. 3. 6a. 4p. per maund.

The number of prosecutions for salt offences rose from 105 to 141.

Burma.

The amount of salt imported into Burma in 1895-96 was 51,852 tons, against 48,442 and 47,492 tons in the two previous years; and the arrivals of local salt in the Rangoon market are returned 3,555 tons for 1895-96, as compared with 896 tons in the previous year. The total salt consumption of Burma was approximately 1,740,000 maunds during the year, equal to about 17½ lbs. per head for 8 million people in Burma and the Shan States.

EXCISE.

The excise revenue of India is raised partly from the following sources:— EXCISE.
General.
 (1) Monopolies for the sale of liquors and intoxicating drugs, over defined areas; (2) Still-head duty on all spirits manufactured at distilleries; (3) Licenses for the working of stills at specified places; (4) Licenses for the sale of various kinds of liquor.* Tobacco, which is grown in almost every village, and is consumed by nearly all men and by many women in India, is not subjected to any duty; tea and coffee, which are grown largely for Indian consumption and for exportation, are also free from all duties. Over almost the whole of Bombay and the Punjab, over the populous parts of Madras, the North-Western Provinces, Oudh, and Burma, and over some parts of Bengal and the Central Provinces, a still-head duty is levied on all Indian spirit according to its alcoholic strength. The still-head duty ranges as high as five rupees per gallon of London proof spirit; if the cost of licenses be added, the total duties are in places more than seven rupees per gallon of London proof spirit. The system of excise management followed in these tracts is called the central distillery system. Over a large part of Bengal, and over most of the Central Provinces, over the whole of Assam and Berar, and over limited tracts in other provinces, revenue is levied on Indian spirits by leasing the spirit monopoly to the highest bidder, which is called the farming system; or by licensing the establishment of private stills, which is called the out-still system. The central distillery system is admittedly the best for preventing the spread and consumption of cheap liquor; and the Government of India have in past years declared their intention to restrict the farming and out-still systems as narrowly as possible. The difficulty is that in sparsely-peopled forest tracts the materials for illicit distillation are everywhere available; the tribes addicted to drinking often live in these regions; an adequate and trustworthy preventive staff cannot be kept in such places; and illicit practices prevail, to the consequent demoralisation of the people, if weak liquor cannot be obtained in some lawful way. Licensed out-stills are sometimes the only means of meeting the requirements of such exceptional tracts.

The following table gives the excise revenue of 1895-96 for each province under the different heads, as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts:—

	India, General.	Bengal.	North West Provinces and Oudh.	Punjab.	Lower Burma.	Upper Burma.	Central Provinces.	Assam.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
License and Distillery Fees, and Duties for the Sale of Spirits, Fermented Liquors and Drugs, viz. :—	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Foreign Liquors, &c.	9,856	123,017	44,795	54,838	72,871	24,806	2,811	2,816	25,555	22,023	248,266
Country Spirits	83,809	667,596	244,411	118,469	61,340	2,425	147,476	80,267	628,906	794,068	2,880,144
Toddy	2,520	103,731	6,900	—	31,323	6,117	2,200	—	682,378	161,414	1,000,312
License Fee for sale of Opium and its preparations.	2,267	70,482	17,065	27,217	102,658	15,064	28,903	23,021	24,411	4,604	242,622
License Fee for sale of other drugs.	2,025	128,623	78,126	18,154	—	—	14,060	16,518	4,150	28,508	204,184
Duty on Opium consumed in India.	1,234	176,951	68,079	11,064	49,967	13,288	28,609	184,936	48,163	118,817	684,900
Accrue on Land cultivated with the Poppy.	—	—	—	2,766	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,766
Fines, Confiscations, Miscellaneous.	804	1,382	314	113	63	—	1,893	61	5,543	9,355	19,578
Duty on Ganja	—	144,188	—	—	—	—	10,200	16,724	—	484	175,796
TOTAL Revenue	106,893	1,237,850	549,490	214,210	216,752	65,714	246,405	277,692	1,422,405	1,184,147	5,722,417
Charges	3,728	67,202	8,990	4,820	11,792	3,548	8,408	767	70,048	24,628	207,867
Net Revenue, 1895-96	103,165	1,170,648	540,500	209,391	204,960	62,166	238,007	276,925	1,352,357	1,159,519	5,514,550
Net Revenue, 1894-95	106,820	1,182,702	567,743	200,050	200,831	62,325	272,324	268,311	1,304,267	1,095,281	5,334,867

* A customs duty is also levied on all imported spirits, wines and beer. The import duty is six rupees per gallon on London proof spirit; 2½ rupees per gallon on sparkling wines; one rupee per gallon on other wines; and one anna per gallon on beer.

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Excise

The sum of Rx. 661,004 was yielded by import duties on liquors and spirits imported into India during the year 1895-96, and thus the total drink and drugs revenue of India amounts to about 4½ annas a head on the whole population of British India. There has been a considerable increase in the excise revenue during the past 30 years; but this increase, though in part due to enhanced consumption of liquors caused by the growth of population and the general increase of earnings, is yet largely, and in some localities mainly, the result of improved excise administration, which has doubled or trebled the rates of liquor duty, and has, at the same time, restricted the use of illicit intoxicants. The totals of the net excise and customs revenues on liquors and drugs consumed in India during the past 21 years compare thus :—

	Rx.		Rx.
1874-75 - - -	2,633,000	1892-93 - - -	5,660,000
1880-81 - - -	3,515,000	1893-94 - - -	5,784,000
1883-84 - - -	4,259,000	1894-95 - - -	5,947,000
1886-87 - - -	4,865,000	1895-96 - - -	6,176,000
1889-90 - - -	5,294,000		

For the 228* millions of people who inhabit the several provinces of British India and Berar, the total number of shops licensed for the retail sale of spirits, fermented liquors, opium and drugs, is as follows, province by province :—

PROVINCE.	Number of Retail Shops licensed in 1895-96 for the Sale of						
	Spirits made in India.	Imported Spirits or Liquors.	Toddy and Rice Beer or other Indian Fermented Drinks.	Opium and its Compounds.	Narcotic or Intoxicating Drugs, other than Opium.	Quantity of Opium sold for Local Consumption so far as known.	
Bengal - - - - -	3,228	780	14,982	2,050	3,044	2,160	
North West Provinces and Oudh.	6,200	284	4,541	1,002	3,054	1,592	
Punjab - - - - -	1,203	473	37	1,707	1,019	1,608	
Burma - - - - -	50	424	1,082	42	None.	025	
Central Provinces - - -	6,227	01	080	901	907	582	
Assam - - - - -	219	94	14	827	262	1,378	
Madras - - - - -	11,201	755	18,063	1,050	258	1,037	
Bombay - - - - -	2,807	451	1,810	1,140	1,243	1,002	
Berar - - - - -	1,118	17	972	474	207	370	
TOTAL - {	1895-96	32,529	3,145	43,087	9,388	11,314	11,053
	1894-95	32,825	3,141	43,007	9,427	11,307	11,801

There are thus 110,051 licensed shops for the retail sale of intoxicants and narcotics in British India, or one shop to an average of 2,072 of the population. In the United Kingdom, a few years ago, there were 163,119 licenses for the sale of beer, wine and spirits, or one shop to 237 of the population. In neither computation are occasional or part-year licenses reckoned; of these latter licenses 31,888 were issued in the United Kingdom during a single year.

*This figure is an estimate based on the results of the Census of 1891, which showed a population in British India of 221,172,952.

In Bengal the total excise revenues of 1895-96 and the two previous years were as follows:—

Excise.
Bengal.

Receipts from	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Country spirits - - - - -	525,290	555,445	591,184
Foreign liquors and rum - - - - -	66,979	71,435	75,478
Fermented local liquors, toddy and rice-beer -	136,289	137,945	145,933
Opium and its compounds - - - - -	223,772	233,180	247,282
Ganja, bhang, and their compounds - -	260,364	256,404	276,002
Miscellaneous - - - - -	1,605	1,497	1,901
TOTAL EXCISE REVENUE - - -	1,213,699	1,255,906	1,337,780
Add duties on imported liquors - - -	164,271	179,100	186,663
TOTAL REVENUE FROM } DRINKS AND DRUGS } - - Rx.	1,377,970	1,435,006	1,524,443

The policy of substituting the central distillery system for the out-still system of raising revenue from country spirits was not carried further in Bengal during the year. Out-stills had been abolished in 1890 over all districts of the Burdwan, Presidency, Dacca and Orissa divisions, containing a population of 30 millions. The number of central distilleries was 30, as compared with 31 in the previous year. The maximum number of licensed out-stills in the whole province was 2,099, as compared with 2,095 in the previous year, and 5,250 out-stills in the year 1881-82. The total number of retail licenses for the sale of country spirits, rum and imported liquors, during the past three years, has been:—

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Number of licenses granted for the retail sale of—			
Country spirits from out-stills - -	2,034	2,087	2,091
Country spirits from central distilleries	1,255	1,217	1,197
Rum, imported wines, spirits and other liquors.	515	589	586
	3,804	3,893	3,874

Much of the out-still liquor is still of very low alcoholic strength. The quantity of spirit issued from the out-stills was reported to be equal to 1,421,000 gallons of London-proof liquor, as compared with 1,308,000 gallons in the previous year. The out-turn from central distilleries in the year was 490,000 gallons London-proof spirit against 456,000 gallons in the previous year. The still-head duty levied on central distillery liquor ranged from 2 to 5 rupees per gallon of proof spirit.

The revenue from toddy was Rx. 102,403, as compared with Rx. 99,785 in the previous year: the number of licensed shops for fermented toddy was 13,317 against 13,902 in 1894-95, and 30,268 in the year 1881-82. In 1895-96 as many as 2,118 shops were licensed for the sale of unfermented toddy or palm-tree juice. Tari revenue is being raised in selected districts by imposing a tree-tax on the Madras system; but as yet the measure is in an experimental

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Excise.

experimental stage. The yield of sap from palm trees is found to vary greatly from place to place and from year to year. The number of pach-wai, or rice-beer shops, was 1,665. The number of licensed ganja shops was 2,696, as compared with 2,702 in the preceding year, and the amount of licit ganja consumed was 5,202 maunds, against 4,828 and 5,116 in the two preceding years; the rate of duty has been twice enhanced during the previous four years, but remained the same through the year 1895-96. The number of shops licensed for the retail sale of bhang and charas (other hemp drugs) was 315 and 33, as compared with 320 and 34 in the previous year. The number of shops licensed for the retail sale of opium was 1,698, or 23 less than in the preceding year; the amount of licit opium consumed rose from 2,037 to 2,160 maunds. The number of shops licensed for selling opium, prepared for smoking after the Chinese fashion, known as chandu, was 58, against 67 in the previous year; and the licenses for selling madak, or opium prepared for smoking after the Bengali manner, decreased from 308 to 300.

The number of arrests for offences against the excise and opium laws fell from 4,419 to 4,412, and convictions were obtained against 3,837, or 87 per cent. of the accused persons; of these, 415 persons were convicted of the offence of illicit distillation.

North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

The latest excise report for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh relates to the year ending in September 1895. For the last three years the excise revenues have been :—

Receipts from	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Country spirits	359,617	346,101	359,820
Foreign liquors and rum	37,030	36,277	38,901
Opium	80,783	70,366	76,506
Other drugs	72,115	74,643	70,747
Toddy and miscellaneous	9,413	9,131	8,092
TOTAL Rx.	558,898	585,417	563,066

There was a decrease of Rx. 22,000, or 3½ per cent., below the revenue of the preceding year; the fall in revenue was attributed to the depression caused by unfavourable harvests.

The revenue from country spirits was raised as follows :—

- (a) Rx. 310,981 under the central distillery system, which extends over 68,500 square miles, inhabited by 38½ millions of people.
- (b) Rx. 30,382 under the out-still system, which extends over 16,000 square miles, inhabited by 5½ millions of people.
- (c) Rx. 18,456 under the farming system, which extends over 23,000 square miles, inhabited by 2½ millions of people.

The total amount of spirit passed out of all central distilleries was 1,349,000 gallons, against 1,564,000 gallons in the previous year, and against 2,056,000 gallons in the year 1885-86. The total consumption of distillery liquor during the year represented 1,006,000 gallons of London proof spirit, as compared with 1,159,000 gallons in 1893-94; and the total revenue from that liquor came to three rupees per gallon of L. P. spirit. The number of distilleries was 35, as compared with 39 in the previous year. The number of licensed retail shops for country spirits in the two provinces further fell from 5,195 to 4,894 in the central distillery tracts; and from 1,419 to 1,372 in the tracts where the out-still and farming systems prevailed; the retail licenses for rum and foreign spirits rose from 278 to 284; and the consumption of rum from the Rosa factory rose from 28,461 to 30,509 gallons.

The

The number of shops licensed for the sale of opium and its compounds was **Excise** 1,092, as compared with 1,069 in the previous year. No shops were licensed for the sale of chandu and madak, or opium prepared for smoking. The quantity of licit opium passed into consumption was 1,592 maunds, against 1,627 maunds in the previous year. In some districts an extensive use of illicit opium is suspected. The number of shops licensed for the sale of other narcotic drugs was 3,654, as compared with 3,712 in the previous year. The number of licensed toddy shops increased from 4,522 to 4,541.

The number of prosecutions under the Excise Act was 866, or 11 per cent. less than, and under the Opium Laws 566, or the same as in the previous year; the prosecutions for illicit distillation were 186 against 305 in the preceding year. The proportion of convictions to prosecutions was 77 per cent., as compared with 74 per cent. in the previous year.

The excise revenues of the Punjab in the last three years were raised as Punjab follows:—

Receipts from	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Country spirits - - - - -	104,927	110,789	117,835
Imported liquors and rum - - - - -	34,535	36,672	42,206
Opium - - - - -	53,282	51,897	52,664
Other drugs and miscellaneous - - - - -	18,850	19,241	18,933
TOTAL - - - Rx.	211,594	218,600	231,638

The increase of 6 per cent. in the revenue accrued chiefly under spirits and liquors; and is in continuation of the gradual increase which has gone on for eight years; in the previous two years the increase of revenue averaged about 6 per cent.

The central distillery system is in force throughout the whole province, save in small parts of the Gurgaon, Ferozpur and Kangra districts, and there were during the year 24 central distilleries as compared with 27 in the previous year. The rates of still-head duty continue to be four rupees per gallon of proof spirit, three rupees per gallon of spirit less than 25 degrees below proof, 2½ rupees for spirit from 50 degrees to 25 degrees below proof, and two rupees for spirit more than 50 degrees below proof. Country spirits in the Punjab are distilled from molasses. The total consumption of licit spirits and the number of licensed shops for the past two years are returned thus:—

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Consumption of country spirits computed at London proof, in gallons - - - - -	214,118	227,880	241,616
Ditto rum, London proof, in gallons - - - - -	48,156	51,463	60,168
Ditto other imported liquors, excluding beer, in gallons - - - - -	101,782	61,509	79,350
Licensed retail shops for country spirits - - - - -	1,259	1,296	1,293
Licensed retail shops for rum and imported liquors, including hotels, refreshment rooms, and travellers' rest-houses.	468	473	473

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Excise.
Punjab.

The opium revenue comprised Rx. 3,755 from an acreage fee on lands growing the poppy, and Rx. 37,145 from licenses for the vend of opium, besides Rx. 6,016, the duty on imported opium. The area licensed for poppy cultivation had shrunk from 15,254 acres in the year 1888-89 to 9,933 acres in the year 1894-95, and rose to 12,741 acres in the year 1895-96. The number of shops licensed for retail sale of opium was 1,797, as compared with 1,803 in the previous year, the quantity of licit opium returned as consumed was 1,608 maunds, as compared with 1,633 maunds in 1894-95. No licenses are granted for shops where opium preparations could be consumed on the premises. The number of shops licensed to sell hemp and other drugs was 1,649, as against 1,651 in the previous year.

The number of persons prosecuted under the liquor laws rose from 298 to 306, of whom 175 persons were convicted for serious offences, such as illegally distilling or smuggling liquor, and 41 for petty offences, and under the opium laws fell to 300, from 377 in the previous year.

Burma.

In Burma the excise revenue during the past three years was raised thus :—

Receipts from	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Lower Burma :	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Distillery and imported liquors - - - -	90,912	73,367	72,966
Out-stills - - - - -	7,605	7,977	7,492
Toddy - - - - -	31,175	29,277	30,745
Rice beer - - - - -	55,461	51,177	53,581
Opium - - - - -	154,783	148,279	153,193
TOTAL - - - Rx.	330,936	310,077	317,980
Add duty on imported liquors - - - -	88,220	88,188	102,549
Upper Burma excise receipts - - - -	58,131	68,816	60,664
TOTAL REVENUE FROM) DRINK AND DRUGS) - - Rx.	480,287	467,083	490,493

Two central distilleries were working during the year in Lower Burma. The importations of foreign and Madras spirits increased from 138,365 in 1894-95 to 177,333 gallons in 1895-96. The number of out-stills in Lower Burma was 34, as in the previous year; and in Upper Burma 16, as compared with 12 in 1894-95. Three central distilleries were at work in the upper province, and produced 29,850 gallons of spirits, against 28,096 gallons in the previous year; more than half of the out-turn of the year was issued for the use of the Military Police.

The number of retail shops licensed under the excise and opium laws in the two sections of the province during the last two years was :—

	Lower Burma.		Upper Burma.	
	1894-95.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Out-still shops - - - - -	34	34	12	16
Distillery spirit and foreign liquor shops	302	293	129	131
Toddy shops - - - - -	857	775	78	74
Rice beer and other fermented liquor shops.	227	231	—	2
Opium shops - - - - -	17	16	23	26
Licit opium consumed (in maunds) .	482	479	142	146

There

There was a small decrease in the consumption of and some increase in the revenue from opium in Lower Burma. From the 1st January 1894 opium could not be legally sold to or possessed by Burmans, unless they had registered themselves as consumers before the end of June 1894. Non-Burman residents are allowed to buy and possess opium under the same restrictions as before. A maximum supply of opium is fixed for each licensed shop, calculated according to the number of legitimate consumers that are likely to frequent such shop. There are 16 licensed opium shops in Lower Burma, and opium is sold to legitimate consumers from the Government treasury at five places where the number of such persons is not large enough to warrant the licensing of a shop. The total issues of opium permissible for the whole province were slightly exceeded. In Lower Burma the retail price of opium, which had almost doubled under these regulations, advanced somewhat higher during the year. Regarding the apparent effect of the prohibition of opium among Burmans, the Local Government say :—“ The Chief Commissioner would be glad to think that there had been, since the adoption of the present rules, a great diminution in the consumption of opium. But unfortunately the reports received from different quarters do not show that we have done more than, at the most, in some degree check the illicit use of the drug by making the practice more liable to detection and punishment and by raising the price of opium. Sir Frederic Fryer understands, though he has no accurate information on the subject, that the illicit export of opium from Bengal to Burma has increased. There is certainly a considerable trade in the southern extremity of the Province in smuggled opium from the Malay States, and the illicit transport of opium from Upper to Lower Burma continues. Colonel Cooke, who advocated as a Divisional Commissioner the policy of prohibition, is not able in his present position and with his present knowledge to speak very hopefully of its results.” The seizures of illicit opium in Lower Burma have decreased by 225 lbs., but the Local Government attributes the decrease rather to ill-success on the part of the preventive staff than to a real diminution in opium smuggling.

Reported offences against the excise and opium laws increased on the whole. They rose in Lower Burma from 3,198 to 3,351 ; and the number of persons convicted rose from 2,747 to 2,961. Of the total reported offences, 1,413 were for illicit dealings in opium, against 1,217 in the previous year. The number of illicit stills suppressed rose from 261 to 263 during the year. In Upper Burma, 107 offences against the excise laws were reported, as compared with 832 in 1894-95, of which 381 were opium cases ; 971 persons in all were convicted ; the number of illicit stills suppressed was 77, as compared with 52 in the previous year.

In the Central Provinces the excise receipts of the past three years have been as follows :—

Receipts from	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Country spirits - - - - -	171,124	173,474	148,794
Opium - - - - -	99,129	97,947	91,923
Ganja - - - - -	27,813	27,082	24,501
Toddy - - - - -	2,161	2,240	2,061
Miscellaneous - - - - -	3,142	2,905	3,440
TOTAL - - - Rx.	303,369	303,648	270,719

The large decrease of revenue was attributed to the depressed condition of the people caused by short crops in several districts.

The greater part of the country is supplied with spirits from out-stills, of which there were licensed 1,387 at the close of the year ; besides 15 central distilleries and three contract stills. The chief change of the year was the introduction of the bonded warehouse system into the district : and the reduction

EXCISE.

reduction of the number of out-stills in the province from 1,570 to 1,387. At contract stills a fixed daily fee is levied on each still actually in use, and care is taken that no still is used on any day for which the prescribed fee has not been paid. At out-stills the restrictions on manufacture of spirit are the limitation of the number of shops to be supplied, and the limitation of the number and size of the vessels used for distillation. More than 95 per cent. of the spirit consumed is weaker than 45 degrees below proof. The duty ranges from 12 annas on liquor 45 degrees below proof to 3 rupees a gallon on proof spirit.

The number of permanent retail liquor shops had been reduced in the previous year to 6,286; further shops were closed during the year, whereby the total was reduced to 6,227. The number of temporary shops licensed for different periods was 223, as compared with 243 in the preceding year. No trustworthy information exists regarding the quantity or strength of the liquor made at out-stills, so no estimate of the total liquor consumption can be offered; at most of the shops in the interior the liquor is usually of very low alcoholic strength. The material from which liquor is distilled is everywhere the flower of the mhowa tree. The number of licenses for the retail of imported liquors was 61, against 63 in the previous year. The number of licensed tari shops was 686, or 17 less than in 1894-95. The quantity of Shahjahanpore rum imported into the Province rose from 4,938 gallons to 5,638 gallons.

The number of shops licensed for the sale of opium was changed during the year from 890 permanent and 422 temporary shops, or 1,312 in all, to 901 permanent and 392 temporary shops, or 1,293 in all; and the quantity of Government opium sold to the licensed vendors fell from 620 maunds to 582 maunds. The number of opium vendors that were also licensed to sell madak, or opium prepared for smoking, was reduced from 116 to 105. The amount of opium supplied on payment to feudatory chiefs and zemindars was 161 maunds, as compared with 180 and 170 maunds in the two previous years. The number of permanent shops licensed for the retail sale of ganja and its compounds was 997, or 13 more than in the preceding year; while the number of temporary shops fell from 404 to 375. The quantity of ganja passing into consumption fell from 1,105 to 989 maunds; while the quantity sold to feudatory chiefs decreased from 239 to 227 maunds.

There was an increase of five in the number of prosecutions under the excise laws, and a decrease of 26 in cases under the opium laws. Out of 260 cases under the Opium Act, 128 were for the possession of smuggled opium; and the number of cases in which more than 2 lbs. of smuggled opium was found, was 14; there were no big cases of smuggling 40 pounds or more of opium; though opium, which costs 40 rupees a seer in the Central Provinces, can be bought across the border for four rupees a seer. Out of 532 prosecutions under the Excise Act, 83 were for the illicit manufacture of liquor and 214 for illegal possession of liquor. Out of 987 persons prosecuted, 785, or 80 per cent., were convicted.

Assam.

The excise demand of Assam for the year 1895-96 and previous years was distributed thus:—

Receipts from	1893-04.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Country spirits - - - - -	38,553	45,278	47,640
Imported liquors and rum - - - - -	2,343	2,500	2,088
Opium and its compounds - - - - -	194,847	103,534	100,101
Ganja and its compounds - - - - -	33,159	30,195	32,281
Miscellaneous, including toddy, &c. - - -	165	171	203
TOTAL - - - Rx.	200,067	271,766	272,319

The

The whole revenue of the year was collected, except Rx. 198, which were remitted, and Rx. 60, which were outstanding at the end of the year. The revenue from country spirits is raised entirely under the out-still system; the sites of shops are fixed; the right to have one still, and to sell spirits at each shop, is sold annually by auction. The number of licensed retail shops for country spirits was 219, against 213 in the previous year; of these 6 in the later, and 7 in the earlier year were temporary shops. Much of the liquor is weak; it sells from six annas to one rupee per quart bottle, according to strength. Out of 34 samples tested at different shops in each of the plains districts, 12 were found to be weaker than 50 per cent. below L. proof, 16 samples were from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. below proof, and six samples were stronger than 25 per cent. below proof. The number of retail shops licensed to sell rum was 12 against 24 in the previous year, and 19 in 1893-94; this rum is sold at from 8 annas to 1½ rupees per quart bottle. No rum was distilled in Assam during the year, and 1,444 gallons were imported, as compared with 1,314, and 3,447 gallons in the two previous years. The number of shops licensed for the retail sale of foreign liquors, including licenses on board steamers, was 82, as compared with 73 in the previous year. For toddy six licenses, and for rice beer 8 licenses were issued. The number of licensed ganja shops was 262, or 19 more than in the previous year; and the quantity of ganja disposed of during the year was 613 maunds, against 545 in the year 1894-95. Ganja is consumed chiefly in the two districts of the Surma Valley. The opium revenue again shows a decrease as compared with the previous year; but opium still continues to yield three-quarters of the total excise revenue of Assam. The issue price of opium in Assam is 37 rupees per seer, as compared with 8½ rupees, the cost of production at the Government factory. The number of licensed opium shops has been gradually reduced from 1,283 in the year 1883-84 to 828 in the year 1894-95, and to 827 in the year 1895-96; while the quantity of licit opium consumed was 1,378 maunds, against 1,377 maunds in the preceding year, 1,494 in the year 1889-90, and 1,874 maunds in the year 1875-76. The number of shops licensed for the sale of madak and chandu, preparations of opium, was 19, or 2 more than the previous year.

The number of prosecutions under the excise and opium laws fell from 606 to 433, and convictions were obtained against 80 per cent. of the accused persons. One case of unlawful cultivation of the poppy was reported; 40 cases of unlawful cultivation of ganja and bhang came to light; and 35 cases of illicit manufacture and sale of spirits were prosecuted. Most of the other cases were of trifling character; no case of smuggling opium from beyond the frontier was reported during the year.

The excise revenue of Madras during the last three years was raised thus:—

Receipts from	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Country spirits - - - - -	546,414	597,650	623,747
Toddy alone - - - - -	616,069	650,391	682,823
Foreign liquors and miscellaneous - - -	36,530	43,851	43,994
Opium and other drugs - - - - -	78,406	71,115	82,080
TOTAL - - - Rx.	1,277,419	1,363,007	1,432,634
<i>Add</i> ,—Customs duties on imported liquors -	94,278	108,681	111,481
TOTAL REVENUE FROM } DRINK AND DRUGS } - - Rx.	1,371,697	1,471,688	1,544,115

The total excise revenue showed an increase of 7 lakhs, or 5 per cent. over the previous year.

Duties on country spirits are raised under the central distillery system over the whole Presidency, except in Malabar, Ganjam, Godavery, Vizagapatam, and parts of two other districts. In these exceptional tracts, which contain a population of five millions, or one-seventh of the Presidency, the monopoly of manufacture and vend is farmed out, but the farmer has to pay stipulated rates

Excise

of duty on all spirit that he distils or sells. Shop licenses are sold by auction in all the towns, and in most of the rural circles. Over a gradually increasing area a tree tax, ranging from one rupee to six rupees a year, is imposed on all palm trees tapped for toddy, while the shops for retail sale of toddy pay a license fee, or outside the tree-tax area are sold by auction to the highest bidder. The rates of still-head duty were raised in part of the Malabar district during the year; they now range from 5½ rupees a gallon on proof spirit to ¾ of a rupee per gallon on spirit 60° under proof; while the total taxation, including license fees, ranges from 2½ rupees, exceeds six rupees in most districts, and reaches as high as 7½ rupees per gallon of proof spirit. Much of the spirit consumed in the Madras Presidency is made from sugar at large distilleries worked with modern appliances. The number of licensed shops for the retail sale of country spirits had been reduced from 17,736 in 1888-89 to 11,362 during the year 1894-95, and was 11,261 in 1895-96; the licenses for the retail sale of foreign liquors were 755, as compared with 683 in the preceding year. The quantity of foreign spirit imported into Madras was 205,316 gallons, or 13,257 gallons more than in the previous year. The total quantity of licit spirits issued from the distilleries, reduced to London proof strength, was 977,000 gallons in 1895-96 against 926,000 gallons in the preceding year.

The number of licensed toddy shops was 18,963 against 19,219 in 1894-95, and 26,180 in the year 1888-89. The number of licensed shops for opium and its preparations decreased from 1,065 in the previous year to 1,050, besides 258 shops licensed for the sale of hemp drugs. The total quantity of opium consumed rose from 919 maunds in the year 1894-95 to 1,037 maunds in 1895-96. The consumption of ganja and bhang was 2,115 maunds against 2,014 maunds.

The total excise revenue of Madras fell on the population at the rate of about 6½ annas per head, as compared with 6¼ annas in the previous year. The number of persons prosecuted for offences against the excise laws was 23,207 against 23,766 in the previous year, and 91 per cent. of those tried were convicted. The number of reported cases of illicit distillation and possession of illicit spirits were 1,321, besides 1,473 cases of smuggling spirits from foreign territory, while the reported cases of illicit manufacture of toddy decreased from 13,128 to 11,958.

Bombay

In the Bombay Presidency the central distillery system obtains nearly everywhere, and the area over which the outstill and farming systems prevail consists of two comparatively uncivilised tracts in the Panch Melals. In several of the minor Native States the British system of excise management has been adopted; in some others the chiefs have engaged to manage their excise affairs so as to avoid competition with British excise arrangements. The main peculiarities of the Bombay system are, that spirit must be sold of specified maximum or minimum alcoholic strength; and that in some districts a tax is imposed on every toddy tree that is tapped for its juice. In the Bombay Presidency spirits are distilled from fermented mhowra (or mhowa) flower and from fermented toddy, or juice drawn from incisions in the trunk of three or four species of palms. The general fiscal results of the excise management of the last three years were:--

Receipts from	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Locally made liquors, including toddy	880,253	918,915	973,760
Licenses on foreign liquors	11,372	16,264	16,784
Opium	128,795	100,007	150,786
Intoxicating drugs	33,337	34,025	38,646
Miscellaneous items	12,966	13,961	10,860
TOTAL EXCISE REVENUE	Rx. 1,066,713	1,083,172	1,188,836
Import duties on liquors for Bombay and Sind	243,115	234,160	258,871
TOTAL REVENUE FROM DRINK AND DRUGS	Rx. 1,309,828	1,317,332	1,447,707

The

The rate of still-head duty ranges from five rupees to one rupee per gallon of London proof spirit; and the average over the greater part of the presidency is about three rupees per gallon.

The number of licensed shops in Bombay and Sind during the past four years is returned at, —

	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
For—				
Country spirit	2,863	2,850	2,845	2,807
Toddy	1,793	1,859	1,746	1,810
Drugs other than opium	1,253	1,232	1,236	1,243
Opium	1,162	1,140	1,161	1,149
Imported liquor	412	415	483	451

In five districts the rates of still-head duty were raised during the year. There was an increase in the revenue from country spirits in all districts but seven. The total consumption of excised country spirits in all parts of Bombay, except Sind, during the past two years is returned as equivalent to 2,632,000 gallons of spirit 25° below London proof for 1894-95, and to 2,722,000 of spirit of the same strength for 1895-96. The number of licensed opium shops was 1,146, as compared with 1,152 in the previous year. The consumption of licit opium in the districts of the Bombay Presidency was 135,419 lbs., as compared with 129,819 lbs. in the year 1894-95. The quantity of licit opium sold in Native States of the Bombay Presidency was returned at 163,552 lbs., of which 61,703 lbs. were sold in Baroda, and 52,643 lbs. in Kathiawar.

In Berar the excise revenue demand of the last three years has been as follows:—

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Country spirit	123,497	111,932	102,485
Opium and drugs	27,127	27,010	25,347
Toddy and miscellaneous	4,311	4,332	2,992
Foreign liquors	210	192	165
TOTAL	155,145	143,336	130,989

Over the greater part of Berar the revenue on country spirits was still raised by selling annually at auction the monopoly of the spirit trade in the circles into which the province was divided; but in the Ellichpur district and part of the Amraoti district the central distillery system is in force, with a duty of 1½ rupees per gallon of liquor 25° below London proof. The central distillery system was, at the end of March 1896, extended to the remainder of the Amraoti district. The change of system has involved considerable loss of revenue, but is said to have secured the sale of unadulterated liquor, and some reduction of drunkenness. The number of shops licensed for the retail sale of country spirits was 1,118, or the same as in the previous year; and for imported liquors, 17 against 20. The number of licensed toddy shops remained at 972, as in the two preceding years. The number of licensed opium shops was 474, or one less than in the previous year; and the quantity of opium consumed fell 0.83.

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EXCISE.

to 379 maunds, against 404 and 423 in the two previous years, and 545 maunds in the year 1889-90. The number of licensed ganja shops was 207, or 21 fewer than in 1894-95. Under the excise and opium laws, 100 convictions were obtained, as compared with 124 in the previous year.

STAMPS.

STAMPS.

The stamp revenue is leviable under Act VII. of 1870 (the Court Fees Act), which imposes fees on plaints, petitions, and other documents filed before civil, criminal, or revenue courts, and under Act I. of 1879 (the Stamp Act), which imposes duties on commercial transactions recorded in writing, such as conveyances, bonds, cheques, bills of exchange, receipts, and the like. The following table gives the stamps receipts, province by province, for the year 1895-96 :—

	Bengal.	North Western Provinces and Oudh.	Punjab.	Lower Burma.	Upper Burma.	Central Provinces.	Assam.	India, General.	Madrass.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Sale of court fee stamps	1,215,966	543,450	282,873	91,124	22,083	116,746	64,031	30,837	512,775	341,342	2,221,316
Sale of commercial and other stamps.	454,334	181,300	138,336	40,344	11,276	51,691	24,028	23,078	274,935	216,330	1,488,875
Fines and miscellaneous	6,861	2,558	4,620	4,501	1,097	191	422	601	9,024	54,060	84,084
TOTAL Stamp Revenue of 1895-96	1,577,163	739,098	424,938	135,969	34,456	171,921	88,484	54,516	796,734	611,732	4,737,955
TOTAL of 1894-95	1,670,263	707,726	400,975	135,771	33,070	170,888	81,922	56,191	787,321	580,953	4,625,660

The refunds of the year were Rx. 50,968, and the charges of collection came to Rx. 171,694. There was an increase in revenue of 2 per cent., as compared with an increase of 2 and 1½ per cent. in the two previous years, for the whole of India. Court fees still yield more than two-thirds of the whole stamp revenue, and general stamps yield something under one-third. In purely agricultural tracts like Berar the court fees revenue is more than double the general stamps revenue; in commercial centres like Bombay, Calcutta, and Rangoon the proportion of revenue yielded by general stamps is much larger. The increase in the year 1895-96 accrued under both court fee and commercial stamps. The revenue from court fees was stationary in Bengal and Burma; the stamp revenue recovered largely in the Punjab, where it had been very low in the preceding year; for the rest, a moderate increase in stamp revenue was apparent in all provinces.

CUSTOMS.

CUSTOMS.

In a previous year's Statement it was said that "in consequence of the great fall in the gold value of silver, and the resulting increase in the loss by exchange on remittances to meet Indian expenditure in England, it was found necessary to re-impose, in March 1894, import duties, which had been abolished in 1882." The general duties were levied from the 10th of March 1894, at the rate of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, with the exception of the petroleum duty, which was raised to one anna per gallon. At first cotton goods were exempted, but in December 1894 a 5 per cent. duty was imposed on imported cotton goods and yarns; while a countervailing excise duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed on all yarns of counts above 20 spun at power mills in British India. In February 1896 the cotton duties were revised; all cotton yarns, whether imported or manufactured in India, were freed from duty, while a uniform duty of 3½ per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed on all woven cotton goods either imported from abroad or manufactured at power mills in India.

The appended table shows the Customs revenue for three years, namely, 1893-94, during which the system was the same as for many previous years, except

except that for the last 21 days general import duties were levied under the new Customs tariff, which provided for the exemption of cotton goods; and 1894-95, during which the new tariff was in force with the addition of the duty on cotton goods from the 27th of December 1894; and 1895-96, during which the tariff remained as at the end of the previous year, until the reduction of the cotton duties in February 1896.

Customs Receipts after deduction of Refunds and Drawbacks.

[The figures for 1893-94 differ from those published in previous Numbers of this Statement, the amounts shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts being adopted in the present Number in the place of those shown in the Indian Trade and Navigation Returns.]

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Sea Customs :	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Export duty on rice - - - -	648,024	891,026	914,371
Import duty on Arms, &c. - - -	16,778	15,189	17,105
" " Liquors - - - -	689,158	609,533	661,004
" " Petroleum and other oils	262,583	319,677	400,172
" " Other articles - - -	93,155	1,879,073	2,795,561
Miscellaneous - - - - -	7,912	10,041	2,656
TOTAL Sea Customs - Rx.	1,617,612	3,724,539	4,796,869
Land Customs :			
Imports - - - - -	1,888	11,620	11,774
Exports - - - - -	8,811	12,161	8,238
Miscellaneous - - - - -	139	36	83
TOTAL Land Customs - Rx.	10,838	23,826	20,095
Excise duty on Cotton Manufactures - - -	—	10,838	60,948
Miscellaneous (including warehouse and wharf rents) - - - - -	8,610	16,150	28,009
TOTAL Customs Revenue - Rx.	1,637,060	3,775,363	4,905,921

The increase of Rx. 1,141,000 in 1895-96 was mainly due to the new import and excise duties on cotton goods and to the large increase in petroleum importations.

The total of Rx. 2,795,561 import duty "on other articles," shown in 1895-96, is made up of the following items:—

	Rx.
Duty on articles of food and drink - - -	284,553
" chemicals - - - - -	101,074
" cotton manufactures - - - - -	1,164,724
" silver bullion and coin - - - - -	347,788
" other metals and manufactures of metals	252,961
" other raw materials and manufactured and unmanufactured articles - - -	644,461
TOTAL - - -	Rx. 2,795,561

The total yield of the cotton duties was therefore:—

	Rx.
Customs duties - - - - -	1,164,724
Excise - - - - -	60,948
TOTAL - - -	Rx. 1,225,672

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CUSTOMS.

A report on the working of the cotton excise duties in Bombay shows that the new Act of 1896, taxing woven goods, only affects 51 factories in the Bombay Presidency, as compared with 95 factories affected by the Act of 1894; the new Act works more smoothly than the old Act, which in regard to drawbacks on exported goods presented much practical difficulty; the new Act yields twice as much excise revenue as the old Act. Under both Acts mill-owners have given the excise officers every assistance. Mills were inspected twice a month to secure faithful returns of excisable goods; and no serious irregularities were discovered. Out of 96 cotton mills in the Presidency 95 were able to produce yarns finer than 20's; and 11 per cent. of the yarns produced during the year were finer than 20's. Native States imposed on their mills excise duties which were practically equal to the excise duties in British territory.

PROVINCIAL RATES.

PROVINCIAL RATES.

Provincial rates are levied for the most part on the land. They are imposed to meet charges for local roads, local schools, local sanitary work, local postal arrangements, and in some provinces for village police. In the temporarily settled provinces the rates take the form of a percentage on the land revenue, and the revenue payers and tenants have to pay that percentage in addition to the land revenue. In Bengal the cesses are levied by a rate upon the rental, and are payable partly by landlord and partly by tenant. The net receipts under this head were Rx. 3,696,000 in the year 1895-96, as against Rx. 3,535,000 in the preceding year. In Bengal about half of the rates belongs to the Provincial Government; in the North-Western Provinces nearly one-quarter is similarly credited; in other provinces the whole, or almost the whole, of the income from provincial rates is spent on local objects by local bodies. The provincial rates increase with the land revenue, and in Bengal the road cess may be increased by votes of the district boards within the legal maximum, or by alteration in the periodical valuations of the rental. The provincial rates are collected punctually with the land revenue and by the same agency.

The following is a table of the rates and cesses collected during the year:—

	India General.	Bengal.	Assam.	North- Western Provinces, and Oudh.	Punjab.	Central Provinces.	Burma (Lower).	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
REVENUE.										
District Local Fund:—										
Cess on Land for expenditure on Roads, Schools, Hospitals, and general purposes.	2,117	413,146	64,603	503,693	226,521	40,158	112,758	533,995	293,749	2,184,443
Provincial:										
Cess on Land for expenditure on Roads, Schools, &c.	—	413,698	—	—	—	354	—	—	—	414,052
Cess on Land for Fire-insurance, Canals, and Railways.	—	—	—	174,463	67,708	17,768	—	—	—	259,939
Cess on Land for District Post	—	32,604	—	—	19,948	4,643	—	—	—	48,095
Cess on Land for Village Service and Path-walks.	3,325	—	—	241,269	132,839	49,572	—	261,158	44,260	734,443
Assessment on Wards' Estates for Establishment Charges.	—	14,033	—	—	1,943	3,078	—	—	—	19,054
Miscellaneous	5,220	—	—	44,978	586	—	—	6,108	—	51,892
TOTAL Receipts	10,662	873,343	64,603	964,523	428,534	116,572	112,758	801,861	338,009	3,707,005
Refunds	—	1,366	468	614	372	830	135	6,116	626	10,525
Net Receipts, 1895-96	10,662	872,017	64,135	963,909	428,162	115,742	112,623	795,745	337,383	3,696,480
Net Receipts, 1894-95	11,725	877,700	63,594	924,676	425,597	94,873	107,135	723,114	297,118	3,535,622

INCOME TAX.

INCOME TAX.
General.

There was no change in the Income Tax Law (Act II. of 1886) during the year, or in the rate at which the tax was levied. The principal provisions of the Act are that incomes derived from salaries, pensions, and interest on securities, if amounting to Rs. 2,000 per annum, should pay five pie in the rupee

rupee (2-6 per cent.), and if less than Rs. 2,000, four pie in the rupee (about 2 per cent.); that companies should pay five pie in the rupee on their net profits; and that income derived from other sources should pay according to a graduated scale from Rs. 10 on Rs. 500 to Rs. 42 on Rs. 1,999, the tax on incomes of Rs. 2,000 and upwards being five pie in the rupee. All incomes of less than Rs. 500 a year are exempted, and the tax is not levied on profits or incomes derived from agriculture (which are otherwise taxed under legislation imposed in 1877-78), or on military salaries of less than Rs. 500 a month.

The receipts and charges on account of income tax in each province were as follows:—

	Gross Collections.	Refunds.	Net Receipts.	Charges for Assessment and Collection.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Bengal	473,735	2,344	471,391	18,419
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	248,423	2,220	246,203	202
Punjab	146,326	1,357	144,979	1,901
Burma	81,227	217	81,010	1,959
Central Provinces	48,831	444	48,387	57
Assam	31,406	166	31,243	249
India, General	149,035	1,187	147,848	101
Madras	249,126	2,436	246,690	2,362
Bombay	407,068	2,401	404,667	5,318
TOTAL, 1895-96	1,835,189	12,771	1,822,418	29,858
TOTAL, 1894-95	1,808,060	13,352	1,794,708	29,771

A review of the results of the Income Tax Act was published in November, 1895, showing how the tax had been worked during the nine years 1886-94, for which period the law and the rates of taxation remained the same. During the nine years the income tax revenue has increased from Rx. 1,369,000 to Rx. 1,709,000, or by 25 per cent., while the costs of collection have fallen from Rx. 53,000 to Rx. 31,000, or 17 per cent on the receipts. Of the total revenue 23½ per cent. is contributed by the three cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras; 30 per cent. accrues from salaries and pensions, and 6 per cent. from interest on securities. The total number of persons assessed to income tax in India was 436,283, or one in 527 of the whole population, in the year 1893-94; and the average incidence of the impost on each taxpayer was Rx. 3½. Outside the Presidency towns and Rangoon the incidence was much smaller; for instance, in Calcutta, Bombay and Rangoon, the tax fell at over two rupees per head of the population, whereas outside these cities the incidence of the tax on the population ranged from 0·03 to 0·10 of a rupee per head. Under Part II. of the Act [Profits of Companies], the largest contributions to the Income Tax revenue in 1893-94 were made by

Results of the income tax during 1886-94.

Railway Companies	Rx. 29,000
Cotton spinning and weaving companies	21,000
Banking Companies	13,000
Under Part IV. [other sources of income, not being salaries and pensions, profits of companies, or interest on securities].	
the largest contributions were made under Professions by	
barristers and other legal practitioners	49,000
Under Trade and Commerce, by money lenders	291,000
general merchants	88,000
piece-goods dealers	54,000
grain dealers	51,000
Under Property, by house owners	49,000
Income derived from land is not, as stated above, liable to income tax.	

INCOME TAX.

Out of the total income tax [Rx. 1,127,000] paid under Parts II. and IV. [Profits of Companies and Trades or Professions], somewhat more than half was paid under Classes I. to VI. by persons enjoying incomes of Rx. 50 to Rx. 200; while incomes under Classes I. and II., ranging from Rx. 50 to Rx. 100 a year, yielded about one-fifth of the total receipts from all classes.

The following paragraph give provincial details for the year 1895-96 :—

Provincial details.

In Bengal the number of objections against 108,901 assessments was 10,795, as compared with 10,635 and 12,269 in the two previous years; 31 per cent. of the objectors were more or less successful, as against 33 per cent. in the previous year; and the final demand was $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. below the original assessments. The total receipts in Bengal, Rx. 467,000, show an increase of Rx. 9,000, or 2 per cent., as compared with 1894-95.

The amounts realisable under the several schedules for the last three years were:—

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
I. Salaries and pensions - - -	98,000	100,000	103,000
II. Profits of companies - - -	25,000	32,000	38,000
III. Interest on securities - - -	6,000	6,000	7,000
IV. Trades, professions, &c. - - -	305,000	309,000	317,000

The proportion of persons assessed to the total population of Bengal was 1 to 653, and the incidence of the tax was one rupee to every 17 persons; outside the city of Calcutta the incidence was one rupee to every 34 persons of the total population. More than 48 per cent. of the income tax revenue of Bengal accrued in the city of Calcutta.

In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, out of 75,924 assessments on trades and professions, the number of objections was 22,113; 27 per cent. of the objectors were in some degree successful, the proportion in the previous year having been 31; and the final demand was 5 per cent. below the original assessment, as in the three preceding years. Notices of arrear were issued in 4,509 cases, and in 474 cases further coercive measures had to be taken against defaulters; while in 158 cases attached property had to be sold for arrears. The total receipts, Rx. 241,400, showed an increase of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over the previous year. One person was assessed in every 648 of the whole population. Of the whole tax 76 per cent. was paid by trades and professions, and 14 per cent. by Government servants on their salaries.

In the Punjab objections were filed against 26 per cent. of the original assessments under Part IV.; of these, 35 per cent. were successful, as compared with 30 per cent. in the year 1894-95; and the final demand was $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. below the original assessment. Rx. 478 of the year's demand were uncollected at the end of March. The total receipts in the Punjab were Rx. 129,800, showing an increase of Rx. 1,600, or 1 per cent., on the receipts of the previous year, the increase being mainly under Part IV., namely, assessments on trading and professional incomes. More than 17 per cent. of the whole collections accrued on salaries and pensions. The penalties imposed for delays by income taxpayers came to Rx. 115, against Rx. 117 in the previous year.

In Burma the income tax was applied to all Government servants and to 89 towns in the lower province; income taxpayers were exempted from capita- tion tax. In the year 1895-96 the number of objections preferred against 11,094 assessments under Part IV. was 3,073, of which 32 per cent. were more or less successful; and the final demand was 17 per cent. below the total of the original assessments. Against 118 assessments under Part II. (Profits of Companies) four objections were preferred, all of which were more or less successful. In 895 cases warrants were issued against defaulters, as compared with 927 in 1894-95, and 1,669 in 1893-94. Of the whole income tax revenue in Burma in 1895-96, 45 per cent. was paid on salaries, pensions, and securities. The total receipts of the year 1895-96 were Rx. 2,700 less than in the previous year, in consequence of the general depression of trade caused by the low price of rice in the two years 1893-95.

In Assam the yield of the tax was 10 per cent. more than in the previous year, and 63 per cent. more than in 1886-87, when the present income tax was introduced. The number of objections was 906, against 5,341 assessments under Part IV.; 431 objections were successful in whole or in part; and the final demand under Part IV. was nearly 6 per cent. below the original assessment. Processes for the realisation of arrears increased 10 per cent.; and in 11 cases the property of defaulters was sold for arrears, against 15 in the previous year. The proportion of collections on salaries and pensions was 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and on profits of companies 46 per cent., of the whole income tax revenue. INCOME TAX.

The total number of persons finally assessed to income tax in Madras was 79,150, as compared with 75,040 in the previous year. Against 67,528 assessments under Part IV., 26,878 objections were preferred, of which 7,001, or 30 per cent., were wholly or partly successful. The final demand was 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. below the original assessment. In 40,155 cases notices had to be issued against defaulters, and in 213 cases property was sold or further action was taken on account of arrears. About 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the revenue due remained unrealised when the report for the year was submitted. The collections for the year showed an increase of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over those for 1894-95; most of the increase accrued under Part IV. (Trades and Professions) of the Act; 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total demand came under that part, and 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of tax was paid on salaries. The assessments fell at the rate of one in 443 on the whole population, and at 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ rupees on each taxpayer.

More than half the income tax demand of the Bombay Presidency accrued in the city of Bombay, where the average incidence on each taxpayer was 71 rupees, against an average of 26 rupees in the interior. The original number of persons assessed to the tax was 86,788, which number was reduced on revision and appeal to 82,174; and the final demand for the whole Presidency was Rx. 406,000, against original assessments amounting to Rx. 422,000. The share of the final demand assessed upon official salaries, pensions, and securities was about 15 per cent. of the whole. The total collections, including arrears and penalties, were Rx. 395,000, against Rx. 384,000 in the preceding year. The increase was most marked in Bombay city. In Bombay city, apart from the tax on salaries and securities, the income tax collections were Rx. 198,000, as compared with Rx. 188,000 in the districts of Bombay and Sind outside the Presidency town.

CHAPTER VI.

SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

SURVEYS.

THE work of "The Survey of India" is divided under five heads, namely:—

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Trigonometrical Survey. | 3. Cadastral Survey. |
| 2. Topographical Forest Survey. | 4. Special Surveys and Explorations. |
| 5. Map Production. | |

The account given below of progress under heads one, two, four and five relates to the work of the season 1894-95.

Trigonometrical.

Out of 20 survey parties, and seven small survey detachments, employed during the year, one party (No. 24) was engaged on trigonometrical work. The principal triangulation, running north and south through Burma, was completed, the series being carried over a direct distance of 70 miles and over an area of 1,350 square miles. It remains to connect the Burma triangulation with the Assam series on the upper waters of the Brahmaputra and with the Cachar series. The latter connection has been begun from both the Burma (Chindwin Valley) and the Cachar ends; but the dense jungle makes the work difficult and costly. Horizontal and vertical angles were taken at 11 principal and two secondary stations, while astronomical observations were taken for azimuth at one station, in Burma. The remaining beacons recently erected at the mouth of the Indus were fixed by a section of party No. 24; and this work at the Indus Delta is now finished.

Topographical

Five parties, and three detachments, were engaged on topographical work, and accomplished in all 21,588 square miles of topographical survey, as against 16,072 in the preceding year. Party No. 10 completed 2,578 square miles of survey in the Southern Mahratta country and the Konkan; the country was open; and it is hoped that another season will complete the topographical survey of the Southern Mahratta country. Party No. 11 was divided into five sections, of which one began regular topographical work in Upper Burma, furnishing a detachment to accompany the Political Mission to the Mekong river. The area mapped on the one-inch and $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch scales came to 2,278 square miles, in the Shan Hills to the east and south of Fort Stedman (Nyaungwé); the country ranged from 3,000 feet above the sea in the valleys to 8,000 feet on the highest range. Party No. 15 was divided into nine detachments, of which three were employed with the Afghan Boundary Commission; one near Multan; one in the Zhob Valley; and four under Moslem officers were engaged on special duty in South Arabia, Persia, and Lus Beyla, and on the Perso-Baluch frontier. These parties surveyed on the $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch and larger scales 8,653, besides 68,570 square miles of geographical work accomplished by the four detachments employed beyond the frontier. In one locality only, the Dofar district of southern Arabia, was any hostility shown by the people to the work of the survey officers. Party No. 18 continued to be employed in the Punjab Himalayas, and effected the survey of 883 square miles, chiefly in the Kangra district and the feudatory states thereto attached. In this area were 241 forest blocks, covering 229 square miles, for parts of which a classification of forest trees and of soils was completed. Party No. 21 effected 913 square miles of one-inch topographical survey in parts of eight Shan States, five of which were completed; one detachment accomplished the demarcation of the Burma-Siam boundary, completing 1,726 square miles of topographical survey, besides 500 linear miles of route traverse; another detachment made a survey of the Kokang Shan State which was to be ceded to China.

Four parties were, as in the previous year, employed in mapping the forest reserves. Party No. 14 completed the survey of the Nimar forests, and began the Betul forests, in the Central Provinces; they effected 569 square miles of detail survey, including classification of soils and forest growth; the cost of the work came down from 89 rupees to 67 rupees per square mile. Party No. 17 was engaged in the reserved forests of the Poona, Thana, Ahmednagar and North Kanara districts of Bombay; 468 square miles of detail survey were accomplished;

accomplished; the rates of work per square mile were lower than in the previous year. Party No. 19 was engaged in the forest reserves of Coimbatore, Madura, Salem, and North Arcot; 971 square miles of detailed survey were accomplished, a larger out-turn than in any previous year; the cost per square mile came down to 69 rupees, against 72 rupees, and 172 rupees in previous years. Party No. 20 effected the survey of 375 square miles of reserved forest in the Hanthawaddy, Pegu and Shwégyin districts of Burma. The whole area of forest surveys accomplished by all these parties during the year was 2,612 square miles, against 2,522 square miles in the previous year; a further area of 1,616 square miles of forest was surveyed by the survey branch of the Forest Department. Thus a detail survey was effected of 4,228 square miles of forest reserves, in all, during the year 1894-95.

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The work of the cadastral and traverse survey parties is noticed below under each of the provinces where they were employed.

Cadastral Survey.

The geodetic work of the year consisted of the determination by the electro-telegraphic method of the difference of longitude between Greenwich and Karachi. Arcs of longitude were successively measured between Karachi, Jakk, and Bushire; the arc between Greenwich and Potsdam was also completed; observing operations were to be finished by April 1896.

Geodetic.

The demand for and the production of maps by the Survey of India showed some decrease. The number of new maps and new editions of maps completed during the year was 4,414, of which 3,981 were cadastral maps. In all 894,286 copies of maps and plates of different kinds were printed off during the year, besides 1,291,041 impressions from type, 49,675 heliogravure prints, and 3,820 photographic prints; the total value of the work was Rx. 20,693, or Rx. 4,200 below the previous year. The considerable decrease in all branches of map work was due to the smaller number of maps that were under reproduction. Among notable new maps of the year were several charts of the north-east and south-east frontier, and maps of Upper Burma.

Map printing.

The recording of tidal curves by self-registering tide gauges, their reduction, and the publication of tide tables, were continued during the year at 13 stations, of which seven are permanent and six are temporary for five years. No serious interruption occurred at any of the tidal observatories, and the tidal operations of the year are reported to have been very successful. The total number of ports treated since 1877, for which tide tables are issued, is 34, of which 21 have been closed. So far as predictions of high water were concerned, 95 per cent. of the entries in the tables were correct within eight inches of actual heights at open coast stations, and 66 per cent. at riverain stations; while as to time of high water, 65 and 56 per cent. respectively of the entries were correct within 15 minutes. All the observatories, except Bushire and Minicoy, were inspected during the year, and steps were taken to correct shortcomings or deficiencies detected.

Tidal and levelling operations.

The levelling operations of the season consisted of a continuous line of double levelling from Cuttack, down the coast *via* Khurda and Ganjam to Berhampore, and thence along the railway to Vizagapatam, where a connection was effected with the work of 1887-88. The spirit-levelling of all the tidal stations along the East Coast of India has thus been finished. A branch line of levels was carried from Khurda to Puri for the rectification of the railway levels there. On a length of 356 miles the heights of one standard bench mark, of 402 permanent bench marks, of seven tidal, 31 railway, and five P. W. D. bench marks, and of four stations of the Great Trigonometrical Survey were determined. The height of the closing bench mark at Vizagapatam, as derived from the origin at Cuttack, was only one inch higher than that derived from Vizagapatam, though the distance between the two points is 356 miles, and the total of all rises and falls amounted to 12,825 feet.

Allusion has already been made to the geographical reconnaissances made by detachments with the Mekong Mission in the Shan States, and in the countries to the west and north-west of India. The geographical surveys in Southern Arabia were made by a Moslem officer who accompanied the late Mr. Theodore Bent, the well-known traveller. The surveyors with the Mekong Mission secured 4,928 square miles of fairly accurate topography, and made a satisfactory

Explorations.

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junction with the triangulation previously effected for the Siam Government by Mr. McCarthy, formerly an officer of the Indian Great Trigonometrical Survey. A detachment with the Pamir Delimitation Survey mapped 4,800 square miles on the $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch scale, fixing the position of about 40 points and peaks, and effecting a very satisfactory junction with the work of the Russian Survey party from the north-west. The survey officers with the Chitral Relief Force obtained 1,900 square miles of $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch to the mile mapping, and carried a series of triangles from Hoti Murdan on the Peshawur Plain to the Laorai Pass. The total areas geographically surveyed on and beyond the eastern and western frontiers of India during the year amounted to 92,600 square miles.

Marine Survey.

The survey vessels "Investigator" and "Nancowry" were employed on marine surveys throughout the open season of 1895-96, the staff being employed in the chart office during the rainy months. The principal coast survey work was off the mouths of the Indus, at Marmagoa, and in the neighbourhood of Bombay Harbour. It was ascertained that above and below Karachi, south of the Hajamro mouth of the Indus, great changes in the coast line had occurred; one of the principal mouths of the Indus had shifted 10 miles to the east since the previous survey; while a deposit averaging two fathoms deep had appeared over an area of 90 square miles of the adjacent sea bottom. The survey of the Bombay Harbour region was not finished at the end of the season. The naturalist on board the "Investigator" reports on several hauls of the deep-sea trawl, the deepest haul being 695 fathoms. Several hauls were made at depths of about 100 fathoms. Some of the hauls were barren of results; and on the whole the specimens brought up were less new and interesting than in previous years.

Meteorology.

During the year 1895-96 meteorological observations were recorded at more than 200 stations, stretching from Bagdad and Aden on the west, to Dibrogarh and Bhamo on the east, and from Resht on the Caspian Sea, Kabul and Kashgar on the north, to Galle in Ceylon, the Nicobar, Seychelles, and Minikoi Islands, and Mergui on the south. Of these stations 175 were maintained by the Government of India, subject to the immediate control of the meteorological officers. Full information was obtained from 23 Himalayan and sub-Himalayan stations concerning the snowfall of the year, and a forecast was published in June of the probable effect of the snowfall on the ensuing south-west monsoon. Of the 175 observing stations belonging to the Government,—

Four were observatories of the first class, where autographically registering instruments are kept to record rainfall, barometric and thermometric readings, humidity, wind force, and solar-actinometric observations.

Sixty were second-class stations, where less frequent observations are recorded.

One hundred and eleven were third-class stations, which record twice a day the rainfall, the thermometric maxima and minima, and the range of the barometer.

These observations are communicated in some cases by telegraph to the headquarters of the Meteorological Department, the chief officers of which are responsible for inspecting observatories and stations, so that instruments may be kept in good order and observations may be faithfully recorded; the Department also undertakes the publication of storm warnings, seasonal forecasts, and periodical compilations of meteorological results. Besides the data furnished by the observatories described above, returns are kept of the rainfall at 2,078 stations.

The forecast of the probable rainfall for the monsoon of 1895 was founded mainly on information regarding the snowfall on the mountain region to the north and north-west of India, and on the distribution of barometric pressure in India and over the Arabian Sea during the month of May, as compared with the meteorology of previous years. The forecast predicted a somewhat deficient rainfall in Sind, Cutch, the west of the Punjab and Rajputana; a rainfall of at least normal amount in other parts of Northern and Central India, in Burma and Behar; perhaps a moderate excess of rain in the Gangetic plain and Central India; and an average or nearly normal rainfall in Southern India. It is claimed that the forecast gave a fair approximation to the general features

features of the monsoon in Bengal and Northern India, but it was not verified SURVEYS. in Burma, South India, the North-Western Provinces, or the Central Provinces.

The average and actual rainfall of the year 1895 in the regions into which India has been divided were as follows:—

Meteorological Division.	Area, Square Miles.	Number of Stations.	Normal Rainfall.	Actual Rainfall, 1895.
			<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>
I.—Punjab Plains - - - -	120,000	29	21·52	19·30
II.—North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	83,500	45	37·49	38·11
III.—Rajputana - - - -	67,000	19	28·42	22·13
IV.—Central India States - - -	91,000	20	42·01	34·52
V.—Bihar - - - -	30,000	15	45·01	41·48
VI.—Western Bengal - - - -	38,000	10	49·39	42·62
VII.—Lower Bengal - - - -	54,000	28	66·64	60·41
VIII.—Assam and Cachar - - -	61,000	16	96·39	90·03
IX.—Orissa and Northern Circars -	27,000	10	48·00	52·16
X.—Central Provinces, South - -	61,000	18	51·38	48·15
XI.—Berar and Khandesh - - -	43,000	13	35·96	31·76
XII.—Gujarat - - - -	54,500	13	33·03	25·53
XIII.—Sind and Cutch - - - -	68,000	19	8·40	5·98
XIV.—North Deccan - - - -	48,000	13	30·54	31·97
XV.—Konkan and Ghâts - - - -	16,000	11	138·92	121·34
XVI.—Malabar and Ghâts - - -	18,000	8	113·89	108·50
XVII.—Hyderabad - - - -	74,000	10	32·71	37·69
XVIII.—Mysore and Bellary - - -	58,000	18	29·52	31·50
XIX.—Carnatic - - - -	72,000	37	36·06	42·61
XX.—Arakan - - - -	11,000	7	148·04	121·99
XXI.—Pegu - - - -	32,500	7	71·96	64·08
XXII.—Tenasserim - - - -	10,500	4	172·38	150·96
XXIII.—Upper Burma - - - -	?	13	38·73	41·55

The deficiency of rain was more than 10 per cent. over all Bengal, Assam, Lower Burma, Rajputana, Central India, and the greater part of Bombay. The excess was marked in South India only. The rainfall at the end of the monsoon was abnormal in character and very irregularly distributed.

Much valuable marine meteorological work was done; the logs of 2,218 vessels were examined.

Thirteen notable storms, including five small cyclonic storms, one in April, three in September, and one in December, were observed in the Bay of Bengal; and eight storms, including two cyclones in August and September, were reported from the west coast of India. Storm signalling was effectively performed at Bombay and Calcutta; ample and definite warning is said to have been given of all the more important storms that visited the coasts of India during the year. The system of flood warnings to canal, civil, and railway officers continued to be useful; 552 such warnings were issued by the Meteorological Department during the year, and these warnings were occasionally of much value. The usual daily weather reports and charts, weekly weather reports published in the official gazettes, and the monthly weather report giving a summary of the barometrical, wind, and thermometric observations, and of the variations from normal conditions, were published regularly. The results of 10 years' meteorological observations in the Ajmere forests were found, on examination, to be quite useless for the purpose of testing the effect of forest growth on meteorological conditions. As the investigation could not be carried on satisfactorily save at prohibitive cost, it has for the present been abandoned.

The number of stations inspected and instruments verified by officers of the Meteorological Department was considerably smaller than in the preceding year. Thirty-nine observatories were found to be "satisfactory" or "very satisfactory"; nine were said to be "fair"; and ten were in bad condition.

The Geological Survey of the Salem and Coimbatore districts was pushed Geological Survey. on, and will be completed during 1897; among other matters, gold-bearing reefs,

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reefs, yielding from one to two and a-half ounces to the ton are said to have been found near Collegal, in Coimbatore, and one of these reefs is now being worked by a company; a band of corundum-bearing rock was traced for a distance of 36 miles; it remains to be seen whether the quantity and quality of the corundum, and the cost of its separation, are such as to pay for commercial working. Dr. Evans, Geologist of the Mysore State, has shown that the so-called gold reefs of that region are not reefs in the ordinary sense, but are interbedded quartzites of the same character as the gold-bearing deposits of the Transvaal. Out of 28 tons of steatite quarried in the Kurnool district for trial in Europe, 13 tons were condemned as being too small fragments, and 15 tons were passed for consignment to Messrs. Sugg & Co., who, if the material proves satisfactory, hope to consume Indian steatite largely, in place of Hungarian steatite, for the future. The testing of supposed gold-bearing rocks at Dhobni in Chota Nagpur by experimental crushings showed that the quartz contained practically no gold at all. Two officers of the survey were employed on geological work in Rewah; they observed several new coal seams, specimens from which gave but poor results on analysis at Calcutta. By these officers and by a surveyor in the ranges near Khelat valuable collections of fossils were made. In Rajputana, in the Simla and Naini Tal Himalayas, and in Assam surveys were prosecuted. It is anticipated that coal-fields of value may be found on the line of the Assam-Bengal Railway. In Burma a reputed coal-field at Mithwe, steatite mines in Kyoukpyu, and a yellow-ochre deposit, were examined with negative results. The Yenangyoung petroleum field was reported to be nearly worked out, and investigations were made as to the existence of a fresh oil-field towards Yenangyat; the results were encouraging so far as they went, but they are not yet conclusive. Much attention was given to the character and circumstances of the corundum-bearing rock of South India; and an important paper on the subject has been prepared. Much progress was made with the specimens in the Geological Museum. During the past six years all the mineral and rock collections, numbering 17,500 specimens, have been re-arranged and re-registered, a guide to the mineral collection has been published, and guides to the collections of rocks and economic geology are being prepared. Among the chief publications of the Survey during the year were "Memoirs on the Bellary and Hazara Districts," and further parts of the "Palæontologica Indica."

SETTLEMENTS AND CADASTRAL SURVEYS.

SETTLEMENTS
AND CADASTRAL
SURVEYS.

The term "Settlement" is applied in Indian revenue affairs to the process of assessing the land revenue demand. Occasionally in newly acquired or specially backward tracts, the land revenue is assessed for a short term of years on a general review of the circumstances and capabilities of the land and people concerned; such a process is called a summary settlement. But a regular settlement is a more complicated affair, and consists of many stages. In the first place, every separate estate or holding is demarcated by permanent marks on the ground; and disputes between neighbouring right-holders are investigated and decided. Every estate or holding is then surveyed and mapped, all boundary marks, wells, and buildings being shown on the field or cadastral maps. Sometimes these field surveys and maps are made by trained professional surveyors belonging to the Survey department. When the field surveys are made by local or village surveyors, such agents are trained by, and their work is independently tested by, professional surveyors. The work of the professional survey, whether cadastral maps or traversing, is based on, and is checked by, the independent scientific work of the Grand Trigonometrical and Topographical Surveys. After the field maps are prepared, the next process is to classify or record each field according to its productive value, as evidenced by its soil, by the amount of its produce, or by the rent it pays. A record is at the same time drawn up of all rents paid, and of all rights, whether landlord rights, or tenant rights, or rights of user, over all the ground, buildings, wells, and trees shown in the map. Then the assessing officer (or settlement officer, as he is often called) compiles the information obtained for all the lands in a circle of villages; and on a review of all these data, of the past fiscal history of the tract, of the range of prices, of the accessibility of markets, and of other

other general considerations, he proposes rent rates or revenue rates for the several classes of lands in the circle. In the determination of rent rates or revenue rates for any tract, the rainfall, the sub-soil water level, and irrigation facilities are important factors; but improvements made by the owners or occupiers themselves are not held to enhance the assessable value of the land. In re-settlements in the North-West Provinces and Oudh, the rents now enjoyed by the owner of the land are practically the main basis on which the new land revenue is assessed. The rent rates or revenue rates proposed by the settlement officer, and the grounds on which they were based, are then investigated by a superior officer, and are not adopted until they have been accepted or modified by the latter.

In provinces where the zemindari tenure prevails, that is, where single proprietors or proprietary brotherhoods possess large estates of several hundreds or thousands of acres, the State revenue is assessed at an aliquot part (usually about one-half) of the ascertained or assumed rental. The revenue, though it is fixed with reference to acreage rates on the land actually cultivated, is assessed on, and is payable by, each estate as a whole; the assessment remains unchanged for the 30 years or other period of the settlement; the proprietor can bring as much as he likes of his waste or fallow land under the plough; and it is only on re-assessment at the end of the term of the settlement that the State obtains any increase of revenue on account of the extensions of cultivation during the settlement period. In provinces where the ryotwari tenure prevails, that is, where each petty proprietor holds directly from the State, generally cultivates his own land, and has no landlord between himself and the Government, the revenue is separately assessed at an acreage rate on each petty holding, and land revenue becomes payable at once, or after a short term of grace in the case of uncleared lands, on all extensions of cultivation. The ryotwari proprietor is at liberty to throw up his holding, or any portion of it, at the beginning of any year, after reasonable notice; the zemindar or large proprietor engages to pay the revenue assessed upon him for the term of the settlement.

After the revenue is assessed and the assessment is sanctioned, copies of the field map, of the schedule of fields, and of the record of rights are made; one copy is given to the proprietor; one copy is lodged in the district court-house; and usually a third copy is placed in the sub-divisional or tahseel office. Through the agency of the local officials of each village or circle the field maps and record of rights are corrected or written up year by year, so as to make them at all times faithful accounts of current rural facts and circumstances. When revisions of assessment are undertaken at the end of the settlement, the village maps and records serve, after adequate testings and corrections, as the basis for re-assessment; and in this way a re-settlement is a shorter and less costly affair, and causes much less harassment to the people than is involved in an original settlement. At the present time re-settlements have been practically completed in Bombay, and are being made in some districts of Madras, the Punjab, Oudh, Berar, and the Central Provinces; also in outlying parts of Bengal. Original settlements are still being prosecuted on the west coast of Madras and in Lower Burma; while in Upper Burma the first settlement of the land revenue has been begun.

The Bengal report brings the account of survey and settlement affairs down to September 1895; cadastral surveys or settlements were in progress in the three districts of Orissa, in Chittagong, in Palamau, in Darjeeling, and on some hundreds of petty estates and plots in different parts of the province; while a cadastral survey and record of rights was being prosecuted on private lands in the four districts of North Behar, namely, Mozufferpore, Sarun, Champaran, and Darbhanga, in Tipperah, and in three other districts. Among the temporarily settled tracts of Bengal, Orissa is the largest.

Field maps and records had previously been completed for the Puri district, and were finished during the year for the other two Orissa districts, Cuttack and Balasore, at an average cost of 4½ annas per acre. The attestation of holdings was effected during the year for 2,230 villages of Orissa, but no revised assessments had been framed by the end of the year. The total cost of the Orissa survey and settlement had reached Rx. 180,000 by the 30th September 1895. In the Chittagong Settlement the rents of 135,549 tenants

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and the revenue payable by 42,026 petty landholders have been settled, yielding an increase of Rx. 13,400, or 49 per cent. on the former revenue. The cost of the Chittagong Settlement up to date has been Rx. 110,200; and the work is to be finished by July 1897. In Palamau and Darjeeling the survey and attestation of holdings was nearly completed, and assessments of the revenue were being framed. The cadastral survey of the Kolhan lands (1,423 square miles) in Singhbhum was begun.

On the estates of the Maharaja of Tipperah 556 square miles, and on the Tikari Raja's estate 605 square miles were under settlement; the cadastral survey had previously been completed in Tipperah, and was finished during the year in Tikari. Attestation of holdings and settlement of rents made fair progress in each case.

In North Behar cadastral surveys were prosecuted in the Mozufferpore, Champaran, Sarun, and Darbhanga Districts, the total area being 12,524 square miles. In Mozufferpore 587 square miles were cadastrally surveyed, and 148 square miles remained to be done; since the close of the year the survey and the record writing have both been finished for this district. Fair rents were settled in 5,765 cases, the total rents in these disputed cases being raised 8 per cent. The final record of rights has been prepared for 2,147 villages and published for 923 villages; preparation has still to be completed for 2,453 and publication for 3,677 out of the total of 4,600 villages in the district. The cost of the cadastral survey averaged $5\frac{1}{4}$ annas per acre over the whole district. In Champaran 1,027 square miles were cadastrally surveyed, and 424 miles remain to be done; records have been prepared for 2,717 villages and attested for 1,550 villages. Rents have been settled in 36,221 cases, resulting in an average increase of 11 per cent. Final publication of the record of rights has been made for 465 villages out of the 2,763 in the district. In Saran 552 square miles were surveyed and 1,520 square miles remain to be done; records have been attested for 1,208 villages; rents have been settled in 36,063 cases, resulting in an increase of 13 per cent. in the rent; the record of rights has been published in draft for 951 villages, and finally for 68 villages out of the 4,269 villages in the district. In Darbhanga, only one estate, with an area of 15 square miles was surveyed during the year. For the whole of North Behar the cadastral survey has been practically finished in two districts, Mozufferpore and Champaran, while the record of rights is well forward. In Saran about one-third of the total work is done, and in Durbhanga the work is only just begun.

North-Western
Provinces and
Oudh.

Revisions of settlement were in progress over parts of three districts in the North-West Provinces and nine districts of Oudh. In Garhwal the assessment was completed. In Bijnor and Badoun assessments were framed, but had not been sanctioned. The re-assessment of the Lucknow and Unao districts was completed, yielding an increased revenue of Rx. 22,000, or 28 per cent. in the former, and of Rx. 8,400, or 18 per cent. in the latter district. The cost of the resettlement was only Rx. 5,000 or Rs. 52 per square mile in Lucknow, but was much more costly in Unao, where work has been begun before the adoption of the economical system of resettlement recently introduced into Oudh. In Rae Bareli the re-assessments have yielded an increase of 22 per cent. in the revenue, but the cost of the work has been, so far, Rs. 111 per square mile. In Seetapore half the district has been re-assessed, and the cost has been kept down to Rs. 25 per square mile. In Sultanpore the increase of revenue has been 26 per cent., and the cost of the work has been, so far, Rs. 95 per square mile. The re-assessment of Pertabgarh was nearly completed, yielding an increase of Rx. 24,100, or 35 per cent. in the revenue. In Barabanki the increase was 27 per cent. In Hardoi and Fyzabad the re-assessments have only been begun. Sanction was given during the year to the beginning of settlement operations in the districts of Meerut, Lalitpur, and Kherree.

The rent-rolls for all districts of the North-West Provinces and Oudh show that the rental demand of the year 1893-94 was Rx. 12,244,000, out of which the landlords realised Rx. 9,868,000 during the year, besides Rx. 1,256,000 on account of arrears of previous years. The decrease in rental and in collections, as compared with the previous year, was due to depression caused by bad seasons.

seasons. The rent-rolls include only the reduced rents paid by privileged tenants, and include no computed rents on account of lands cultivated by proprietors. The cultivated area is approximately held thus :—

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	N. W. P.	Oudh.
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
By cultivating proprietors - - - -	6,027,000	959,000
„ privileged tenants - - - -	922,000	396,000
„ ryots with occupancy rights - - -	10,692,000	256,000
„ tenants-at-will - - - -	9,251,000	7,386,000
„ rent free - - - -	460,000	282,000

The imperial Survey Department was not employed on revenue or cadastral survey in the Punjab during the year. Settlement operations were in progress in parts of five districts, and were completed in one of these districts, Sealkote, by the close of the year. As was mentioned in a previous Statement, the work is being done as expeditiously and economically as possible; and no general re-survey is attempted, though on some estates and in occasional tracts the existing field maps are so incorrect as to necessitate a fresh survey.

In Sealkote the settlement was completed; it has cost Rx. 42,000; and it has yielded an increase of Rx. 26,800 in the revenue, or 24 per cent. on the former demand. In Montgomery the settlement was nearly finished; it has cost Rx. 7,000, and is expected to secure an enhancement of Rx. 5,700 in the revenue. In Peshawar the work will probably be finished before the end of the current year; the revised assessments have all been framed and submitted. In Kohat the work was practically a sub-settlement between a border chieftain and his tenants; it was concluded during the year 1896. In Dera Ghazi Khan the field survey was completed for three-quarters of the district, and revised assessments had been framed and submitted for one quarter; the work had cost Rx. 17,300 up to September 1895.

In Lower Burma one party of the Imperial Survey was employed on the cadastral survey of the Thaton and Pegu districts; this party effected 630 square miles of cadastral work, besides 564 square miles of topographical survey. Locally trained surveyors accomplished cadastral surveys of 154 square miles of revision survey and 74 fisheries in the Tharrawaddy district. The forest survey party completed 464 square miles of the reserved forests of Hauthawaddy and two other districts. Assessments were sanctioned for 1,592 square miles in the Amherst and Thaton districts; these assessments yielded an increase of Rx. 17,108, or 29 per cent., in the land revenue of the tract. The 20 Government survey schools have worked successfully, with an average of 271 students on the rolls. The course includes active work with a surveyor in the field. The number of students obtaining certificates during the year was 184, out of 333 presenting themselves for examination. The area under supplementary survey, that is the area for which the field maps and records are tested and corrected yearly, increased from 19,251 to 20,243 square miles in Lower Burma, and from 1,224 to 2,534 square miles in Upper Burma. The area transferred by private sale was 304,000 acres, against 303,000 in the previous year, for Lower Burma. The average price paid for land rose in some districts and fell in others, compared with the previous year. The area sub-let to tenants was 1,112,000 acres, or 17 per cent. of the whole cultivated area in Lower Burma; the rent realised per acre came to an average of 6.9 rupees, as compared with an average revenue rate of nearly 1½ rupees per acre.

One cadastral survey party in Upper Burma effected the survey of 2,104 square miles in parts of five districts, at a cost of 89 rupees per square mile. Assessments of land revenue and land tenure inquiries made progress in five districts, but no assessments were sanctioned during the year.

In the Central Provinces cadastral survey has now been completed in all tracts where re-survey had begun, except in part of the Mandla district and some of the zemindarees or chiefships; during the year the settlements of Nagpore and Chindwara were finished, and final reports were submitted on the revised assessments of the Jubbulpore, Narsingpur and Wardha districts; and assessment work was in progress in seven districts, namely, Hoshungabad, Saugor, Nimar, Balaghat, Seoni, Bhandara, and Betul. Assessments and the completion

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completion of the record of rights were prosecuted in the chiefships of Chutteesgurh. The revised assessments framed during the year yielded an increase of Rx. 14,800 in the revenue. The rate of increase ranged from 73 per cent. in Hoshungabad to 37 per cent. in Chindwara and 19 per cent. in Nagpur. The enhanced revenue now assessed on the northern districts amounts to less than one-half, and in the southern districts to less than three-fifths of the gross rental. In the southern districts the position of the ryots is stronger, their rents had not greatly risen during the past 30 years, and the enhancements of revenue were smaller. By the end of the year cadastral surveys had been completed save in the chiefships, and assessments had been completed for 69,385 square miles. The cost of survey and assessment together has been, so far, about three annas per acre, or within the estimate originally framed; the work has been in progress for 10 years, and has cost Rx. 474,000; it may take more than two years, and involve a further expenditure of Rx. 53,000, to finish the whole re-settlement, which has already yielded an addition of Rx. 105,000, or 18 per cent. on the old demand, and may eventually yield some further increase to the land revenue.

Assam.

Regular survey operations in the Province of Assam were confined to the district of Cachar; cadastral surveys were effected over 458 square miles, and traverse surveys over 333 square miles; while revision surveys were prosecuted over 364 square miles. About 356 square miles in Cachar still remain for revision survey. Cadastral surveys had been previously completed in the Assam Valley; and the re-settlement of the revenue was finished in 1895-96.

The Statement for 1893-94 described how revised revenue rates had, after the old rates had stood for 26 years, been sanctioned for the districts of the Brahmaputra Valley. During the year 1895-96 the re-classification of all cultivated lands under the new rates was finally completed with the fiscal result of increasing the land revenue of the Assam Valley from Rx. 320,000 in 1890-91 to Rx. 441,000 in 1895-96, or about 37 per cent; some part, however, of this increase was due to the normal extension of cultivation during the five years.

Madras.

In Madras five parties were employed on original cadastral surveys and on re-surveys during the year 1895-96. The area of original survey effected during the year was 2,053 square miles; besides 1,692 square miles of cadastral re-survey. The work was done in parts of eight districts, namely, Malabar, South Canara, Anantapur, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Kistna, Salem, and Godavari. The village accountants (*karnams*) performed a large share of the business; but in some districts the work of the *karnams* was not satisfactory. The forecast now shows 8,845 square miles remaining to be surveyed in eight districts; half of this area is in Kurnool, where the work should be completed by 1902. Outside Kurnool the survey work is to be completed in 1897. Many surveys of municipal areas, of rent-free and proprietary villages, have still to be undertaken. The number of copies of survey and other maps struck off during the year was 235,000, or 76,000 more than in 1893-94. The cost of the survey during the year was Rx. 57,807; this includes Rx. 14,253 expended on training the village accountants (*karnams*), on maintaining boundary marks, and on mapping for other departments. The total outlay on survey and settlement, since operations began in 1858, has been Rx. 3,399,000; while the net increase of revenue secured has been Rx. 760,000, or 22 per cent. on the outlay.

Bombay.

In Bombay, where survey and settlement work will soon be finished, three parties were employed in six British districts during the year, while a small party was employed in and paid by Native States. During the year ending October 1895, the parties in British districts measured an area of 683 square miles, and classified an area of 715 square miles, besides large areas in the Surat district, whereof the old measurement and classification were tested and found correct. The largest area was done in the Konkan, where the cost of the combined operations was 355 rupees per square mile, against 329 in the previous year; this increase of cost was attributed to the intricacy of the work, and to unusual sickness among the staff. In Gujarat the area re-surveyed was much smaller than in 1893-94; and the combined cost was 165 rupees per square mile against 381 rupees in 1893-94. Much of the work consisted of testing

testing and correcting old surveys and records, rather than of measuring the land anew; and the average expenditure per square mile for British territory fell from 240 rupees to 175 rupees. The cost of the Department during the year was Rx. 38,650, or Rx. 1,439 less than in the preceding year. The revised assessments of the year amounted to Rx. 178,000, which was Rx. 29,600, or 19 per cent. above the previous demand. The total increase of revenue secured by the settlement revision operations in Bombay up to October 1895 came to Rx. 405,900 a year, or 30 per cent. on the former demand; this increase is outside the yearly increment of revenue due to the extension of cultivation. The cost of the revision operations, exclusive of work in Sind, has been Rx. 645,000. In Sind the settlement has been completed. The party employed in Native States completed the survey of Savanur and carried the work forward in three other States.

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In Berar, re-settlement had begun in consequence of the expiration of the original settlement, which was made on the Bombay system about 30 years ago. The total area to be dealt with is 13,350 square miles, of which 12,134 square miles are either under crop or current fallows. The original measurement and classification of the land are being left untouched, save in a few cases where tests are applied to the old work, or for special causes re-measurement is found necessary. A further year's testing shows the old work of 1861-67 to be in the main good and trustworthy. Three survey parties were at work, consisting chiefly of indigenous surveyors. The survey was completed for 575 villages against 337 in the previous year: re-measurement was effected of 38,000 acres, and for 835,000 acres the old work was confirmed. The cost of the combined survey and settlement operations came to 40 rupees per square mile. Re-settlements were sanctioned and announced for one subdivision; the increase of revenue secured began with 30 per cent. and will after 15 years reach 36 per cent. on the old demand. In the eastern districts of Wun and Basim, where there were many leased villages, all the original survey and assessment work has now been finished, and the party employed on that duty has been transferred to the regular settlement and survey work; the cost of the operations during a part of the year in these villages came to 89 rupees per square mile.

Berar.

VII.

LAND REVENUE, INCLUDING FISHERY RECEIPTS AND
CAPITATION TAX, AND WARDS' ESTATES.

LAND REVENUE. THE subjoined table shows the receipts and disbursements on account of land revenue for each province, as entered in the public accounts for the year 1895-96; also the net land revenue for the past two years.

DETAILS OF LAND REVENUE and EXPENDITURE.

	Bengal.	North West Provinces and Oudh.	Punjab.	Lower Burma.	Upper Burma.	Central Provinces.	Assam.	India, General.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
REVENUE.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Ordinary Land Revenue	3,811,399	6,089,164	2,306,792	1,199,021	147,658	702,841	550,294	129,346	5,311,949	3,959,942	24,197,734
Sale of Proprietary Right of Government in Land.	1,878	398	452	—	—	—	—	45	8,775	—	2,526
Assessment or quit-rent of alienated lands.	7,826	—	22,418	—	—	—	—	—	—	970,174	1,000,422
Sale of Waste Lands and Redemption of Land Revenue.	12,368	578	17,326	—	—	—	1,512	1,391	1,019	—	34,991
Capitation Tax or House Tax levied in lieu thereof.	1,726	—	—	411,700	526,437	—	—	1,443	—	—	941,266
Receipts for the Improvement of Government Estates.	50,507	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50,507
Fisheries and other Receipts classed as Miscellaneous.	17,340	44,304	92,219	187,204	82,926	4,791	44,173	13,446	271,498	25,752	785,564
Recovery of Survey Charges.	2,269	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,269
Total Gross Revenue	Rx. 3,905,221	5,134,442	2,440,116	1,787,895	787,019	707,332	597,671	145,711	5,592,141	4,256,999	27,022,619
Deduct portion credited to Public Works.	—	117,498	43,416	—	—	—	—	—	682,842	78,165	821,661
Total in Revenue Accounts for 1895-96	Rx. 3,905,221	5,016,944	2,396,699	1,787,893	787,019	707,332	597,671	145,711	5,009,659	4,376,814	26,200,958
Corresponding Total for previous year 1894-95	Rx. 3,890,942	5,755,165	2,379,063	1,658,824	798,161	658,389	602,190	143,266	5,052,681	4,468,891	25,304,272

In India the State, or the monarch, has always enjoyed a share in the rent or profits from the land. This revenue is levied according to an assessment fixed, either permanently or periodically, on estates or holdings. The assessment was fixed permanently 100 years ago on certain tracts paying about Rx. 4,300,000 a year; and it is fixed periodically, for terms of 12 to 30 years, over the rest of India. On large estates, ranging from a few hundred to many thousand acres each, the periodical assessment is a share, generally about one-half, of the rental enjoyed by the proprietors; on small estates cultivated by peasant proprietors the periodical assessment is imposed on the cultivated area at a rate per acre fixed with reference to the productiveness of the land, and representing about one-half of the estimated letting value. The permanently settled tracts comprise the greater part of Bengal, about one-fourth of Madras, and certain southern districts of the North West Provinces. Of the temporarily settled tracts, the North Western Provinces, the Punjab, Oudh, the Central Provinces, and Orissa mainly contain estates held by proprietary brotherhoods or large proprietors; while in Bombay, Burma, Assam, and Berar, and in the greater part of Madras, the land is held and tilled by petty proprietors. In the permanently settled tracts of Bengal the land revenue falls at about two-thirds of a rupee per acre of cultivated land, and represents on an average about one-fifth of the rental, or perhaps

perhaps one twenty-fourth of the gross value of the produce ; in the permanently settled tracts of Madras and the North West Provinces the incidence of the land revenue is somewhat higher. The average advantages of soil and climate are on the whole greater, and the prevailing rates of rent are on the whole higher, in the permanently settled than in the temporarily settled tracts. In the latter tracts the land revenue represents something less than one-half of the actual or estimated rental, and is probably about one-tenth to one-twelfth of the gross value of the produce. Rates of rent and revenue vary greatly according to the productive power of the land, according to the advantages of climate and rainfall, and according to the facilities for carrying produce to markets or to the sea-board. Payment for water, supplied by State canals or reservoirs for purposes of irrigation, is made either according to the area irrigated or according to the quantity of water used ; but the State demand on any land is not enhanced on account of increased productiveness due to improvements made by the proprietors or occupiers themselves.

The land revenue of the year 1895-96 shows an increase of Rx. 792,000, as compared with the previous year, when there was a decrease of Rx. 180,000, and with 1893-94, when there was an increase was Rx. 684,000. The increase was largest in Bombay, but was apparent in most provinces except Upper Burma, where the seasons were unfavourable. On the whole the tendency of the land revenue is to increase gradually and slowly, partly from periodical revisions of the assessment rates after a period of advancing prices, and partly from extensions of cultivation. The increase during the last six quinquennial terms may be thus shown :—

Period of Five Years from	Average Yearly Land Revenue Receipts of the Period, excluding Receipts due to Irrigation.
	Rx.
1861-65 - - - - -	19,931,000
1866-70 - - - - -	19,990,000
1871-75 - - - - -	20,965,000
1876-80 (includes the great famine of South India) - - - - -	21,114,000
1881-85 - - - - -	22,122,000
1886-90 - - - - -	23,166,000
1891-95 - - - - -	24,782,000
1895-96 - - - - -	26,201,000

A part of the increase during later years was due to the acquisition of Upper Burma, which yielded Rx. 167,000 of land revenue in the year 1886-87, and Rx. 757,000 in the year 1895-96.

The progress of the land revenue, the condition of the landed classes, and the relations of these classes to each other are now noticed province by province.

The rainfall of 1895-96 was considerably below the average all over Bengal both during and after the monsoon season. The early autumn crops were fairly good ; the great winter rice crop was fair ; and the spring crops were short. The yield of all crops over the province was estimated to be about 25 per cent. below a good average crop. Food prices, however, continued to fall in consequence of the succession of good harvests ending with the bumper rice crop of December 1894.

The current land revenue demand showed an increase of Rx. 7,561, owing to re-settlements of Government estates in parts of Eastern Bengal ; the collections on account of the current year's demand showed an increase of Rx. 36,300 ; the proportion of collections to the total demand was 97¼ per cent., and 99¼ per cent. to the current demand ; the collections were more punctual than in any previous year. Remissions to the extent of Rx. 8,722, as compared with Rx. 8,674 in the previous year, were due to failure of crops on petty holdings in Government estates. The uncollected arrears at the end of the year were Rx. 125,500, or 18 per cent. less than in the previous year. Sales of land for arrears occurred in 1,507 cases, out of 16,237 cases in which

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LAND REVENUE.

land became liable to sale under the law. The estates sold were mostly small and of little value; the total arrears due thereon were Rx. 23,893, and 49 estates, paying a yearly revenue of Rx. 648, were bought in by Government for a total price of Rx. 11. In 125,939 cases, against 153,484 in the previous year, arrears of public demand other than land revenue were taken into court under the certificate procedure, with the result that in 3,266 cases, against 3,320 cases in the previous year, attached property was sold; in 6,683 cases warrants for arrest were issued, and in 58 cases defaulters were actually sent to jail. The number of defaulters sent to prison in the previous two years had been 41 and 63 respectively.

The revaluation of the Durbhanga District, for road cess, was completed after five years' work, with the result that the cesses demand was found to be Rx. 50,800, as compared with Rx. 41,300 in 1873. In 13 districts partial revaluations were completed during the year, and 17 other districts were in progress at the end of the year. The gross rental of Bengal was returned for road cess purposes at Rx. 15,633,000 for the year 1895-96, as compared with Rx. 13,117,000 in 1873, showing an increase of 19 per cent. in the rental during the past 22 years. Only two districts showed any, and that a small decrease in rental at the recent revaluations. The registration of landowners had previously been completed for the whole of Bengal; the total number of interests registered under the initial registration was 973,326; and the percentage of transfers by succession, or otherwise, that were registered during the year was 6.9 on the total number of interests recorded at the initial registration; the corresponding percentages in each of the two previous years was 6.6 and 6.7.

The relations between landlords and tenants are reported to have been, on the whole, satisfactory, with occasional exceptions in particular localities. The ordinary causes of trouble are quarrels about forest rights or the cutting of trees; the illegal enhancement of rents; no-rent combinations among tenants; disputes about appraisement of produce-rents; casual acts of oppression by landlords. In many cases the causes of dispute are being, or have been, abated by the landlord claiming to have a survey and record of rights under the Tenancy law; in some places the tenants, especially those with large holdings, are too strong for the landlords.

The Bengal Tenancy Act continues to work smoothly. The Act came into force at the end of 1885; and the returns of suits under the rent and tenancy laws of Bengal for recent years show:—

1891	-	-	-	-	204,250	total suits instituted under the Rent and Tenancy Law.
1892	-	-	-	-	208,505	” ” ”
1893	-	-	-	-	219,157	” ” ”
1894	-	-	-	-	238,399	” ” ”
1895	-	-	-	-	237,308	” ” ”

North West Provinces and Oudh.

The latest report on land revenue affairs in the North West Provinces and Oudh pertains to the year ending 30th September 1895. The total area of crops was 42,364,000 acres, as compared with 42,678,000 acres in 1893-94. The rainfall was 44 per cent. above the average; the year was persistently wet, and the heavy autumn and winter rains did much harm to the autumn and spring crops. The year was one of bad harvests and agricultural depression; in parts of Oudh and in the southern districts the condition of the poorer classes was not far removed from distress, which would have been actually felt, but for large importations of grain from the Panjab. The supply of the coarser grains which form the staple food of the poor was scanty, and prices of food were high, notwithstanding the importations. The area twice cropped during the year was 8,842,000 acres. The irrigated area was 6,003,000 acres, or 32 per cent. less than in 1893-94, the decrease was due to the wetness of the season; of the total, 2,857,000 acres were irrigated from wells. The public health was better than in the previous year. Mortality from rinderpest and other epizootic diseases again occurred among the cattle of many districts.

The

The gross collections of land revenue in the North West Provinces and Oudh under all heads were Rx. 7,290,000, as compared with Rx. 7,526,000 in the previous year. The decrease, was due to the character of the season: the canal revenue, from the occupiers' and owners' rate, fell Rx. 198,000 in consequence of abnormal rainfall and wet weather. The large uncollected balances at the end of the year were due to the remission granted and to the consideration shown to poorer landowners in consequence of the calamities of the season. The total number of coercive processes of all kinds was 65,000, against a total of 75,000 during the preceding year; attachments of property for arrears were 10,195 as compared with 9,642, and the number of sales of defaulters' property was 532, against 297 in the previous year. LAND REVENUE.

The number of suits and applications under the rent law in the North West Provinces was 254,945, or 5 per cent. below the total of 1893-94. Of the suits, over 90 per cent. were, as in previous years, for arrears of rent. The number of notices of ejectment brought against privileged tenants was 23,220 or 26 per cent. more than in the previous year, and in 8,995 cases ejectment was effected; the area affected by the ejectments was 55,559 acres, or 37 per cent. larger than in the previous year. Against tenants-at-will 53,955 notices of ejectment, or 25 per cent. fewer than in 1893-94, were filed, affecting 260,000 acres. Of the total area occupied by tenants, 11,614,000 acres in the North West Provinces, and 631,000 acres in Oudh, were held by persons possessing some kind of tenant-right: while 9,251,000 acres in the former, and 7,386,000 acres in Oudh were held by tenants-at-will. The number of notices of relinquishment filed by tenants in the North West Provinces rose from 17,880 to 30,484, and the number of applications by distraining landlords for sale of tenants' property rose from 29,942 to 38,654.

In Oudh the number of suits under the rent law fell from 35,431, to 33,909. Of the suits, 77 per cent. were for arrears of rent, and 38 per cent. of all suits were contested. Notices or applications for ejectment of tenants fell from 14,711 cases, affecting 116,682 acres, to 13,647 cases, affecting 103,698 acres; tenants were actually ejected from 8,306 holdings, with an aggregate area of 55,717 acres. The applications for ejectment of statutory tenants in Oudh fell from 5,967 to 4,305, and ejectment took place from 2,955 holdings, covering 12,474 acres.

The number of loans granted under the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883 increased from 377 to 463, of which 281, for Rx. 7,752, were to landlords, and 182, for Rx. 1,233, were to tenants; under the Agriculturists Loans Act, Rx. 67,728 were advanced during the year, against Rx. 19,799 in the previous year; these advances were larger than in any former year. The outstanding amounts under both Acts, at the end of the year, were Rx. 103,767; and instalments for principal and interest, falling due during the year, amounted to Rx. 49,981 of which 75 per cent. was collected.

The latest Punjab land revenue report and statistics are for the year ending on the 30th September 1895. The autumn rains were copious, but in parts unseasonable. The crops suffered in places from excessive rain and in places from lack of rain. Over an unusually large breadth of land the seed failed to yield any harvest. The cotton and the rice crops were very good; but the other harvests fell short of the preceding year's standard and in some staples were below the average. The total area of crops harvested was 21½ million acres, as against 22½ million acres in the preceding year. The area of "Current fallows" in which are included the lands on which crops failed to mature, rose 5½ million acres, as compared with 3½ millions in the previous year; the irrigated crops grown covered 40 per cent. and the dry crops 60 per cent. of the cultivated area. The export demand for wheat revived, in consequence of a rise in prices in Europe; 527,000 tons of wheat were exported, against 395,000 tons in the preceding year and 282,000 tons on the average of the previous eight years. The wheat thus exported was yielded by 7.1 per cent. of the area on which crops matured during the year; it represented a money value of Rx. 2,669,000 or Rx. 220,000 more than the total land revenue of the province. The export of oil seeds, though below that of 1893-94, was 118,000 tons as compared with 69,000 tons the average of the preceding eight years. There was a moderate but general rise in the ruling prices of food grains during 1895, wheat rose 11½ per cent. and barley 19 per cent.; cotton fell 11 per cent; while oilseed remained practically the same. Food crops of all

LAND REVENUE.

all sorts covered 87½ per cent of the total crop area, of which the wheat lands represented 32½ per cent.; oil seeds and fibres (chiefly cotton) covered, each of them, 4½ per cent. of the crop area.

The regular land revenue collections on account of the year were 0·2 per cent. above the collections of the previous year, or Rx. 2,164,000 in all. The uncollected balances at the end of the year were Rx. 49,000, as against Rx. 40,000 in the previous year; the increased balances were ascribed to the unusually heavy inundations from rivers. The number of writs and warrants issued against defaulters rose from 41,491 to 44,272, of which latter figure one-third were warrants.

The number of suits for enhancement of rent fell from 3,788 in 1892-93 to 1,255 in 1893-94, and to 686 in the year 1894-95; landlords were successful in 80 per cent. of these suits. The number of decrees passed for ejectment of occupancy tenants was 39, and 6,308 decrees of ejectment were issued against tenants-at-will, compared with 6,863 in the previous year. Fifty-one per cent. of the total cultivated area of the province is tilled by proprietors, and 49 per cent. by tenants. Of the land held by tenants 79½ per cent. was in the hands of tenants-at-will, and 20½ per cent. was tilled by tenants with occupancy-right. Tenancies-at-will increased, and tenancies with occupancy-right continue to decrease as in previous years. Cash rents range from one anna in a rainless tract of the Derajat up to 55 rupees per acre on the very best irrigated land, and they average 3¼ rupees per acre for the whole province. On 58 per cent. of the area held by tenants the rent is still paid, wholly or partly, in kind. The excess of area mortgaged, over area redeemed in the year, was 231,000 acres, or 0·4 per cent. of the total proprietary lands. The area under mortgage at the end of the year was 4,678,000 acres, or 8½ per cent. of the total of proprietary lands. The average price realised for land sold during the year is returned at 64 rupees per acre, for a total area of 320,000 acres sold; in 1893-94 the figures were 56 rupees per acre, and 382,000 acres.

Burma.

The rainfall of 1895 in Lower Burma was, for the most part, sufficient and evenly distributed; the rice crop, which covers nine-tenths of all the cultivated land in Lower Burma, was about equal to the average. In Upper Burma, for the most part, the rainfall was below the average and unseasonable; in the dry zone it was very short, and the crops failed in parts of four districts. The price of rice at the sea-ports was high, ranging from 85 to 100 rupees per 100 bushels. In Lower Burma the cultivated and assessed area increased by 257,000 acres, or nearly 5 per cent. during the year. The land revenue increased by Rx. 48,451, or nearly 5 per cent., in Lower Burma; and decreased by Rx. 75,810, or 10 per cent., in Upper Burma in consequence of the poor harvests. The fishery and capitation revenue in the lower province also showed a considerable increase. The increased revenues in Lower Burma were attributed to the enhanced prices of rice, ruling after the cessation of the combination among rice millers at the ports. The revenue was realised, for the most part, punctually; but there was some delay in paying the capitation tax in four districts where the season was bad. The arrears of land revenue, uncollected at the end of March, were Rx. 24,000, as compared with Rx. 70,000 and Rx. 46,000 at the end of the two previous years, for Lower Burma; and Rx. 9,800, against 38,000 for the previous year, in Upper Burma. Considerable remissions of revenue had to be allowed in the Upper Province.

The progress made of recent years by Burma under all heads of revenue accruing from the land may be seen from the following figures:—

	Burma Revenues from Land in		
	1887-88.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land revenue, Lower Burma	767,000	1,060,400	1,108,900
Capitation tax - ditto	334,400	386,200	393,800
Fishery revenue - ditto	112,600	159,900	161,400
Capitation tax, Upper Burma		574,700	531,400
State lands revenue - ditto	378,700	139,900	107,300
Forest revenue in the combined provinces	222,200	543,700	569,600
Miscellaneous land revenue - ditto	16,000	120,100	132,100
Export duty on rice	468,000	594,100	637,900
TOTAL	2,287,000	3,579,000	3,842,400

The

The latest land revenue report from the Central Provinces is for the year LAND REVENUE. Central Provinces. ending in September 1895. The rainfall was untimely and excessive; the autumn crops were poor, and the spring crops were still worse; the wheat crop was barely half the average yield, and the linseed harvest failed altogether. The failure was worst in the northern districts, where the crops had been very short in the previous year. Prices of field produce did not range really high, save in Damoh, where the means of communication are difficult; but millet (*jowari*), the food of the common people, was dearer than usual. There was no appreciable shrinkage in the cultivated area, though the breadth under cotton and wheat was smaller than usual.

The ordinary land revenue demand showed an increase of Rx. 23,000, or 3½ per cent., due to resettlements of revenue. Thirteen per cent. of the total, current and arrear, demand was uncollected during the year in consequence of the serious failures of crop in several districts. There was again a large increase in the number of coercive processes for realisation of arrears, and the total number was 13,196, against 10,408 and 5,531 in the two previous years. As many as 487 defaulters were arrested, and 12 were sent to jail during the year, no land was sold for arrears, and the sales of moveable property for default were 368, as compared with 42 in the previous year. There was a large increase in the area of land transferred by sale or mortgage; the total area of such transfers was 605,000 acres, as compared with 428,000 acres in the previous year. Litigation under the tenancy and rent law was small. Suits for arrears of rent rose from 9,195 in the preceding year to 13,020, of which 13 per cent. went in favour of the defendant. The local Government writes that "until years of normal harvests are again experienced, it will be difficult to judge whether any permanent result has been brought about by a better appreciation of their rights by the ryots." In Hoshungabad the settlement proceedings include considerable reductions of ordinary rents, a measure which was accepted by the landlords, in the exceptional circumstances of the season and the districts. Out of a total occupied area of 20½ millions of acres, 4½ millions, or about 23 per cent., are held by tenants-at-will, the remaining 75 per cent. being cultivated by proprietors and privileged tenants; while the average rent paid by ryots of all classes, holding 15½ million acres, was 12½ annas per acre.

In the Assam Valley, the rainfall of 1895-96 was below the average over the Assam. whole province, and the principal harvests were short in most districts, except Sylhet, where they were good. The tea crop was fair to good. The price of rice again fell in all districts except Nowgong, where the crop was injured by floods. Prices of food were cheaper than they had been since 1891-92. In a previous Statement was given an account of the resettlement of revenue rates in the Assam Valley, with a resulting increase of 25 per cent. in the Government demand. The rates previously in force had remained unaltered from 1867 to 1894. The year 1895-96 showed a further increase of 1½ per cent. in the demand; a large part of the increase accrued in the Lakhimpore district, to which the new rates have been extended. The total demand, including Rx. 23,000 on account of arrears of former years, came to Rx. 570,000, of which 95½ per cent. was realised during the year. The uncollected arrears at the end of the year were Rx. 25,800, or slightly more than in the previous year.

The remissions made during the year came to Rx. 855, as compared with Rx. 105 remitted in the year 1894-95. The miscellaneous land revenue receipts showed a small increase of 1 per cent. over the total of last year, and amounted to Rx. 45,400.

In the Madras Presidency the season was favourable to agriculture during the Madras. year 1895-96, except on the west coast and in parts of two other districts; the average rainfall of the year was 10 per cent. above the normal rate, and 19 per cent. above the total of the previous year. The area under crop was nearly 28 million acres, and 800,000 acres above the cultivated area of the preceding year, and 2,376,000 acres above the average area of the five years ending in 1891. Prices of food ranged cheaper than during 1894-95, but were still considerably dearer than the average of the ten years ending with 1890. The out-turn of food crops during the year was fair.

LAND REVENUE.

The collections of ordinary land revenue in Madras were Rx. 5,312,000, as compared with Rx. 5,341,000 in the preceding year 1894-95. The decrease was partly due to floods in the Godavari district, and partly to changes in the date for revenue instalments in Tanjore. The Trichinopoly district showed an increase of Rx. 41,000 in its land revenue, in consequence of the revised assessments. The incidence of the Madras land revenue was 1½ rupees per head of the total population, ranging from nine annas per head in the permanently settled district of Vizagapatam to three rupees per head in the highly-irrigated district of Kistna. Remissions of revenue amounted to Rx. 91,400, as against Rx. 34,400 in the previous year. The uncollected revenue at the end of the year was Rx. 124,000, or 2 per cent. of the whole demand, as compared with 3·2 per cent. in the preceding year. The revenue was collected without difficulty. The total extent of land sold for arrears of revenue was 27,899 acres, against 54,484 acres in the preceding year; and 10,853 acres were bought in at these sales by the Government.

Bombay.

The season of 1895-96 was not favourable in the Bombay Presidency; the rainfall was untimely and insufficient. The crops failed seriously in Sind, and were below average elsewhere, save in the Konkan and Southern Mahratta districts. Prices of food grains rose in most districts. The gross cropped area of the Presidency, so far as figures were available, was 27,787,000 acres, or 4½ per cent. less than the area of the previous year; the decrease was general over the province. The collections on account of land revenue were Rx. 3,607,000, being Rx. 181,000, or 5 per cent. less than in the preceding year. The revenue was collected easily, and the number of distraints was fewer than in the previous year.

Berar.

The rainfall of 1895-96 in Berar was 37 per cent. below the average; this was good for the cotton crop, but was unfavourable to the jowari (millet), and caused a partial failure of the spring crops. With the exception of cotton, all harvests were short. Prices of food were very little dearer than they had been in the previous year. The year was, on the whole, a healthy one. The total area under crop was 6,720,000 acres, or 27,000 acres less than in 1894-95; there was a decrease in the millet, wheat, and cotton areas, while the area under oil seeds increased; the cotton area fell from 31·2 to 30·8 per cent. of the whole cultivated land; while the linseed area rose from 5·7 to 7·2 per cent. on the whole area of cultivation.

The collections on account of land revenue and local rates of the year were Rx. 716,324, against Rx. 703,324 in the previous year. The number of coercive processes issued against defaulters showed a decrease, there having issued 13,605 writs of demand against 15,638 in the previous year; in 81 cases personal property was sold for arrears; 428 fields were also sold; no defaulters were sent to prison. The area of land transferred by private sale was 135,000 acres, or 11 per cent. above the total of the previous year; the area transferred is small, as compared with the total of 7,694,000 acres under occupation. The number of boundary marks found to be out of repair on cultivated land was 205,000, of which all except 24,000 were repaired by the close of the year.

WARDS' ESTATES.

WARDS' ESTATES.

In most of the larger provinces a Court of Wards has been established, which undertakes the management of estates belonging to minors, idiots or other persons declared incapable of managing their own affairs. The position and powers of the Court of Wards are prescribed by law; and recent enactments have enabled indebted proprietors to place their estates voluntarily under the Court of Wards. The duty of the Court is to manage the estates under their charge to the best advantage of both proprietors and tenants, to support the family of the proprietor and to educate young wards, to pay off debts due by the estates, and to spend the surplus income on the improvement of the property in the best attainable way. During the year 1895-96 the number of estates managed by Courts of Wards in different parts of British India was 1,132, with a total annual income of Rx. 2,289,000; the period for which an estate remains under the Court of Wards is generally from 10 to 12 years.

Bengal.

In Bengal, 74 wards' estates and 66 attached estates, or one more than in the preceding year, were under the management of the Court of Wards, with a total

total rental of Rx. 934,410: the collections on account of arrears and current rental came to 97.0 per cent. on the demand, as compared with 98.5 per cent. in the preceding year. The cost of management was 8.0 per cent. on the current rental demand, slightly less than in the preceding year. There was spent on schools, dispensaries, and improvement and maintenance of estates, a sum of Rx. 85,535. Debts to the amount of Rx. 75,000 were paid off during the year, and the outstanding debts due from all wards' estates were Rx. 385,000 at the close of the year. Surveys and record of rights were being prosecuted over 1,237 square miles, situated in parts of eight different estates, and were completed on six of those estates; the expenditure on this work during the year was Rx. 16,900. The cash balances at credit of wards' estates were Rx. 136,000 on the 31st March 1896, and the investments in Government securities were Rx. 290,000. Seven estates were taken over, and nine released by the Court of Wards during the year.

For the nine estates released during the year the net results of the Court's management were as follows: During the period of the Court's administration the gross yearly rental increased from Rx. 9,500 to Rx. 9,700; the rent collected was Rx. 79,800; the outstanding debts have been reduced from Rx. 63,700 to Rx. 20,200; Rx. 1,249 have been spent on improvements; investments have been increased from Rx. 233 to Rx. 4,596; schools and hospitals serving the estates have been helped and wards have been educated.

The number of estates under the Court of Wards in the North Western Provinces and Oudh was 161, with a yearly rental of Rx. 522,000, and a total annual income of Rx. 648,000. Twenty-four fresh estates were made over to the Court of Wards; 15 estates were restored to their proprietors during the year; most of these were very small properties, but on several debts had been paid off and income had been increased. The land revenue and local rates due upon all the wards' estates came to 43 per cent. upon the gross rental, or Rx. 226,000 in all. Rx. 4,600 were spent on the education and training of the wards, and, as far as possible, of their brothers and sisters. Against the estates under the Court there had been debts amounting to Rx. 1,459,000, which were reduced by September 1894 to Rx. 320,000. In some few cases, where the debts were very heavy, part of the estate had to be sold in order to secure solvency. The cost of management averaged 9 per cent. on the total receipts; and Rx. 34,800 were spent on works of improvement and advances to tenants for similar works. Of the year's rental, 87 per cent. was collected; Rx. 62,900 were expended in paying off debt; while Rx. 70,800 were invested in public securities, or on mortgage, or in the purchase of lands and houses. The number of notices for ejection of ryots rose from 312 to 351, of which 96 per cent., as in the previous year, went against the tenants. There were 135 suits for enhancement of rent, the rent being raised, on the average of these cases, from 3½ to 4½ rupees per acre; 105 of these cases, however, pertained to three estates.

At the end of September 1894 sixty-seven estates were under the management of the Punjab Court of Wards. Five fresh estates came under the jurisdiction of the Court, and five estates were surrendered to their owners during the year. Of the 67 estates, 47 belong to minors or idiots, four to persons declared by the Government to be incapable of managing their estates, 14 to persons who applied to have themselves declared unfit to manage their property, and two were managed under other laws. Only four of these estates have an income of over Rx. 5,000 a year. In 1894-95 the total income of the wards was Rx. 105,900; and the expenditure, including repayments of debt, was Rx. 117,000. The cost of management was 7½ per cent., against 8½ per cent. in the previous year, on the total income of the estates. Rx. 24,700 were spent on paying off debts; the debts of all the wards, which had been Rx. 227,000, were reduced to Rx. 61,500 by the end of the year. Investments made in behalf of wards during 1894-95 amounted to Rx. 17,800. The expenditure on works of improvement was Rx. 8,200; on the personal expenses and education of wards, Rx. 16,800; and on the payment of land revenue and rates, Rx. 20,500, or 19 per cent. on the total income. Of the five estates surrendered during the year, three were free from debt at the time of release; the other two were only a very short time under the Court, and so had not been freed from debt.

WARDS' ESTATES.
Central Provinces.

In the Central Provinces the Court of Wards relinquished the management of six estates, with a rental of Rx. 7,700, and received charge of 25 estates. At the end of the year 139 estates, with a gross income of Rx. 120,000, were under management. Out of the 25 estates newly undertaken, management was in 17 cases assumed at the request of indebted proprietors who have been declared, at their own wish, incapable of managing their own property; eight were taken over because the proprietors were minors. Of the relinquished estates three were restored on the proprietors coming of age, and three on the liquidation of all debts. The Court of Wards collected only 58 per cent. of the rental of the year; the large arrears in the northern districts were due to lenient collections in consequence of the failure of crops; in the previous two years the collections had been 93 and 79 per cent. of the demand. Of the debts due by embarrassed estates Rx. 9,400 were paid off during the year, and Rx. 126,900 were still due at the end of the year. Sixty per cent. of the wards' estates are still encumbered with debt. About Rx. 22,000 were spent on the permanent improvement of, and in advances to ryots in, solvent estates; and Rx. 1,200 were invested in Government securities or in land. Except in Chatisgarh the seasons were bad, especially in the north, and most wards' estates suffered.

Madras.

The Court of Wards in Madras during the year 1894-95, the latest for which information is available, handed five estates back to their proprietors, and took charge of three estates; there were thus 54 estates under the Court at the end of the year, as compared with 56 at the beginning. The season was favourable on most of the estates; 92 per cent. of the total area (757,000 acres) of all holdings on these estates was cultivated, as in the previous year. The total rent collections of the current year amounted to 88 per cent. on the current demand, or somewhat less than in the previous year. The cost of management and of State assistance came to 11½ per cent. on the total receipts of the year, which amounted to Rx. 361,000, besides the opening balance of Rx. 135,000. The balance at the credit of all estates, invested and uninvested, at the end of the year was Rx. 686,000. The debts due by 24 estates at the end of the year were Rx. 224,000, debts amounting to Rx. 41,200 having been paid off during the year. The expenditure on works of irrigation and other improvements was Rx. 24,800. The progress in education of the 67 wards, 60 male and 7 female, was said to have been satisfactory, save in the case of seven lads. Nine of the older minors on certain estates were being instructed in revenue law, in commercial business, and in the management of their estates.

Bombay.

In Bombay the estates under the Court of Wards or under Government management were of several kinds, namely:—

	No.
(1.) Estates under the Court of Wards, outside Guzerat	83
(2.) Encumbered estates in Guzerat, &c., managed under Acts of 1862, 1881, and 1884, and under the Civil Procedure Code; and talukdari villages	547
(3.) Encumbered estates in Sind	8

Outside Guzerat most of the estates were of small area.

The estates of the second category are all in Guzerat, and are under the care of a special revenue officer, in addition to his duties as assistant collector. The total collections of these Guzerat estates, and of certain other Guzerat estates under the same management, inclusive of balance in hand, was Rx. 91,000, out of which Rx. 51,000 were collected during the year. Payments to creditors were Rx. 12,200; Rx. 17,600 were paid as Government land revenue; maintenance of the owners and their families cost Rx. 14,600; and Rx. 10,400 was the amount of uncollected balance at the close of the year. On eight encumbered estates in Sind, out of a total income of Rx. 2,600, debts were paid off to the amount of Rx. 820; and debts amounting only to Rx. 97 were due at the end of the year.

Burma, &c.

There were no wards' estates under the management of public officers in—

Burma,	Berar,
Assam,	Ajnere,

during the year.

VIII.
FORESTS.

THE subjoined tables give the forest receipts, expenditure, and net revenue FORESTS. for each province during the year 1895-96 :—

	Bengal.	North Western Provinces and Oudh.	Punjab.	Lower Burma.	Upper Burma.	Central Provinces.	Assam.	India, General.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
REVENUE.											
Receipts - - - - -	Rx. 91,651	Rx. 160,124	Rx. 101,450	Rx. 241,455	Rx. 228,129	Rx. 92,694	Rx. 42,502	Rx. 30,545	Rx. 211,067	Rx. 252,667	Rx. 1,680,604
EXPENDITURE.											
General direction - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,889	—	—	7,889
Conservancy and Works - - - - -	18,928	43,902	27,508	92,963	17,835	44,465	11,617	15,301	67,898	88,247	459,871
Establishments, &c. - - - - -	27,669	40,482	20,224	41,812	29,741	50,772	16,997	18,977	76,663	87,592	440,860
Charges in England - - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,451	—	—	2,451
TOTAL Expenditure - - - - -	46,607	84,386	67,742	135,774	47,586	95,234	28,614	44,518	144,561	195,839	911,161
Net Revenue or Forest Surplus - - - - -	45,244	65,848	32,908	208,681	170,542	4,460	13,889	—13,273	64,496	157,828	749,842
Net Surplus of the previous Year, 1894-95 - - - - -	29,828	72,194	31,031	189,397	164,252	2,257	15,209	—14,103	31,768	168,211	717,099

Some beginning was made in the forest administration and conservancy of Southern India in 1844; 10 or 12 years later similar work was begun in Western and Northern India, and was taken up systematically all over India when the Mutiny troubles were over. Within the last 20 years forest laws have been enacted for, and forest administration has been placed upon a permanent basis in, every province of India. The superior officers of the forest service have been, for the most part, selected by competition, and have been trained in forestry, either in Germany, or in France, or at Cooper's Hill College. During the year 1893-94 it was decided that 20 per cent. of the 210 superior posts in the Forest Department should eventually be filled by selected officers, chiefly Natives of India, from the subordinate or provincial branch of the Department. Some of the subordinate officials are trained at a forest school near Dehra, in the sub-Himalayan country of the North Western Provinces, and this system of professional training at local centres will be gradually extended. The first object of the forest administration is to select, acquire, and mark off as reserves an area of State forest in every province sufficient to supply the wants of the neighbourhood and the province in respect of timber, firewood, bamboos, canes, and other forest produce, and sufficient also for supplying the foreign demand for such articles as teak timber, sandal wood, and rubber. The reserves are, or will be, surveyed, conserved, and worked on sanctioned plans, designed so as to obtain the largest possible permanent yield in the most economical way. Private rights in the reserves are bought out or compromised. Among the most important measures of conservancy are the exclusion of the yearly fires which used to devastate forests, the maintenance of adequate seed-bearing trees, and the regular reproduction of timber of the more valuable kinds. At the present time the reserves cover an area of nearly 75,000 square miles; and they may hereafter be further extended in Madras and Burma, where the work of reservation is as yet incomplete. Outside the reserves are about 56,000 square miles of State forests, some part of which will be eventually brought within the reserve area, and all of which are managed and worked for the benefit of the people, of their cattle, and of the public revenue. The limited areas of private forest are, except where they have been leased to the Government, being gradually exhausted; and as yet few private, and no communal, forests have been successfully brought under conservancy. In every province a very few of the most valuable timber trees are declared to be reserved.

FORESTS.

reserved trees, and can only be felled under special license. Outside the reserves, the country folk are generally allowed to obtain from the State forests timber, bamboos, firewood, and grass for their own use, free of charge; inside the reserves, only persons specially licensed are allowed to extract timber or other produce on payment of fees. Forest revenue is raised by royalties on, or by the sale of, timber or other produce, and by the issue at specified fees of permits to graze cattle, or to extract for sale timber, firewood, charcoal, bamboos, canes, and other minor forest produce. In the year 1895-96 the gross forest revenue of British India was Rx. 1,661,000; the expenditure was Rx. 911,000; and the net forest revenue was Rx. 749,000, as compared with Rx. 717,000 in the previous year. Some of the better-managed Native States, such as Mysore, Travancore, and Baroda have followed the example of the British Government, have organised systematic forest administration, and enjoy a considerable forest revenue. Mysore has trebled its forest revenue since the country was restored to native rule in the year 1881.

The following paragraphs treat of forest administration in each province. The figures of revenue and expenditure, being compiled from administrative returns for the year ending June 1895, do not agree precisely with the figures given in the table on the preceding page, which are taken from the finally corrected financial accounts for the year in March 1895.

Bengal.

In Bengal, at the end of the year, the areas of reserved and protected forests were 5,877 and 3,437 square miles, against 5,839 and 3,091 square miles respectively in the previous year. No forest surveys were made during the year; regular working plans were completed for 225 square miles of reserves; while preliminary working plans have been settled and are in operation for about 4,000 square miles out of the total forest area. The protection of forests from fire was not successful; attempt was made to exclude fire from 1,957 square miles, and the effort succeeded over 70 per cent. of that area, as compared with 99.5 per cent. and 63 per cent. in the two previous years. The year was unusually dry, and so fires were frequent and extensive. Natural production of trees was satisfactory in the areas protected from fires and cattle. The area of plantations reached 4,769 acres by the end of the year, situated mostly in the Darjeeling district. There was an increase in the yield of timber, compared with the preceding year, from 4½ million to 5½ million cubic feet; an increase in the yield of fuel from 30 to 32½ million cubic feet; and a decrease in the yield of bamboos from 22 millions to 20½ millions. The gross and the net forest revenues were Rx. 91,871 and Rx. 45,264, a considerable advance on the previous year, when the net surplus was Rx. 39,707. Both gross receipts and surplus were the largest ever attained by the Bengal Forest Department. The Sunderbuns forests yielded Rx. 55,604 out of the gross revenues.

North West
Provinces and
Oudh.

The forests of the North West Provinces and Oudh are divided into three "circles," and the forest reserves cover an area of 3,766 square miles, or one square mile more than the area of the previous year; there are also 9,319 square miles of protected forests. Surveys were prepared for 398 square miles of reserves; and working plans were sanctioned for four more large forest reserves; some difficulty was found in disposing of all the timber made available under previous working plans. The area over which attempts were made to exclude fires was 2,840 square miles; and fires occurred over 326 square miles, or 11 per cent. of the protected area; the season was, by reason of drought, very unfavourable for forest conservancy. The number of forest offences that were compounded was 637, and 257 persons were prosecuted, of whom 209 were convicted. Natural reproduction of forest was adversely affected by the drought. The total yield of the forests during the year was returned at 3,050,000 cubic feet of timber and 8,487,000 cubic feet of firewood; the out-turn of timber was 42 per cent. below, and of firewood was 21 per cent. below the yield of the preceding year. The minor produce yield was returned at Rx. 40,200 worth of grass, bamboos, &c. The total forest revenue of the year was Rx. 147,000. The forest surplus of the year was Rx. 53,500, as compared with Rx. 69,500 in 1894-95.

Panjab.

At the end of 1895-96 the reserved forest area of the Panjab was 1,680 square miles, besides 4,300 square miles of protected and unclassified forests. The survey of the reserved Himalayan forests in Kulu was completed during the year, and 190 square miles in all were surveyed. Regular working plans for two Himalayan forests were sanctioned; two other working plans were revised; and

and working plans for five more, including two municipal forests, were under preparation. Regular valuation surveys and working plans are not required for the savannah areas in the plains; but rough working schemes which suffice for present purposes have been prepared. Forest fires were, again, in consequence of the drought, frequent and destructive; 524 fires were reported, against 418 in the year 1894-95; the area actually burnt was 118,000 acres, or 3 per cent. of the total forest area, as compared with 2,871 acres in that year. Some of the conifers in the Himalayan forests seeded freely; but in the plain forests reproduction was poor. There was a small increase in the number of reported offences against the forest laws; the cases taken into court were 1,058, in 80 per cent. of which convictions were obtained. The total yield of the forests for the year was returned at 1,923,000 cubic feet of timber and 29,652,000 cubic feet of firewood, or 21 per cent. more timber, and 2 per cent. more firewood than in 1894-95; 25½ millions of cubic feet were removed by free-grantees and right-holders without charge, 3½ millions were worked out by Government agency, and 2½ millions by purchasers.

The total forest revenue of the year was Rx. 102,000, against an outlay of Rx. 68,000, yielding a surplus of Rx. 34,000, as compared with Rx. 34,000 and Rx. 16,000 in the two previous years.

An area of 308 square miles was added to the reserved forests of Lower Burma, bringing the total area of reserves up to 7,379 square miles. Over 573 square miles of the reserves the privilege of cultivating hill gardens has been secured for the forest tribes. In Upper Burma 5,438 square miles, from a total of 23,861 square miles of protected forests, were reserved, out of which area 1,030 square miles were added during the year. Private rights in 2,128 square miles were under enquiry or were settled during the year.

In Lower Burma detailed valuation surveys were completed over 625 square miles of forest; while regular working plans were sanctioned for three forests in Lower Burma during the year. In Upper Burma regular surveys have begun, and 174 square miles were accomplished during the year. Rough but practically useful surveys were also executed by local officers over considerable areas in the Upper Province. In Lower Burma fire protection was only moderately successful; 71 fires occurred. From 711 square miles of deciduous forest, or 91 per cent. of the protected area, fire was excluded, as compared with 90 per cent., in the preceding year. In the Upper Burma teak forests, where the rainfall is often less than in Lower Burma, efforts for the exclusion of fires were less successful than in the previous year; from 467 square miles fire was excluded, as compared with 526 square miles over which protection was attempted, and with 441 square miles successfully protected in 1894-95. In Lower Burma the plantations, chiefly teak, now cover about 62 square miles, 3,687 acres having been added during the year. The plantations in Upper Burma cover, as yet, only 788 acres, of which nearly half are of catch-bearing acacias. The teak worked out of the forests decreased by 14,211 tons, or 26 per cent., in Lower Burma, while the output of other timbers increased by 44,000 tons, or 5 per cent. In Upper Burma there was a small increase of the teak yield, 1,758 tons, or one per cent. in the teak yield, and 20,588 tons, or 16 per cent. in the yield, of other timbers, as compared with the previous year. The forest revenue and forest surplus since the acquisition of Upper Burma, have stood thus:—

	Gross Forest Revenue.	Forest Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.	
	Rx.	Rx.	
1887-88	251,576	136,191	
1890-91	432,196	298,353	
Total for Upper and Lower Burma	1893-94	578,900	399,400
	1894-95	559,589	373,139
	1895-96	559,038	373,138

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The arrivals of teak by the Salween river at Moulmein were 58,941 tons, or 16,890 less than in the previous year; the arrivals at Rangoon by the Irrawaddy and Sittang rivers were 121,046 logs, or 3,260 logs more than in 1894-95. The export of teak from Burma by sea was 204,857 tons, as compared with 191,266 and 171,345 tons in the two preceding years. The average value of the teak exports was Rx. 7½ per ton, or about the same as in the two previous years.

Central Provinces.

The area of reserved forest in the Central Provinces was 19,293 square miles, of which 10,526 square miles were at the end of the year 1895-96 classed as A. or permanent reserves, and 8,767 square miles were classed as B. reserves. The B. reserves are available either for eventual transfer to the A. class, or for possible extensions of cultivation in future years. An area of 389 square miles was disforested and made available for cultivation during the year. The demarcation of reserves made some progress, and the boundary registers are now complete for the forest reserves in all districts except three. Surveys preparatory to the formation of working plans were being prosecuted in nine districts, regular working plans had previously been completed for 1,004 square miles of forest, complete working plans were sanctioned for a further area of 7,112 square miles. The total number of reported forest offences rose from 4,107 in 1894-95 to 5,109. Out of the reported offences against forest laws 4,387 were compounded under sanction of competent officers, and in 384 cases prosecutions were undertaken. Fire was excluded from 93 per cent., as compared with 95 per cent. in the previous year, of the 6,521 square miles over which fire protection was attempted, at a cost of 6½ to 10½ rupees per square mile. No regular plantation work is attempted in the Central Provinces; natural reproduction of timber continues to be satisfactory in forests where grazing and fires are excluded. The number of cattle grazed in the forests and the receipts from grazing dues show a decrease of 18 and 16 per cent. as compared with the previous year; these decreases are attributed in part to the great mortality of cattle during recent calamitous seasons. The forest revenue was affected in many ways by the drought. The forest revenue of the year was Rx. 92,000, against an expenditure of Rx. 85,900, leaving a surplus of Rx. 6,100, the lowest surplus yielded by the forests of the Central Provinces for many years.

Assam.

The reserved forests in Assam were reduced by 31 square miles, bringing the total area to 3,685 square miles; besides about 11,600 square miles of unclassed State forests. No forest survey was accomplished during the year; preliminary and permanent working plans were generally observed, save that, by reason of the slackness of the trade demand, fellings of timber did not reach one-fifth of the prescribed total in the Goalpara Sâl forests. Fire protection was attempted over 1,099 square miles, and fires were actually excluded from 96 per cent. of the protected area; the area of success was smaller than in the previous year, but the dry season was bad for the prevention of fires. Most of the reserves consist of evergreen forest wherein fire protection is not needed. The boundaries of reserves are mostly streams, rivers, and roads; out of 1,127 miles of artificial boundary line, 1,103 were cleared and properly maintained during the year at a cost of 2½ rupees per mile. The plantations of rubber, teak, sissoo and other trees, cover 2,305 acres, of which five acres of rubber were added during the year. The oldest trees of the rubber plantations were put in 22 years ago, and the largest of these have attained a height of 102 feet and a girth of 12½ feet. Samples of rubber taken from trees 18 to 20 years old were valued at Rx. 10 per maund. Natural reproduction and growth of forest trees was everywhere satisfactory, and the sâl seedlings thrive in the forests of Goalpara and the Garo Hills. The yield of the Assam forests shows a considerable increase, the total out-turn of timber and firewood being 6,941,000 cubic feet, as compared with 6,217,000 in the preceding year; more than three-quarters of the yield was under the head of "free grants." The export of rubber from Assam fell to 2,800 maunds, as compared with 3,441 maunds in 1894-95; and it was far below the totals of earlier years. The quantity of bamboos taken from the forests during the year showed a small decrease of 8 per cent. The forest revenue was Rx. 40,500, and the forest surplus was Rx. 11,500, or Rx. 4,800 less than in 1894-95, and little more than half the surplus of the year 1893-94.

The forest area of Berar is 4,178 square miles, or 23½ per cent. of the whole FORESTS.
Berar. area of the province, of which 1,517 are reserved for timber and fuel, 96 for fodder and thatching grass, and 2,565 for pasture. The total reserved area was reduced during the year by one square mile. Surveys and working plans for 721 square miles are complete, while those for four square miles were being prepared during the year. Short term working plans for all Berar forests are to be completed within the next two years. Fires were excluded from 1,369 square miles, or 98¼ per cent. of the area over which fire protection was attempted; the cost of protection was 9½ rupees per square mile. Natural reproduction is quite satisfactory in over 1,400 square miles of forest from which fire and injurious grazing are excluded. A net addition of 211 acres was made to the plantation area, which now amounts to 9,159 acres, covered with teak, babul, and bamboos. The yield of timber decreased from 479,000 to 460,000 cubic feet; there was a small decrease in the amount of fuel and in the output of grass. The gross receipts were Rx. 49,500 and the net revenue was Rx. 26,800, compared with Rx. 46,600, and Rx. 21,700 respectively in the previous year. Under offences against the forest laws, 91 cases were prosecuted, 613 cases were compounded, and 58 cases were undetected, as compared with 137,706 and 40 cases respectively in the previous year.

An area of 922 square miles was added to the reserved forests of Madras Madras. during the year 1895-96, bringing the total area of reserves up to 12,388 square miles, besides 6,690 square miles of "reserved lands." Permanent marks were placed along 2,189 miles of new boundaries of reserves, as compared with 2,271 in the preceding year; and 1,479 miles of preliminary demarcation work were also done. Surveys of the reserves were continued by the Survey of India in the Salem, North Arcot, and Kurnool forests, and 964 square miles were completed. Much progress was made in the preparation of working plans: in nine districts either regular or preliminary working plans were formed; and in most of the other forests temporary working plans are being carried out. Fire protection was attempted over 5,594 square miles, of which 94 per cent. were successfully protected, as in the previous year. The cost of fire protection averaged 7½ rupees per square mile, against 8½ rupees per square mile for the year ending 30th June 1895. Natural reproduction was satisfactory in all districts except Anantapur, Trichinopoly, and North Coimbatore; it was specially promising in the Sál forests, the coppiced areas and the bamboo jungles. The total area of plantations was returned at 18,067 acres, besides the groves and other tree cultivation. The timber plantations consist of teak in Malabar, eucalyptus on the Nilgiri and Palni hills, and casuarina on the eastern coast. The yield of the forests according to the returns was 2,907,046 cubic feet of timber, and 13,739,000 cubic feet of fuel, besides 33¼ million bamboos and other minor produce; the timber and fuel out-turns, as well as the bamboo out-turn, were considerably larger than in 1894-95. The forest revenue was Rx. 217,000, against an expenditure of Rx. 146,000, leaving a surplus of Rx. 69,800, or Rx. 17,600 more than in the previous year. Increase in revenue is ascribed partly to an improved local demand and better prices for timber, fuel, and miscellaneous produce. The number of breaches of forest laws reported during the year was 9,610; 58 per cent. of the cases were compounded or withdrawn; and in 89 per cent. of the prosecutions conviction was obtained.

The area of reserved forests in Bombay was 11,492 square miles, or 192 Bombay. more than in the preceding year. The protected State forests outside the reserves were returned at 2,783 square miles, or 117 square miles less. Forest surveys were carried out over 908 square miles of reserves; in two forest circles further progress was made with the preparation of permanent working plans and with the demarcation of the forest into compartments for working in rotation. The number of prosecutions for forest offences was 2,979, against 2,748 in the previous year; the proportion of convictions was 81 per cent., while 4,526 offences were compounded by competent officers under the law, as compared with 2,816 cases compounded in 1894-95. Fires traversed 601 square miles, or 6 per cent. of the 10,482 square miles of forest over which fire protection was attempted; the proportion of success was considerably larger than in the previous year. Except in Sind, natural reproduction of timber was better than in the previous year, and proved on the whole satisfactory. The regular plantations,

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plantations are still returned at about 9,300 acres, and the afforestation of 380,000 acres of bare hill-side has been attempted by cultural operations, of which 29,838 acres were the net additions of the year. The total receipts of the four forest circles of Bombay were Rx. 353,700, against an expenditure of Rx. 195,800, leaving a surplus of Rx. 157,000, or Rx. 11,000 less than in the previous year.

Coorg.

The area of reserved forests in Coorg was 238 square miles, as in 1894-95, besides 654 square miles of protected forests. Additions of 120 acres were made to the plantations of sandal, teak, and firewood, which now cover 3,761 acres, including 777 acres of sandal wood. Nearly half of the Coorg reserves are now under regular working plans, and working plans for 72 further square miles of reserves were either completed, or under preparation at the end of the year. Fire was excluded from 182 square miles out of 204 square miles over which protection was attempted; there were more forest fires, but the area of conflagration was smaller than in the previous year. With the exception of teak and one or two other timber trees, natural reproduction of trees was satisfactory during the year; the natural growth of young sandal wood was specially good where fires were excluded. There was a small increase in the quantity of timber and a large decrease in the quantity of sandal wood extracted from the forests. The forest receipts were Rx. 14,500 as compared with Rx. 14,400 in the previous year, and the charges were Rx. 7,400; the surplus rose from Rx. 5,000 to Rx. 7,100. The increase in the net surplus was entirely due to less building and road work having been done, and to the reduced extraction of sandal wood, while the stocks in hand were being worked off.

IX.

AGRICULTURE AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

IN every large province of India an Agricultural Department has been organised, which is charged with the duty of supervising the maintenance of the village records of land tenures, rent, produce, and land transfers, and with the work of organising and directing State undertakings for the furtherance of agriculture, and for the improvement of stock. The Agricultural Departments also keep the public and the Government informed concerning the condition and the out-turn of the crops, the range of prices, and the approach of dearth or famine in any particular tract. AGRICULTURE.

The rainfall of 1895-96 in Bengal was from 7 to 14 per cent. below the average throughout the province, except in Orissa, where it was abundant. The rainfall ceased unusually early. The harvests were moderately good, with the exception of opium. The prices of staple food grains either fell slightly, or remained stationary. Bengal.

At the Calcutta Botanical Gardens the season of 1895-96 was remarkable for the great dryness of the months October to March. In consequence of the drought many small plants died, and even large trees suffered. Orchids and flowering trees put forth more, though smaller, flowers than usual. Opportunity was taken to dig out the several lakes which ran dry. Among economic plants cultivated during the year were two species of *Sida*, for trial as fibre-yielders, and the *Adhatoda Vasica*, reputed to be a powerful insecticide, at the request of tea planters. The gardens received 14,342 plants from, and sent out 30,838 plants to gardens and botanists in India and other parts of the world. The herbarium received 17,403 specimens, and sent out 11,093 carefully-named specimens of Indian plants to scientific institutions in all parts of the world. After the Royal Gardens at Kew, the principal foreign contributors were the Royal Herbarium, the Natural History Museum, London; the Botanical Garden, Zurich; the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, and Baron Von Müeller, Government Botanist of Melbourne. The last-named botanist sent during the year a gigantic specimen of the great Australian fern, *Todea Barbara*, weighing upwards of half a ton; the fern now adorns the Lloyd Botanic Garden at Darjeeling, where it will form a magnificent object. Calcutta Botanical Gardens.

At the experimental farms on the Burdwan and Doomraon estates, and at the Sibpore Government farm, experiments were continued with different kinds of manure, with selected and imported seed, and with different methods of cultivation. The most notable results were that cowdung is a better manure for either jute or potatoes than castor cake, bone-meal, or superphosphates; with cowdung manure the jute out-turn on the Burdwan farm was raised to 18 maunds per acre, while the potato yield was 242 maunds as compared with 61 maunds per acre on unmanured land. On the Doomraon farm, too, cowdung manure gave much better results with wheat than any other manure. At the Sibpore farm crude saltpetre was found to be an excellent manure for cabbages, bringing them on quickly and improving the out-turn. Of three fodder crops, sorghum, guinea-grass, and reana, the first was found to be the best, yielding 350 to 400 maunds (13 to 15 tons) of fodder per acre. Useful experiments were also made by private landholders and on Wards' estates in several districts. Reports were made of a few important cattle fairs; the Sitamurhi fair, at which 150,000 head of cattle were present, the Sonapore fair for horses, and the Kalimpong fair for mules, seem to have been the most important. Agricultural implements.

The work of growing healthy silkworm seed, on the system introduced by Mr. Mukerji, who had studied at Cirencester, Paris, and Lyons, was continued at 11 nurseries in different parts of the silk districts. The work was directed by Mr. Mukerji and three overseers under the Agricultural Department. The person in charge of the nursery was in every case a silk-grower by profession;

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he reared seed for sale; and he received pupils whom he instructed in the scientific system which he adopted. In all, 4,500 ounces of seed were sold; hundreds of rearers learnt and adopted the sulphur and other antiseptic treatment of seed and silkworm rearing. Hardly any failures were reported with the selected seed; and some of the rearers will, it is expected, make a thriving trade for themselves, besides benefiting all the silk-growers who may become their clients. From the Bengal nurseries seed, or trained silkworm rearers, were sent, or both were sent, on request, to Nepal, Madras, the Punjab, and Kashmir.

North Western
Provinces and
Oudh.

On the Cawnpore experimental farm the rainfall of 1895 was 21 per cent. below the average, but owing to irrigation facilities the crops did not suffer, while cotton and wheat benefited much from the dry, cloudless weather of September and February. The yield of irrigated wheat was particularly good. The farm was managed throughout the year by a Native officer, who was also Principal of the Agricultural School at Cawnpore. The trials of manures, of deep ploughing, with wheat, maize, potatoes, pulse, sugar cane, oats, and different varieties of these staples, were continued—under the programme that has been in force for several years—on the many plots into which the farm has been divided. Among the more notable results of the year were the following: sheep dung and poudrette gave the best yield from maize and from wheat; cow dung manure came next, saltpetre manure gave a smaller yield than unmanured land. The three best yields of maize gave an average of 39 bushels per acre against 15 bushels from unmanured lands; the three best yields of wheat gave 52 bushels per acre against 28 bushels from unmanured lands. In the previous year the corresponding yields had been 19 and 3 bushels for maize, and 25 and 8½ bushels for wheat. The yield of potatoes averaged for the three best plots 163 cwts. per acre, and on unmanured land 113 cwts. in 1895-96, as compared with 39 and 15 cwts. in 1894-95. Out of 12 varieties of green manuring, indigo refuse gave the best yield, being an average of 42 bushels of wheat in 1896 as compared with 7 bushels in 1895. Dr. Leather, the Government Agricultural Chemist, visited the farm during the year, and recorded a memorandum on the results of experiments made at the Cawnpore, Poona, and Doomraon farms, with the object of determining the quantity of manure that could be most economically employed, and the comparative yields of different varieties of cane. Dr. Leather's conclusions, based on his own analyses and experiments, were in brief:

(1.) It is evident that the juice of different varieties of cane contain very different proportions of sugar; further, that this proportion of sugar is not materially affected in any one year by any description of manure or its amount. This proportion of sugar in a cane may be affected seriously by a change of climate.

(2.) The proportion of glucose in the juice of different varieties varies considerably; this proportion is increased, in some cases largely, during the boiling process; but that this "inversion" may be prevented in a great measure by the addition of lime. It is also probable that cultivators could easily be taught to "lime" their juice if there were any call for it.

(3.) That during the boiling-down process there is a loss of about 10 per cent. of the sugar which is in the juice operated upon, most of which is carried away in the scum. This sugar need not, however, be lost in the economic sense.

It may be fed to cattle or (as at Poona) some at least of the sugar in it may be recovered.

(4.) The amount of juice, and consequently of sugar also, which remains unexpressed from the cane, depends on the proportion of crude fibre in the cane. That therefore it is desirable to grow varieties of cane containing a low proportion of crude fibre. The amount of sugar remaining in the crushed cane may be as much as nearly one-half of that in the cane, or it may fall to as low a proportion as one-fifth.

(5.) The amounts of nitrogen and of phosphoric acid taken up by the sugar-cane crop will vary from some 40 lb. each (or less in poor crops) to about 100 lb. in such heavy crops as those grown at Poona.

The length of avenues planted along roadsides during the year was 234 miles, AGRICULTURE. whereby the total length of avenues in the Provinces was raised to 8,485 miles. In most districts the local boards gave much attention to the work, but in some districts the charge of the avenues has been transferred to the officers of the Public Works Department. Rx. 7,196 were spent on extending and maintaining avenues, and Rx. 5,135 were realised by the sale of fellings, loppings, fruit, &c. ; the net cost of the avenues was thus Rx. 2,060, or slightly above the cost in the previous year.

The Seharunpore Botanical Gardens had a bad season; the rainfall was unusually heavy; it all fell in 39 days, and was followed by eight months of drought. The yield of fruit and vegetables was good. The garden distributed more seeds and plants than in any previous year. The cash earnings of this garden and of its branch at Mussoorie amounted to 89 per cent. of their total expenditure. Sisal hemp was found to grow well; but rhœa, though it can be raised, is not likely to become a paying crop in the North West Provinces. Experiments in acclimatising fruit and fodder plants were continued, and in some cases favourable results were obtained. The men trained as gardeners do not suffice to meet the demand for such people.

The number of ploughs, pumps, and other agricultural machines sold, let on hire, or otherwise distributed by the Agricultural Department fell from 398 in 1893-94 to 183 in 1894-95. The two well-sinkers, provided with boring apparatus, were hired out by landholders, and made 86 borings in six districts, all expenses being borne by the landowners; the demand for these men's services increased greatly, and another well-sinker has been engaged. At nearly all the large cantonments there are now private dairies managed on scientific principles. The Government has leased the Aligarh dairy to Mr. Keventer, the Swedish gentleman who had been temporarily employed to establish well-managed pattern dairies at the public expense. The demand for good butter from these dairies still largely exceeds the supply. At the agricultural school, opened at Cawnpore in 1892, 18 students completed their two years; 17 passed the final examination, gained diplomas, and have obtained employment. Both educational and agricultural inspecting officers report well of the school. Each student cultivated a quarter of an acre with his own hands throughout the year. The returns of rail-borne traffic show that in 1894-95 the import trade into the North West Provinces increased 54 per cent. in weight, while the export trade decreased 3 per cent. as compared with 1893-94. The increased imports consisted chiefly of food grains; and the exports fell off in consequence of bad crops.

The rainfall of 1895 in the Punjab was short and in many parts Punjab. unseasonable; the irrigated area increased; but on unirrigated lands the crops were poor, at both the autumn and spring harvests. The year was marked by a decided rise in the price of all food grains; and in the autumn of 1896 prices reached an unprecedentedly high level. The crop area fell by 5,425,000 acres, or 22 per cent. A succession of good harvests in the Punjab has led to a further fall in prices of food, notwithstanding that there was revival in the export trade in wheat. The double-cropped area was 12½ per cent. of the whole cultivated land. The business of improving the land records and training the rural accountants (*patwaris*) was actively prosecuted. The number of *patwaris* who had not qualified in surveying and land-recording fell further from 101 to 75, out of a total of 8,224 village officers; of the 384 supervisors, or *kanungos*, only 4 were unpassed; and the class of men available for the post of *patwari* continues to improve, though hereditary claims still narrow, to some extent, the field of selection. The number of village records prepared and filed by the prescribed date rose from 32,302 to 33,829, out of a total of 36,320 villages; the important part of the *patwaris'* work is said to be generally well done.

Forty-nine per cent. of the cultivated land in the province is held by rent-paying tenants, of whom 20 per cent. only enjoy occupancy rights. Rents are paid in cash on about 75 per cent. of the lands held by occupancy tenants, and on 34 per cent. of the land held by tenants-at-will, and the average of cash rents for the province was 34 rupees per acre; but the
0.83. variations

AGRICULTURE. variations from district to district are very great. Rents paid in kind for irrigated lands range from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$, and average 42 per cent. of the gross produce; on unirrigated lands they range from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$, and average 40 per cent. of the gross produce.

Central Provinces. The rainfall of 1895 was excessive and unseasonable; and the rainy season was unfavourable to nearly all crops.

In some districts the rice crop gave a fair harvest; but the millet, wheat, gram, cotton, and linseed crops were poor everywhere, except in Raipur, which had a fair wheat harvest. Prices rose somewhat, but did not get really high till the autumn of 1896, after the deficient rainfall of the summer of that year. In the districts of Saugor, Damoh, Jubbulpore, Narsingpur and Hoshangabad, there was much distress; relief works and relief houses were opened, and the forests were thrown open to grazing.

In ten districts, where the settlements have been concluded, the land records system is now in fair order; the circles allotted to the accountant-surveyors (*patwaris*) have been arranged; each village officer of this rank has to reside and hold an office in his circle; the inspectors (*kanungos*) have also been organised and have been made to reside within their charges. The yearly testing of a stipulated number of village records by superior officers of all ranks is now being properly performed. On the whole the village officers are discharging their duties well, and the work of the land records staff is said to be improving. The percentage of entries in the village records checked by the inspectors ranged from 9 to 29 per cent.; and a fair, though varying, proportion of the entries was further checked by three successive grades of superior officers.

At the Nagpore experimental farm further experiments were conducted with a view of obtaining, by cross-fertilization, a variety of wheat that will not suffer from rust, and trial was made of the plan of manuring wheat lands in August instead of in June before the heavy rainfall at the beginning of the rainy season. The agricultural class at the Nagpore farm is doing good work; and already several of the village schoolmasters, trained there, have begun teaching agriculture to village boys; it is said that adult villagers, though they themselves adhere to the old paths, are yet much interested in this new departure in the teaching of rural schools. In the two veterinary dispensaries at Nagpore and Raipur 2,092 animals were treated; the popularity of these institutions is said to have increased. In parts of five districts the people are beginning to support efforts for segregating diseased cattle; and in three districts active and systematic effort is being made to prevent the poisoning of cattle for the sake of their hides.

Burma. The rainfall was both sufficient and seasonable in Lower Burma, but was light and unfavourably distributed in the upper province. In Lower Burma the rice crop was up to the average, while in Upper Burma the harvests were poor, though the dry weather crops were partly saved by heavy showers in December 1895. The total area under rice was, in Lower Burma, 5,249,000 acres, which was 90 per cent. of the total area under all crops, 5,803,000 acres. The increase in the cultivated area was 4 per cent. above the figures of the previous year. The exports of rice and rice-bran by sea to places outside Burma was 1,467,000 tons, as compared with 1,514,000 tons in the year 1894-95. The prices of rice at seaports were favourable to Burma producers, and prices of food rose somewhat in Upper Burma.

The area of cultivated land in Lower Burma that was sold and mortgaged during the year was 363,000 acres, compared with 413,000 in the previous year; both sales and mortgages decreased; the total land under mortgage at the end of the year is returned at 312,000 acres, or 7 per cent. on the area under cultivation. The average price in the districts of largest transfers (Hanthawaddy and Thongwa) was 18 rupees and 15 rupees per acre, and the mortgage money in Hanthawaddy and Henzada was 18½ rupees and 24 rupees per acre respectively. The return of areas sublet by peasant proprietors was 1,061,000 acres; in Hanthawaddy and Thongwa, 36 and 32 per cent. of all cultivated lands are sublet; while in Prome the proportion sublet is only 5 per cent. Rents paid by sub-tenants averaged from 3½ rupees per acre in the lowest

lowest district to 9½ rupees per acre in the highest district. In Hanthawaddy and Thongwa, where the areas sublet were 299,000 acres and 192,000 acres respectively, the average rent rates were 6½ rupees and 7¼ rupees per acre. On the whole the rents paid all over the province averaged 7.38 rupees an acre as compared with an average land revenue rate of 2.17 rupees an acre. AGRICULTURE.

The rainfall of Assam was deficient in most districts and ceased early. The rice harvest was short except in Sylhet, and the season was not favourable for tea. Prices of food were again lower than in the previous year. There was no serious outbreak of cattle disease. The area cultivated by time-expired immigrant tea coolies increased from 47,000 to 54,000 acres. These areas are exclusive of rice lands cultivated by tea coolies within the boundaries of tea estates and of land taken up by time-expired tea coolies under the ordinary ryots' rules. Assam.

Crop experiments have been carried on as in preceding years. The rice yield of the year was, for the most part, below the out-turn of 1894-95. The oil seeds' yield was good. The net result of the crop experiments of 1895-96 and previous years in Assam has been as follows:—

Rice. Over 7,000 experiments in the valley districts, during a period of 14 years, yielding from 1,588 lbs. (19½ maunds) of rice in the husk per acre to 1,328 lbs. (16 maunds) on the average for the better qualities; and 15, and 14 maunds per acre for the poorer varieties.

Sugar. 230 experiments, yielding on the average of 13 years 1,475 lbs. (17½ maunds) of gur, or molasses, to the acre.

Oil-seeds. Rapeseed, 29 experiments, 345 lbs. per acre; sesamum, 194 experiments, 282 lbs. per acre; mustard, 2,041 experiments, 507 lbs. per acre; linseed, 26 experiments, 365 lbs. per acre; for all experiments in the years up to 1895-96.

Pulses of two kinds; 1,973 experiments, one kind yielding an average of 457 lbs. per acre, and the other 337 lbs. per acre; for all experiments up to date.

The training of village officials in surveying and the maintenance of the village records in a correct state, year by year, continue to receive attention. During the year 105 candidates obtained certificates at the survey schools, as compared with 84 in the preceding year. The number of village revenue officers who have obtained certificates of qualification is returned at 902, as compared with 846 in the previous year, out of 1,129 of these officials on rolls of the surveyed tracts. The testing of village maps and records by inspecting officers was carried further than in any previous year. Out of 93,824 survey marks on the ground, 90,151 were inspected, of which 57,562 were found to be in good order, and 36,262 were repaired.

The rainfall in Madras during 1895-96 was 19 per cent. above the average of the previous year, and 9 per cent. above the normal average; heavy rain caused breaches of irrigation works in some places, but on the whole the season was decidedly favourable to agriculture. The crop area was 3 per cent. above that of the preceding year, and the harvests were fairly good all round. The price of food grains fell 3 per cent. in the case of rice, and 7 to 13 per cent. in the case of millets, as compared with the previous year; prices of skilled and unskilled labour remained practically unchanged, though the money value of wages paid in kind was lower in several districts. Madras.

The advances to ryots for improving their lands fell to Rx. 27,000, as compared with Rx. 28,000 in 1894-95, and with Rx. 195,000 during the two previous years of partial scarcity; the decrease in advances is attributed to the occurrence of successive good seasons. The Land Records Department maintained survey schools in 145 out of the 156 subdivisions of Madras, and 13,647 village accountants were instructed in the surveying and demarcation of fields, thus completing the training of village accountants in all ryotwara (petty holders) villages in the presidency; while 592 out of the 626 revenue inspectors in the province have also been trained to survey lands and

AGRICULTURE.

correct land records. The compilation of rural statistics has been completed for all districts, and a statistical atlas embodying the results has been published. The schemes for agricultural education were still in abeyance. The provincial veterinary officer, by visiting the district stock inspectors, by attending or organising cattle fairs, and by lecturing to three classes at the Agricultural College of Saidapet, carried out part of the programme of the recently-established Civil Veterinary Department. Two separate investigations were in progress regarding cattle diseases in outlying parts. Six out of the 13 stock inspectors successfully passed the examination qualifying for promotion.

The report for 1895-96 on the public gardens and parks of the Nilgiri hills shows that the production of the following useful drugs and plants was continued, namely, *ipecacuanha*, which has not yet been successfully acclimatised; *jalap*, of which the quantity produced does not yet meet the whole Indian demand; *dandelion*, of which a larger supply is required; *sweet flag oil*, which, on trial, did not yield good clinical results; *digitalis*, which is being supplied for hospital use; *camphor tree*, of which the leaf so far yields a valuable camphor oil. The receipts of the gardens during the year amounted to Rx. 365, while the expenditure was Rx. 2,232.

Bombay.

The rainfall in Bombay was below the average and unseasonable. The harvests of the year were in parts poor, but in most districts either the autumn or the spring crop gave a fair out-turn. Sind suffered seriously from insufficiency of water in the canals. Prices of wheat, millets, and rice rose in Sind, while they fell or remained stationary elsewhere. The net cropped area showed a slight increase in the central and southern districts of the presidency, but fell off, as compared with the previous year, in the northern districts and Sind.

At the Poona demonstration farm special attention was given to the cultivation of different kinds of fodder, and to the improvement of the dairying industry. Fodder is much in demand during a great part of the year on the plains of the Deccan. It was found that on the Poona soil and in the Poona climate lucerne, guinea grass, and reana were not nearly such good fodder crops as certain of the Deccan and Guzerat millets. As many as 59 varieties of jowari (*sorghum vulgare*) were tried. Four kinds, three of them from Guzerat, were found to be far ahead of all the other fodders. The *sundhia* and *nilva* varieties were again the best. Thick seeding (40 to 80 lbs. per acre) was found best to ensure a heavy crop of thin stalks, such as cattle prefer. When jowari is grown for its grain, the quantity of seed required per acre is far less. Where seed was sown at the rate of 70 to 80 lbs. per acre the value of the fodder was 65 to 75 rupees per acre, against an outlay for manure and cultivation of 31 to 34 rupees per acre. Bajra (the spiked millet) was found to be a poor fodder yielder. It was proved that the rotation of leguminous crops with cereals, after the immemorial custom of India, or the growth of a mixed leguminous and cereal crop, was of great value in maintaining the fertility of the land by restoring nitrogenous elements to the soil. It was found that the steeping of potatoes in nitrate of potash and sulphate of ammonia, as recommended by an Australian agriculturist, did no good whatever in Poona soils. The farm crop of cotton was highly successful, yielding 279 lbs. of cleaned cotton to the acre, and a money out-turn of 56 rupees, against a total outlay of 30 rupees, per acre. A valuable series of experiments was pursued with several kinds of sugarcane treated after different methods. The highest yield was got from a plot manured with safflower cake; the total yield was 12,320 lbs. of sugar (gur), valued at 535 rupees, while the cost of the manure was 169 rupees. It was found that the yield of sugar per cwt. of cane varied greatly with the different kinds.

The dairy farm of 77 cows yielded a net profit of 1,952 rupees on the year; sales of milk and butter to the hospitals for soldiers were made at cheap rates, but sales to the public were at rates purposely fixed higher than the prices charged by private dairies, which latter are improving their methods and doing well. The farm cows are kept of pure breeds, and are not crossed; the Guzerat buffaloes and the Gir cows give the best yields. Pure Gir bulls bred on the farm are gladly bought by private dairymen, and the strain will, it is hoped, in time improve the local cattle. It is expected that by breeding with bulls of good milking stock the milk yield of cows will be improved. But it is judged

judged inexpedient to cross larger breeds with the light wiry Deccan cattle which in most years have to exist on very scanty fodder. The experience and teaching of the Poona farm is, that local breeds should be improved by breeding from the best indigenous bulls, which are the outcome of the natural conditions of the district where they are bred. AGRICULTURE.

Government loans to cultivators for permanent improvements and the purchase of seed and cattle amounted to Rs. 98,000, or Rs. 10,000 more than those in 1894-95. Much of the advances in coast districts was devoted to improving the facilities for irrigation, and to converting dry crop land into rice fields. In Sind the bad season caused a marked increase in applications for advances, and it is said that these advances are becoming more popular. "With very few exceptions, the advances were found to have been utilised for the purposes for which they were granted, and the instalments due on past loans were punctually repaid."

The rainfall of the year in Berar was 37 per cent. below normal, and the yield of staple food crops was below the average. Cotton, which covers 30 per cent. of the Berar cultivated area, yielded a good crop, a far better crop than in the previous year; so also did linseed; but millet, the chief food staple, and wheat gave short yields; still, the price of food was not higher than in 1894-95. The total occupied area rose from 7,771,000 acres in the previous year to 7,755,000 acres. Of the latter total, 86.4 per cent. was under crop in 1895-96, as compared with 87.0 per cent. in the year 1894-95. Berar.

HORSE BREEDING, AND VETERINARY COLLEGES.

In 1891 the Civil Veterinary Department took over the management of horse-breeding operations, which were formerly under the direction of military officers. The staff of veterinary surgeons concerned with this business is distributed over the several provinces where horses and mules are bred. These officers not only supervise horse-breeding and mule-breeding, but, in conjunction with the district authorities and local boards, they organise and control operations for combating cattle disease, and help to instruct Indian students at veterinary colleges. The returns of agricultural stock are not complete for all provinces, and are altogether wanting for Bengal; but the total number of horses and ponies in British India, outside Bengal, is returned at 1,133,000, while the number of mules and donkeys is given at 1,101,000. The North West Provinces and Oudh return 493,000 horses and ponies, and 309,000 mules and donkeys; while the Punjab returns 557,000 mules and donkeys, and 271,000 horses; the Bombay returns show 152,000 horses, and 67,000 mules and donkeys. The totals are somewhat above those for the previous year, except in the North Western Provinces, where the numbers of mules and donkeys fell off. The number of stallions kept by Government for horse-breeding, at the end of the year 1895-96, was 361, or 11 less than in the previous year; 51 new stallions were bought, and 62 were struck off the register, mostly because they were old and worn out. The new stallions were chiefly English or Australian thoroughbreds and Arabs. At the end of the year there were 110 Arabs, 99 Norfolk trotters, and 18 thoroughbreds. There were, in March 1896, also 385 pony stallions for galloway and pony mares; and the number of donkey sires bought during the year was 49, while 46 died, or were sold. The number kept by Government for mule-breeding was 385 at the end of the year. Of the total, 192 were Italian donkeys, but these animals are very expensive; and a gradually increasing number of large donkey sires is being obtained from donkey breeders in the Punjab and Baluchistan. The donkey sires imported during the year were from Italy and Persia, and of good stamp. Besides the Government stallions, 171 horse and donkey stallions were maintained by district boards, and a considerable number by Native States. The officers of the Veterinary Department give every assistance to chiefs and to local bodies in obtaining good sires. HORSE BREEDING.

At the end of the year 23,250 branded mares were on the list as available

HORSE BREEDING. for horse-breeding, and 5,619 for pony-breeding, from sires kept by Government. Of this number, 14,305 mares were covered by Government stallions during the year; and 4,188 foals were reported to have resulted from the coverings of the previous year, apart from 2,011 cases in which the results were unknown; 7,236 coverings are known to have yielded no foals. The average number of foals thrown to each horse stallion employed in the previous year ranged from 6.4 in Sind to 22 in Baluchistan, and 15.8 in the Northern Punjab; and for all India the average was 13.6 for horses and 12.0 for ponies. It is said, however, that the statistics are not trustworthy, and are probably below the truth. By the Government donkey stallions 18,475 pony mares, besides 966 donkey mares, were covered; and 3,734 mule foals, besides 214 donkey foals, are reported to have been born. The veterinary officers believe that the produce of the mares served by Government sires is greater than these figures would show. The stallions kept by district boards and local bodies covered 7,682 mares during the year; 1,872 foals are reported to have been born during the year; in 1,174 cases the results were unknown; but the returns of the produce of these mares are open to doubt. The average yearly cost of keeping stallions ranged from Rs. 153 to Rs. 401 for horses, and from Rs. 122 to Rs. 419 for donkey stallions, in the several provinces. Baluchistan, the Deccan, and Sind are the provinces where the cost of keeping stallions is highest. The number of remounts purchased for the army at the different horse fairs was 2,365; while 1,746 mules were bought for army purposes.

Horse fairs. Thirty-nine horse fairs were attended by officers of the Veterinary Department, including six fairs in Native States. At these fairs, at which 74,975 horses and mules, or somewhat more than in the preceding year, were shown, and 14,208 competed for prizes, sales were effected of 12,252 animals, and Rx. 6,275 were distributed in prizes, of which Rx. 2,955 were contributed by the Government. The highest price, Rs. 900, and the highest average price, Rs. 370, were paid for remounts at the Rawal Pindi fair; and the lowest average price, Rs. 100, was paid at the Amritsar fair. The highest average price paid for mules for army service was Rs. 228, at the Lahore show. The largest fair was, as in 1894-95, at Batesar, in the North West Provinces, to which 10,912 animals were brought, and at which 204 Government remounts were purchased, at an average price of Rs. 249. The Bacteriological Department was principally engaged in studying the symptoms and etiology of, and the possible prophylactic treatment for, "surra," a disease which is very fatal to horses in many parts of India. Drawings of parasites found in the blood of horses suffering from the "Nagara" disease in South Africa were found to correspond closely with the organism found in the blood of animals suffering from "surra" in India and Burma. The "Nagara" disease in South Africa is supposed to arise from the bite of the tsetse fly.

Cattle dispensaries. The arrangements for combating and preventing cattle disease are not equally forward in the several provinces. The year was marked by very severe cattle disease in parts of the Punjab; and generally the year's inquiries appear to show that the prevalence of remediable and perhaps preventible cattle disease is much greater throughout India than is commonly reported or believed. In 28 districts of Burma 48 veterinary assistants, who have obtained diplomas at the Rangoon veterinary school, are employed; 23,287 cattle in all were treated during the year, of which 18,427 are said to have been cured. Anthrax, rinderpest, and foot-and-mouth disease were reported from many districts; and serious loss of cattle from one or more of these epizootic diseases was reported from several districts of Lower and Upper Burma; in the Akyab district alone 47,787 deaths were reported, of which 42,309 were attributed to cattle plague. Throughout Burma buffaloes appear to have suffered more than ordinary cattle. Rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease were rife also in parts of the Shan States, where the cattle had suffered in previous years. In Bombay 16 cattle dispensaries are open, besides those in the city of Bombay; all but one of these institutions was said to be doing either "satisfactorily" or "very satisfactorily"; at each is stationed a trained Native veterinary surgeon; at six of the dispensaries the number of animals treated during the year exceeded 1,000. In four Bombay districts itinerating cattle dispensaries were established. Seven cattle dispensaries have been opened in the Punjab, at

three of which more than 2,000 cattle were treated; three cattle dispensaries were open in the Central Provinces and one in Berar. A veterinary hospital exists at Calcutta; the Darjeeling municipality employs a veterinary assistant; and four more cattle dispensaries have been opened in Bengal. Seventy veterinary assistants were employed in the Punjab, and 14 in the North West Provinces, who treated 64,331 cattle in the former and 7,055 cattle in the latter provinces.

HORSE BREEDING.

Veterinary officers have to attend and report upon an increasing number of cattle fairs in all provinces. At these fairs and during their tours the attention of many veterinary officers has been drawn to the need for more and better bulls for breeding purposes. In some provinces the (so-called Brahmani) bulls turned out to wander, as quasi-religious offerings, are very poor creatures; yet these animals are the sires of the herds of the future. Where breeding bulls are kept they are often old, worn out, or maimed. In a few exceptional cases landholders keep really fine bulls in sufficient numbers. The landed classes, it is said, appreciate the need for good sires for their cattle.

Cattle fairs.

The Bombay Veterinary College had 63 students, of whom only nine obtained diplomas at their final examination, and 28 passed other minor examinations; the proportion of students that passed was 73 per cent. of the candidates, against 52 per cent. in the previous year. The Lahore College had 88 students, but the results were less satisfactory than usual; out of 52 men in the second year, 36 gained diplomas at the final examination. A class of shoeing smiths has been started; at the end of the first session all 6 students readily found employment. Qualified students from this college continue to obtain lucrative work. Two useful manuals on cattle disease were issued in the vernacular by Mahomadan lecturers on the Lahore College Staff. At Calcutta and Ajmere the veterinary schools have now completed their first year; the former had 43 and the latter 31 students; out of 19 Calcutta students who appeared for their final diploma 12 passed successfully, while at Ajmere 9 out of 11 were declared to be qualified as veterinary assistants. At the Burma school 29 students gained their diplomas at the final examination, and were at once posted to work in the interior of the country. At Madras a series of lectures on the contagious diseases of cattle was delivered to the stock inspectors, of whom two have obtained diplomas from the Bombay Veterinary College. In other provinces arrangements have not yet been made for giving veterinary education.

Veterinary
Colleges and
Schools.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCE.
Agricultural
Statistics

Though there is still much room for improved accuracy, agricultural statistics are now available for all India, except that for Bengal the returns of crops are approximate only, while stock statistics and returns of the irrigated area are for that province wholly wanting. Assigning to Bengal an irrigated area, and a supply of cattle proportionate to the corresponding totals in similarly situated provinces, we get the following totals for British India, during 1894-95 :

	Acres.
Total area according to Survey	734,000,000
Deduct, feudatory and tributary States	124,000,000
Deduct area for which no returns exist	71,000,000
Net area	540,000,000
Forest areas	62,000,000
Area not available for cultivation	151,000,000
Culturable waste other than fallow	99,000,000
Current fallows	30,000,000
Net area cropped during year 1894-95	197,000,000
of which bore 2 or more crops during the year	27,000,000
Total crop area	224,000,000
Total irrigated area (including 6,000,000 acres estimated for Bengal)	30,000,000
Area of rice crop	69,000,000
Area of millet crops	40,000,000
Area of wheat crop	23,000,000
Area of gram crops	14,000,000
Area of barley	7,000,000
Area of pulses and other food crops	29,000,000
Area of orchard and garden crops (chiefly food)	3,000,000
Total food crops	185,000,000
Area of sugar	3,000,000
Area of tea, coffee, pepper, and condiments	1,700,000
Area of oilseeds	14,000,000
Area of cotton	10,000,000
Area of jute and other fibres	3,000,000
Area of indigo	1,700,000
Area of poppy (opium)	540,000
Area of tobacco	1,200,000
Area of fodder crops	2,000,000
Area of other non-food crops	1,860,000
Total of non-food crops	39,000,000
Number of cattle (including 25 million estimated for Bengal)	103,000,000
Number of sheep and goats (including 6 million estimated for Bengal)	38,000,000
Number of horses, ponies, mules, and donkeys (including 300,000 estimated for Bengal)	2,500,000

The total crop area, and the area cropped more than once, is returned for the last five years, thus :

	Millions of acres.				
	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.
Total area of crops	218	211	221	225	224
Including area cropped more than once	23	23	25	28	27

Regarding

Regarding some of the more important staples of Indian agriculture, the following detailed account of the crops of 1895-96 is subjoined. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

The ascertained and estimated area under wheat is given thus :—

WHEAT.

	Normal Wheat Area for Recent Years.	Areas Cultivated with Wheat in	
		1894-95.	1895-96.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Punjab - - - - -	6,758,000	8,052,000	6,893,000
North Western Provinces and Oudh -	4,864,000	4,614,000	3,697,000
Central Provinces - - - - -	4,077,000	3,309,000	2,673,000
Bombay - - - - -	2,513,000	2,601,000	2,206,000
Sind - - - - -	512,000	665,000	920,000
Berar - - - - -	800,000	889,000	747,000
Bengal - - - - -	1,719,000	1,401,000	1,427,000
Rajputana (approximate) - - -	1,782,000	1,529,000	1,307,000
Central India (approximate) - -	1,396,000	1,429,000	1,039,000
Hyderabad and Mysore (approximate) -	1,373,000	1,543,000	1,567,000
TOTAL - - -	25,884,000	26,774,000	21,777,000

The wheat area of 1896 was far below that of ordinary years, by reason of the unusually early cessation of the autumn rains; everywhere the yield was smaller than usual, and than the previous year's crop. The total yield of wheat for all India was estimated at 4,875,000 tons, compared with 6,240,000 tons in years of normal harvest. Wheat prices rose everywhere, more specially in the Punjab, where bumper harvests had been reaped in 1894 and 1895. The wheat exports of India were higher than in the preceding year, though prices ruled low in Europe; the exports of 1895-96 were from the crop garnered in the spring of 1895. The wheat export figures for the past few years have been—

1,047,000 tons in - - - 1883-84	1,515,000 tons in - - - 1891-92
1,053,000 " - - - 1885-86	608,000 " - - - 1893-94
677,000 " - - - 1887-88	345,000 " - - - 1894-95
689,000 " - - - 1889-90	500,000 " - - - 1895-96

During the earlier part of the year 1896-97 the Indian wheat exports ruled lower than ever; they amounted to 96,000 tons during the eleven months ending with February 1897, as compared with 488,000 tons in the corresponding period of 1895-96.

108 STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCE.
OIL SEEDS.

The area under, and the yield of, the main oil seeds crops, namely, linseed, rapeseed, and mustard, for all India are given thus :—

		Normal Year.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Area in Acres -	Linseed and rapeseed -	22,220,000	22,503,000	18,849,000
	Sesamum oil seeds -	1,883,000	2,060,000	1,964,000
	TOTAL - - -	23,905,000	24,563,000	20,813,000
Yield in tons estimated for all seeds -		2,025,000	1,440,000	1,190,000

The area sown decreased in consequence of the unfavourable rainy season, and the yield per acre was considerably below normal. The exports of oil seeds in 1893-94 had been the largest on record, and amounted to 1,211,000 tons, valued at Rx. 16,744,000; since then they have fallen year after year, and were 684,000 tons, valued at Rx. 9,724,000, in 1895-96.

RICE.

The rice harvest in 1895-96 gave three-quarters of an average yield in Bengal and Madras; in Burma there was a full average crop. The total normal area under rice in British provinces is said to be about 68,000,000 acres, of which 40,000,000 belong to Bengal, 6,400,000 to Madras, and 6,400,000 to Burma. The total yield of British India in an average year may amount to 28,000,000 tons of cleaned rice; but in 1895-96 the estimated out-turn did not exceed 23,000,000 tons. The quantity of rice exported from India and Burma beyond the sea was 1,757,000 tons, or two per cent. above the total of the preceding year; but the value of the rice exports fell from Rx. 13,692,000 to Rx. 13,524,000. More than two-thirds of the exports went from Burma.

The Indian export duty of three annas per maund on rice yielded to the Indian Treasury Rx. 914,000, against Rx. 891,000 in the previous year, and Rx. 900,000 during the year 1890-91, the highest figure previously reached. Siam and Saigon, which with Japan constitute the only other considerable rice-exporting countries of the world, levy the same or a slightly higher rate of duty on rice exports. The total exports of rice from Siam, Saigon, Java, and Japan to Europe during 1896 were 189,000 tons, as compared with India's exports of 751,000 tons to Europe in the same year; for the year 1895 India's total had been 825,000 tons, and for 1894 it was 766,000, compared with 220,000 and 219,000 tons from the four other countries in the two years.

COTTON.

The area under cotton in India is returned and estimated as follows :—

	Normal Area.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Madras - - - - -	1,493,000	1,508,000	1,624,000	1,455,000
Bombay, Sindh, and Bombay Native States (estimated) - - - -	5,467,000	5,321,000	5,416,000	5,021,000
North West Provinces and Oudh - -	1,479,000	1,420,000	1,313,000	1,424,000
Punjab - - - - -	785,000	1,125,000	1,161,000	1,177,000
Central Provinces - - - - -	631,000	694,000	541,000	616,000
Berar - - - - -	2,269,000	2,107,000	2,072,000	2,307,000
Nizam's Dominions (estimated) - -	1,300,000	1,407,000	1,668,000	1,558,000
Central India (estimated) - - - -	259,000	377,000	321,000	416,000
Rajputana (estimated) - - - - -	593,000	600,000	515,000	549,000
Other Provinces (including Bengal) and Native States (estimated) - - - -	1,335,000	1,335,000	1,335,000	1,335,000
TOTAL - - -	14,854,000	15,220,000	16,104,000	16,011,000

The

The season of 1895-96 was favourable for cotton, and the yield was on the whole up to the average, and was considerably above the out-turn of the previous year. The total yield of cotton in British and Native India, at an average rate of three-quarters of a cwt. per acre, would be nearly 12,000,000 cwts. The area under cotton in India, despite losses due to recent bad seasons, continues to be very large. Cotton is on the whole the most important non-food crop in India; though for the two years 1893-95 oil seeds covered a larger area, and yielded an exportable surplus of more value than cotton.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

It was found, on careful inquiry in Bombay, that the power mills of India in 1894 used about 377 million lbs. of yarn yearly, of which 170 million lbs. were exported as yarn, 129 million lbs. were sold for hand-loom weaving, and 74 million lbs. were used for mill-weaving in India. The mills, perhaps, now produce nearly 400 million lbs. of yarn a year. At the rate of 77 lbs. of yarn to every 100 lbs. of raw cotton, the Indian mills would consume yearly about 4,625,000 cwts. of cotton. The cotton exports were, in the good year 1895-96, 5½ million cwts. Thus there might be left in an average year 2 to 3 million cwts. of raw cotton for the use of cottage spinning-wheels all over India.

The exports of raw cotton from India were:—

1894-85	-	-	5,000,000 cwts., valued at Rx. 13,280,000
1889-90	-	-	6,325,000 " " " 18,000,000
1892-93	-	-	4,789,000 " " " 12,743,000
1893-94	-	-	4,789,000 " " " 13,206,000
1894-95	-	-	3,387,000 " " " 8,708,000
1895-96	-	-	5,248,000 " " " 14,108,000
1896-97 (11 months only)	-	-	4,521,000 " " " 11,300,000

The cultivation and the production of tea in India for the last two years show:—

	Area growing Tea, in Acres.	
	1894.	1895.
Bengal - - - - -	98,345	104,197
Assam - - - - -	268,796	276,014
Madrass - - - - -	6,102	6,799
North Western Provinces - - - - -	7,652	8,291
Punjab - - - - -	8,921	9,775
Native States - - - - -	9,079	9,100
Burma - - - - -	880	812
TOTAL - - -	398,775	414,988

The ordinary average yield of tea per acre is quoted at 420 lbs. in Assam, and at 330 lbs. per acre in Bengal; in the Dehra Doon and in Travancore the ordinary yield is about the same as in Bengal; elsewhere it is much lower. The tea crop of 1895-96 was fully up to the average, and the Assam yield was quoted at 424 lbs. per acre all round. Prices in 1895 were considerably lower than in the previous year. The consumption of Indian tea in India is about 4½ million lbs.; but the taste for tea is said to be spreading among the Moslem population. The tea gardens of India employ about 440,000 labourers.

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labourers permanently and 156,000 temporarily, or 596,000 labourers in all. The total exports of Indian tea are returned at—

78½ million lbs. in 1886-87	126½ million lbs. in 1893-94
107 " " 1890-91	129 " " 1894-95
120 " " 1891-92	137½ " " 1895-96

The value of India's tea exports in 1895-96 was Rx. 7,663,000, or Rx. 97,000 more than in 1894-95. Australia took 5 per cent. of India's tea exports, against 4 per cent. in 1894-95; 2½ per cent. was sent to Persia, and 2 per cent. to other countries; while the rest (124 million lbs.) went to the United Kingdom. The quantity of Indian tea sent direct to the United States was 581,000 lbs. or more than double the consignments of the previous year. But, including re-exports and transshipments from the United Kingdom, North America took during the year 1895 about 5,145,000 lbs. of Indian tea, as compared with 2,866,800 lbs. in 1892.

According to the British returns the importations of tea into the United Kingdom have come from China, India, and Ceylon in the following proportions:—

In the Year	From China.	From India.	From Ceylon.
1865 - - - - -	93 per cent.	2 per cent.	0 per cent.
1875 - - - - -	86 "	13 "	0 "
1885 - - - - -	66 "	30 "	2 "
1893 - - - - -	22 "	46 "	20 "
1895 - - - - -	16 "	46 "	32 "
1896 - - - - -	13 "	46 "	36 "

In 1896 tea from China was imported at an average price of 8.5*d.* per lb., while Indian tea and Ceylon tea each fetched an average price of about 10*d.* per lb.

COFFEE.

The area under coffee shows a small increase, as compared with the previous year's figures, thus:—

	1893.	1894.	1895.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Coorg - - - - -	63,783	71,181	73,828
Madras - - - - -	62,245	64,512	64,000
Burma - - - - -	198	248	267
Mysore - - - - -	132,520	136,032	136,052
Travancore, Cochin, &c. - -	6,244	6,580	6,587
TOTAL - - -	264,990	278,662	281,134

The coffee industry is said to employ 40,000 persons permanently and 118,000 temporarily, or 158,000 in all. The normal yield of coffee per acre may

may be taken at from 3 cwts. for the best European plantations in full bearing to $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. for inferior Native plantations; much larger yields are sometimes reported. The coffee crop of 1895-96 in southern India was generally good, and the yield was 30 per cent. above that of the average of the preceding year. Prices fell somewhat, ranging between 90s. and 95s. per cwt., compared with 104s. in the preceding year and with 54s. and 56s., the averages of 1885 and 1886. The total coffee exports from India were 291,000 cwts. in 1895-96, as compared with 273,000 cwts. in the previous year, and 312,000 cwts. in the year 1891-92.

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On the Government cinchona plantations of the Darjeeling district in Bengal the year was marked by a serious drought at the end of the rainy season; this drought, the worst known for 32 years, prevented any extension of the plantations, which at the end of the year contained 3,484,000 cinchona trees. Of the existing trees, five-sixths are of the quinine-yielding variety, and one-sixth belong to the cinchonine-yielding variety. During the year 433,000 trees were uprooted or cut down for their bark. No new planting was done during 1895-96. The harvest of dry bark was 467,000 lbs. The factory produced during the year 3,124 lbs. of cinchona febrifuge and 9,004 lbs. of sulphate of quinine, a larger quantity than in any previous year. Quinine is now sold to public institutions and Government offices at 13 annas per ounce, while the febrifuge is sold at 8 annas per ounce. The issues from the factory were 3,830 pounds of febrifuge, and 10,287 pounds of quinine. These issues with the sales of medicine during the year yielded a profit of Rx. 460, after meeting all charges for maintaining the plantations, renewing plant, and working the factory. The capital cost of the plantation had been repaid by the sale of cinchona drugs in previous years. During the year 3,170 lbs. of quinine, as compared with 2,205 lbs. in the previous year, were put up in 5-grain doses; each dose is carefully packed, and bears simple instructions in one of the vernacular languages of Bengal. The packets are made up by the jail department; and they are issued to local post-masters, station masters on railways, petty shopkeepers, and employers of labour, who, for a small commission, retail them to the public at one pice (one farthing) per packet or dose. The demand for quinine in these packets has increased so rapidly that it has been found necessary temporarily to stop the supply to other provinces outside Bengal and Assam.

CINCHONA.
Bengal.

In the Government plantations on the Nilgiri Hills, in Madras, the cinchona trees are mostly of the quinine-yielding varieties; and the Nilgiri barks are richer in quinine than corresponding species on the Darjeeling plantations. The rainfall on the Nilgiri Hills was above the average; there was a long drought at the end of the year, and there was severe frost during the cold season. The season was, however, on the whole favourable to the cinchona cultivation, though the frost killed 3,000 trees, from which the bark was at once taken. The plantations and nurseries continued in good order. The stock of dry bark in hand at the beginning of the year was 195,000 lbs.; the harvest of the year was 229,000 lbs.; the consumption of the factory was 234,000 lbs., and 1,000 lbs. were issued in the shape of bark. The produce of the factory during the year was 3,600 lbs. of quinine, and 2,284 lbs. of cinchona febrifuge; 5,644 lbs. of the former, and 2,666 lbs. of the latter were sold or issued to Government and municipal or local departments. The number of quinine powders issued for sale to the public through the post office was 679,878. The expenditure of the year was Rx. 8,256, and the value of drugs sold and issued was Rx. 10,869; the quinine was sold and valued at 14 rupees per lb., and the cinchona febrifuge at 10 rupees per lb.

Madras.

Dr. King, Director of the Calcutta Botanical Gardens and of the Sikkim cinchona plantations, visited the Nilgiri plantations during the year. He found that the plantations, especially that on Dodabetta, had much improved since his former inspections in 1871 and 1878, and he testified to the efficiency of the horticultural and coppicing arrangements under the management of the late Mr. Lawson. He pointed out that the demand for quinine was increasing in all provinces, and that the Nilgiri plantations ought to be carefully nursed, worked, and extended on the system adopted by the late manager. He reported that in a year

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or two these plantations might yield 300,000 lbs. of dry bark, equal to 10,500 lbs. of quinine annually. He advised that gradually crown bark (*officinalis*) trees should be substituted for the 28,000 red bark and the 663,000 hybrid trees now standing on the garden. He estimated that at the present time the plantations bore trees which would yield 6,000,000 lbs. of dry bark, equal to 210,000 lbs. of quinine.

The area under cinchona for all India is returned at 14,040 acres, of which over 3,000 acres are on Government plantations; the private plantations are mainly in the Madras Presidency, where the total area under cinchona is returned at 11,046 acres. The exportation of cinchona bark from India by sea, which was 3,074,000 lbs. in 1888-89, and 2,814,000 lbs. in 1892-93, fell to 1,737,000 lbs. in 1894-95, and 939,938 lbs. in 1895-96.

JUTE.

Bengal continues to be, as heretofore, the only province that produces jute to any considerable extent. The seasons of 1894 and of 1895 have both been favourable to the jute crop; but the crop of 1896 was adversely affected by the deficient rainfall of August. The normal jute area of Bengal is given at 2,302,000 acres; and the areas under jute in 1895 and 1896 respectively are returned at 2,242,000 and 2,220,000 acres. The yield of 1895 was put at a good average crop; while the out-turn of 1896 was expected to be 25 per cent. below the average. The total yield, in bales of 400 lbs., is estimated at 5,575,000 bales in 1896 against 6,144,000 bales in 1895. The fluctuations of the jute trade during recent years have been as follows:—

YEAR.	Exports of				TOTAL. Value, Rx.
	Raw Jute.		Gunny Bags and Gunny Cloth.		
	Cwts.	Value, Rx.	Number of Bags, and Yards of Cloth.	Value, Rx.	
1883-84	7,018,000	4,592,000	70,695,000	1,334,000	5,926,000
1887-88	9,643,000	6,040,000	88,050,000	1,746,000	7,786,000
1891-92	8,532,000	6,848,000	143,540,000	2,513,000	10,084,000
1892-93	10,537,000	7,944,000	164,034,000	3,238,000	11,182,000
1893-94	8,691,000	6,520,000	191,937,000	3,434,000	12,125,000
1894-95	12,970,000	10,576,000	246,561,000	4,211,000	14,787,000
1895-96	12,267,000	9,093,000	287,818,000	4,747,000	14,740,000

Of the raw jute exports 59 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 14 per cent. to Germany, and 12 per cent. to the United States; of the manufactured jute 15 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 31 per cent. to America, and 19 per cent. to Australia and Cape Colony. Out of a gross produce of raw jute, estimated at 1,090,000 tons in 1896, about 613,000 tons were exported in the shape of raw jute, and about 487,000 tons were retained for use in Indian jute mills and home industries.

INDIGO.

The normal area under indigo in India is about 1,300,000 acres, of which less than one-half belongs to Lower Bengal, about one-quarter to the North-West Provinces, and the remainder to Madras and the Punjab. The indigo area of 1895-96 was considerably (about 10 per cent.) below the average; but prices were slightly higher, 245 Rs. per maund as compared with 239 Rs. per maund in 1894-95, in consequence of the heavy crop of 1893-94. The total exports of recent years have been:—

	Cwts.	Rx.	Exports by sea, besides about 4,500 cwts. annually exported across the land frontiers of India.
1888-89	142,000	valued at 3,949,000	
1890-91	118,000	" 3,073,000	
1892-93	127,000	" 4,141,000	
1893-94	131,000	" 4,182,000	
1894-95	166,000	" 4,746,000	
1895-96	187,000	" 5,355,000	

MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

There was again an increase in the production of coal in India. The total yield was 2,820,000 tons in 1894, and 3,537,000 tons in 1895. The output in recent years from the principal coalfields has been—

	Coal produced in			
	Average of Three previous Years.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Bengal - - - -	1,764,000	1,915,000	2,036,000	2,718,000
Central Provinces - - -	136,000	135,000	141,000	123,000
Assam - - - -	155,000	164,000	169,000	173,000
Punjab - - - -	56,000	77,000	66,000	72,000
Baluchistan - - - -	13,000	20,000	22,000	23,000
Burma - - - -	—	—	12,000	17,000
Rewah State - - - -	70,000	94,000	133,000	118,000
Nizam's Dominions - - -	140,000	157,000	241,000	293,000
TOTAL - - - -	2,347,000	2,562,000	2,820,000	3,537,000

The total yield of Indian coal ten years ago, in 1886, was 1,389,000 tons. The importations of coal by sea fell from 823,000 tons (valued at Rx. 1,469,000) in 1894-95 to 762,000 tons (valued at Rx. 1,356,000) in 1895-96; of this 97 per cent. came from the United Kingdom. During the year 1895 Bengal exported 81,000 tons of coal to other countries, besides what was sent to other Indian provinces. Burma now consumes Indian coal, almost exclusively, on her railways. The total number of persons employed in the coal mines was returned at 45,000. On all Indian railways 1,232,000 tons of coal were used in 1895, of which 1,117,000 tons, or 90 per cent., were Indian coal.

The Barrakur Ironworks in Bengal are the only works in India at which pig-iron is produced. During the year 1896 comparatively little pig-iron was made, as the furnaces had to be blown out for repairs; after being rebuilt the furnaces are again in blast. Orders for pig-iron had to be refused, and most of the pig in stock was worked up into sleepers, spikes, and other castings, for which the demand is constant and increasing. The company has now entered into an agreement with the Indian Government to supply 10,000 tons of castings and pig-iron annually for the next ten years. And it is expected that the foundries and other plant will now be kept constantly and fully employed. No change is reported in the condition of the small indigenous smelting furnaces which are found in many parts of India. As was explained in a previous statement, the product of these furnaces is undersold by imported iron and steel.

The production of petroleum from the principal oil-fields has been returned thus:—

Produced in	Average of Previous Years.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
Burma - - - -	8,316,000	10,276,000	16,921,000	12,976,000
Baluchistan - - - -	71,000	—	50,000	none.
Punjab - - - -	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Assam - - - -	42,000	82,000	187,000	36,000
TOTAL - - - -	8,431,000	10,360,000	11,001,000	13,014,000

MINERAL
RESOURCES.

In Upper Burma a further large increase of yield was obtained from the Yenangyaung field by the Burma Oil Company, which has been at work in the Upper Burma field for about 20 years, and which possesses a refinery in Rangoon, and has a staff of skilled American oil-workers. Up to the end of the year other parts of the Upper Burma oil-field had not been successfully worked by the concessionaires. The output in Assam decreased greatly, as the Assam Oil Syndicate raised no oil during the year. In Baluchistan the attempt to work the oil sources was abandoned. There is hope that the Assam output of petroleum may expand greatly when the railway reaches the oil-bearing tract.

The importations of earth-oil into India by sea increased considerably during the year, though they fell far short of the high figure of 1893-94.

IMPORTATIONS of Mineral Oils into India.

	1883-84.	1889-90.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
From United States -	12,714,697	35,882,120	49,226,000	23,579,000	22,494,000
„ Russia - -	—	15,061,875	34,045,000	26,613,000	39,876,000
„ elsewhere - -	1,169,141	1,546,163	393,000	173,000	943,000
TOTAL - - -	13,883,838	53,390,158	83,664,000	50,365,000	63,313,000

The import duty on petroleum was doubled in March 1894, and is now one anna (nearly one penny) per gallon, but the increased duty does not appear to have permanently or seriously affected consumption. It is said that local oil is competing successfully with the imported article in Burma. The value of the imported oil was Rx. 2,967,000, and of the locally-produced oil about Rx. 131,000 in the year 1895-96.

GOLD.

The gold industry in Mysore continues to advance; down to the end of 1896 only four or five companies had produced any considerable quantity of gold. The results of four companies working in Mysore during recent years have been:—

	1888.	1892.	1894.	1895.	1896.
	Ounces.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Ounces.
Quantity of gold extracted	35,034	163,188	200,714	238,752	304,976
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Approximate value of gold extracted.	193,039	980,000	1,540,000	1,720,000	1,947,000
Royalty paid to the Mysore State, approximately.	9,652	40,000	77,000	87,000	97,000

RUBIES.

The Burma ruby mines were worked by the Company and by native licensed miners under the Company, and there was a slight improvement in the output of rubies. After the close of the year the seven years' lease granted to the Company expired. Another lease for a further term of 14 years was granted; Rx. 60,000 out of the arrears of rental due under the old lease were remitted; Rx. 40,000 of arrears are to be gradually liquidated by the Company. Under the new lease the Company is to pay a rental of Rx. 31,500 a year, plus one-fifth of the net profits of the undertaking.

X.

PUBLIC WORKS.

In 1896 Sir Charles B. Pritchard, K.C.I.E., was succeeded by Mr. A. C. Trevor, C.S.I., as representing the Public Works Department in the Council of the Governor General. The post of Public Works Secretary was held throughout the year by Colonel W. S. S. Bisset, R.E., C.I.E.

The engineer establishment of the Department, including Bombay and Madras, but excluding the now separate Military Works Department, was maintained at a strength below that of the preceding year.

The following statement shows the composition of the superior engineer establishment, as it stood on the 30th June in 1895 and 1894 :—

—	Government of India List.	Government of Madras List.	Government of Bombay List.	TOTAL.
Royal Engineer officers - - -	53	9	6	68
Other military officers - - -	7	—	—	7
<i>Civil Engineers :</i>				
Appointed from Europe - -	323	53	50	426
Europeans appointed in India -	178	4	6	188
Natives appointed in India -	63	13	25	101
TOTAL for 1895 - - -	624	79	87	790
TOTAL for 1894 - - -	637	77	86	800

The upper subordinate engineering staff is largely composed of natives. The numbers of this establishment in the three presidencies were as follows:—

—	India.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
Europeans - - - - -	240	70	23	333
Natives - - - - -	316	106	163	585
TOTAL - - - - -	556	176	186	918

The engineering branch of the Department is divided into two services, imperial and provincial, the former of which is recruited in England and the latter in India. The pay, and leave and pension rules, of the two services are different, but in other respects there is no distinction between the members of the two divisions, and the highest posts in the Department are open to both. The civilian element of the imperial service is recruited from the Royal Indian Engineering College at Cooper's Hill; the provincial service draws its recruits from students of the Indian colleges who are natives of India, and from upper subordinates of the Public Works Department.

The operations of the Department deal with three kinds of works, viz., Railways, Irrigation, and Buildings and Roads. The Railway Department is an imperial service under the direct control of the Government of India; the establishment employed on irrigation, and on buildings and roads, is subdivided into different provincial services, controlled by the local administrations subordinate to the Supreme Government. Under the head of "Buildings and Roads" are included many miscellaneous works, such as improvements in towns, paving, water supply and drainage, harbours, lighthouses, &c.

The annual expenditure on public works is met partly from money raised by loan, and partly from the ordinary revenues of the year. The class of works on which borrowed money is expended comprises the railway and large irrigation works, which are expected to yield sufficient net revenue to cover the interest on the capital expended on them. For the railways and more important irrigation systems, distinct capital and revenue accounts are kept,

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PUBLIC WORKS.

but for the smaller works of irrigation, and most of the works included in the class of buildings and roads, such accounts are not kept, though a distinction is made in the accounts between expenditure on new works and expenditure on repairs to existing works.

The following statement of the total receipts and expenditure under the head of "Public Works" for 1895-96 is compiled from the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the year:—

RECEIPTS.		Rx.
Railways	- - - - -	21,869,189
Irrigation	- - - - -	2,209,053
Buildings and Roads	- - - - -	713,832
TOTAL	- - - - -	24,872,074

EXPENDITURE (exclusive of Rx. 101,349 charged under Special Defence Works).

	Charged to Revenue.	Not Charged to Revenue.
<i>Railways:</i>	Rx.	Rx.
Construction	537,528	3,387,227
On Revenue Account	23,470,467	—
<i>Irrigation:</i>		
Construction	120,795	699,967
Ditto - from Famine Relief Grant	38,317	—
On Revenue Account	2,856,516	—
<i>Buildings and Roads:</i>		
Military Works	1,205,938	—
Civil Works	4,804,574	—
TOTAL	32,842,125	4,087,194

The expenditure charged against revenue includes the following items of "Interest on Debt":—

	Rx.
Railways	5,390,984
Irrigation	1,222,409

On the 31st of March 1896 Rx. 123,125,988 of permanent public debt had been incurred on account of railways, and Rx. 31,101,556 on account of irrigation.

The amount paid under the head of "Annuities in purchase of railways," which is included in the Railway Revenue Account, is Rx. 3,001,104.

RAILWAYS.

RAILWAYS.
Classification.

A full account of the results of railway operations in India is given in the Railway Administration Report annually presented to Parliament, and the aim of the following section is merely to give a short summary of the chief facts. As the accounts of the several railways had not been finally closed when the following statistics for the year 1896 were prepared, the figures must be accepted as only approximately correct.

The railways of India may be broadly divided into the Guaranteed, the State, and the Assisted. In the early days of railway enterprise the agency of private companies guaranteed by the State was exclusively employed, and nearly all the great trunk lines were made under this system. The chief terms of the contract between the old guaranteed companies and the State were as follows: the Government gave the land required free of charge; it also guaranteed interest, generally at the rate of 5 per cent., on the share capital raised with its consent, and a lower rate upon debenture capital. A general control and supervision over the proceedings of the company was also retained, and Government stores and troops were to be carried on favourable terms. If the net profits in any half-year fell below the amount of guaranteed interest the Government made up the deficiency. If they exceeded this amount the surplus was equally divided between the Government and the company. Moreover, the Government

Government had the right of buying the undertaking at specified dates, on payment of the value of the stock calculated at its market price on the average of the three preceding years. In this way the East Indian Railway was acquired in 1880, the Eastern Bengal Railway in 1884, the Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi Company's lines in 1885-86, the Oude and Rohilkund Railway at the end of 1888, and the South Indian Railway in 1890. In 1870 a new policy of railway development by the direct agency of the State was inaugurated; and in 1880-81 the system of encouraging private enterprise by State assistance was again resorted to. Both agencies are now employed side by side. The experience gained of the working of the old guarantee system has, however, suggested various modifications in the relations between the State and the companies which have more recently been formed for the construction and working of railways, and the nature of the assistance granted now varies considerably. In some instances, of which the Bengal and North Western Railway is the most important, lines have been constructed without any direct pecuniary assistance; in others a subsidy or limited guarantee has been granted. Special terms have been offered by the Government to attract private enterprise to the construction of branches and feeder lines to the larger systems. Those terms include the concession by the parent line of favourable working rates, and sometimes a rebate on traffic interchanged between the two lines or a guarantee. The agency of private companies has also been employed by the Government both in the construction and working of State lines. In all cases the Government has the power of taking over the railway at specified periods on stated terms.

The following figures, taken from the Finance and Revenue Accounts of 1895-96, show the financial result of the working of the railways in India for the year ending 31st March 1896:—

	Imperial.	Provincial.	England, including Exchange.	TOTAL
REVENUE.				
(Railways.)				
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
State Railways—(Gross traffic receipts) - - - - -	17,414,840	1,143,445	405	18,558,690
Guaranteed Companies—(Net traffic receipts) - - - - -	3,275,238	-	-	3,275,238
Subsidised Companies—(Repayment of advances of interest) - - -	25,252	-	-	25,252
TOTAL - - - - -	20,715,330	1,143,445	405	21,859,189
EXPENDITURE.				
(Railways Revenue Account.)				
State Railways:				
Working expenses - - - - -	8,655,735	385,101	-	9,040,836
Interest on debt - - - - -	3,450,807	215,568	1,724,609	5,390,984
Annuities in purchase of railways - - - - -	-	-	3,001,104	3,001,104
Interest chargeable against companies on advances - - - - -	497	-	385,185	385,682
Interest on capital deposited by companies - - - - -	33,941	-	1,200,020	1,233,961
Guaranteed Companies:				
Surplus profits, land and supervision - - - - -	530,315	-	-	530,315
Interest - - - - -	2,822	-	3,803,853	3,806,675
Subsidised Companies:				
Land, &c. - - - - -	8,134	10,117	-	18,251
Miscellaneous railway expenditure - - - - -	71,623	26	-	71,649
TOTAL - - - - -	12,758,874	610,812	10,114,771	23,479,457

In the figures for expenditure are included all charges falling on the Government for management and working expenses of railways, for interest on their capital outlay, as well as for the gradual redemption (by charge to the revenue account) of the commuted capital of the East Indian, Eastern Bengal, and

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RAILWAYS.

and Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi Railways, through the agency of sinking funds and annuities, and of that portion of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway debt incurred in excess of the money raised through the agency of the "discount" sinking fund; the figures also include charges for land required by the companies, for control, and for miscellaneous items, such as head-quarters establishment and surveys. After meeting all these expenses, the total charge to the State in 1895-96 was Rx. 1,620,268.

General results of working.

The general results of the working of the various classes of railways during 1896 are given in the following table. The aggregate net earnings of all Indian railways* amounted to 5.28 per cent. on the total capital outlay on open lines, including steamboat service and suspense items, but excluding other indirect charges, against 5.81† per cent. in the previous year:—

RAILWAY STATISTICS, 1896.

CLASS.	Length of Line open on the 31st December 1896.	Total Capital Outlay on Open Lines to the 31st December 1896, including Steamboat and Suspense.	Total Number of Passengers carried.	Total Weight of Goods carried.	Gross Earnings, including Steamboat Service.	Working Expenses, including Steamboat Service.	Net Earnings, including Steamboat Service.	Percentage of Net Earnings on Capital Outlay on Open Lines.
	Miles.	Rx.	No.	Tons.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	
Standard Gauge.								
State lines worked by companies	3,010.43	60,847,850	22,745,440	0,147,075	6,000,205	2,451,144	4,230,001	
State lines worked by the State‡	4,460.10	60,030,046	32,147,137	8,286,741	5,120,737	2,801,777	2,318,960	
Lines worked by guaranteed companies	2,588.12	50,444,131	42,520,034	4,824,330	6,108,062	3,128,456	2,080,507	
Assisted companies	183.63	1,720,035	2,203,311	120,580	165,265	75,916	80,340	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies	632.45	5,023,128	2,300,481	780,802	420,030	197,004	223,031	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State Railway Agency	123.86	706,370	1,011,800	234,287	101,300	54,000	46,400	
Total for 1896 - - -	11,613.08	188,438,109	102,938,118	23,403,727	18,006,605	8,700,107	9,807,308	5.25
Total for 1895 † - -	11,215.68	184,640,181	97,277,012	25,340,872	19,457,755	8,783,025	10,673,820	6.78
Metre Gauge.								
State lines worked by companies	5,570.60	42,000,714	39,302,427	5,489,422	4,400,840	2,264,400	2,220,440	
State line worked by the State§	1,485.27	12,491,186	11,916,430	1,581,915	1,342,529	693,159	640,370	
Assisted companies	172.61	1,222,781	720,178	200,877	135,592	70,995	58,507	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies	188.30	865,800	1,560,057	175,153	72,672	36,700	35,072	
Lines owned and worked by Native States	804.00	2,064,323	3,128,803	431,027	358,820	167,180	191,646	
Total for 1896 - - -	8,220.78	50,244,804	56,542,901	7,068,304	6,100,459	3,238,434	3,102,025	5.34
Total for 1895 † - -	7,024.00	57,145,311	54,831,242	8,040,833	6,507,617	3,207,330	3,360,287	5.88
Special Gauge.								
State lines worked by the State	28.00	86,551	59,000	19,000	8,800	7,000	1,800	
Assisted companies	51.00	323,184	61,851	34,175	77,287	42,186	35,101	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies	71.60	100,400	469,000	50,000	25,300	12,500	12,800	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency	22.12	70,700	73,400	13,100	6,810	3,050	3,750	
Lines owned and worked by Native States	94.30	241,200	340,000	35,097	38,200	20,400	17,800	
Total for 1896 - - -	267.14	918,035	1,003,251	151,372	156,307	83,146	71,251	7.78
Total for 1895 † - -	267.14	904,914	916,918	129,231	142,193	78,775	60,418	7.67
TOTAL of all Railways for 1896 - - -	20,110.00	248,001,008	160,584,270	31,523,403	25,163,361	12,032,777	13,130,584	5.28
TOTAL of all railways for 1895 † - -	19,407.78	242,690,490	152,825,172	33,510,036	26,173,505	12,070,030	14,103,634	5.81

* Excepting the West of India Portuguese and Pondicherry Railways.

† As corrected from later information.

‡ Excluding the metre gauge portion of the East Coast (State) Railway.

§ Including the Burma Railway, which was transferred to a company on the 1st September 1896.

It will be observed that, with an increase of 702·82 miles, or 3·62 per cent., in the open mileage as compared with 1895, the gross earnings and working expenses show decreases of Rx. 1,010,204, or 3·86 per cent., and of Rx. 37,253, or 0·31 per cent., resulting in an decrease of Rx. 972,950, or 6·90 per cent., in the net earnings. The total number of passengers carried show an increase of 7,759,098, and the quantity of goods handled a decrease of 1,987,443 tons as compared with the previous year.

The total railway mileage under each gauge opened during the year, and the sections opened, were as follows:—

STANDARD GAUGE.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
East Indian—Chanch Branch Extension - - -	1·00	..	
Damoodur Brauch Extension - - -	1·77	"	
		2·77	
Rutlam-Ujjain—Rutlam to Nagda - - -	25·30		
Nagda to Ujjain - - -	34·25		
		59·55	
Bezwada-Madras (Madras-Ennúr Section)—Washermenpet to Ennúr - - -			8·45
North Western (State)—Hafizabad to Lyallpur - - -			58·25
Kotri-Rohri (Chord Line)—Rahuki to Rohri - - -			178·79
Oudh and Rohilkhand (State)—Najibabad to Kotdwara - - -			15·10
East Coast (State)—Rambha to Bhubaneswar - - -			73·62
Great Indian Peninsula—Molipáni to Gotitoria - - -			1·07
			397·09
METRE GAUGE.			
Bengal and North-Western (Company's Section)—			
Burhwal to West Bank Gogra ghat - - -	7·50		
Bhatni to Turtipur - - -	17·14		
Gonda to Bulrampur - - -	22·25		
Nanpara to Jangal-Motipur - - -	15·00		
		61·89	
Cawnpore-Burhwal (Metre Gauge Link)—Burhwal to Daliganj			34·57
Assam-Bengal—Comilla to Badarpur - - -			156·42
Burma—Mohnyin to Mogaung - - -			52·25
			305·13
			702·82

The additional lengths sanctioned for construction were—

STANDARD GAUGE.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
East Indian—Chanch Branch Extension - - -		1·00	
North Western (State)—Toba Tek Singh to Khanewal - - -		* 57·00	
Eastern Bengal (State)—			
Belgáchi to the Ganges - - -	2·25		
Rajbári to Lalgola new station - - -	3·50		
Punchooria to the Ganges - - -	5·75		
		11·50	
Great Indian Peninsula—Jalgaon to Amalner - - -			38·07
Hurdwar-Dehra—Hurdwar to Dehra - - -			30·00
Tapti Valley—Surat to Amalner - - -			162·47
Bina-Goona (Goona Bara Extension)—Goona to the Parbatí River near Bara - - -			† 22·05
			322·09
METRE GAUGE.			
Bengal and North-Western (Tirhoot Section)—			
Hajeepore to Begamsarai - - -	44·25		
Garhara to Katihár - - -	117·75		
		162·00	
Bengal and North-Western (Company's Section)—Ganges-Gogra Doab Lines—			
Turtipur to Benares - - -	83·20		
Mau to Azamgarh - - -	27·00		
Mau and Ballia to Revelganj - - -	71·32		
Syedpur to Gbázipur - - -	29·00		
		210·52	
			372·52
Carried forward - - -			322·09

* Commencement of work not yet authorised.
 † Commencement of earthwork sanctioned for famine relief purposes.

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	Miles.	Miles.
Brought forward - - -	372.52	322.09
Burma—Meiktila to Myingyan - - - - -	* 76.00	
Sultanpur-Bogra-Kaliganj—Sultanpur <i>via</i> Bogra to Kaliganj	60.00	
Mymensingh-Jamalpur-Subhankhali—Mymensingh to Subhankhali - - - - -	63.00	
Segowlie-Ruksaul—Segowlie to Ruksaul - - - - -	18.00	
Hyderabad-Godavari Valley—Hyderabad to Manmád - - -	† 389.81	
Jodhpore-Bickaneer Railway Extension—Bickaneer to Khari	* 28.00	
Shadi-palli-Balotra—Balotra to the Jodhpore Frontier - - -	*† 135.00	
Birur-Shemoga—Birur to Shemoga - - - - -	38.63	
		1,180.86
SPECIAL (2FT. 6IN.) GAUGE.		
Bengal-Nágpur—Raipur to Dhamtari and branch to Rajim - - - - -		‡ 60.00
TOTAL - - -		1,562.95

The total mileage under construction or sanctioned for commencement at the close of the year, *i.e.*, on the 31st December 1896, was as follows:—

	Miles.	Miles.
STANDARD GAUGE.		
State lines worked by companies - - - - -	607.66	
State lines worked by the State - - - - -	700.64	
Lines worked by guaranteed companies - - - - -	37.00	
Assisted companies - - - - -	671.99	
Lines owned and worked by Native States - - - - -	22.05	
		2,039.24
METRE GAUGE.		
State lines worked by companies - - - - -	800.20	
State lines worked by the State - - - - -	388.03	
Assisted companies - - - - -	212.40	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies - - -	389.81	
Lines owned and worked by Native States - - - - -	251.83	
		2,132.36
SPECIAL (2FT. 6IN.) GAUGE.		
State lines worked by companies - - - - -	60.00	
Assisted companies - - - - -	21.76	
Line owned by Native States and worked by companies - - -	26.93	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency	2.25	
		110.93
TOTAL - - -		4,282.53

East Indian Railway Extension (Moghal Sarai-Gya).—Work in connection with the section from Moghal Sarai to the Sone River at Dehree was proceeded with from the 1st April 1896.

South Behar (Luckeeserai-Gya).—The acquisition of land, earthwork, and preliminary operations generally, were in progress during the year.

Bengal Nágpur Railway.—Earthwork in most of the construction districts on the Sini-Midnapore and Calcutta-Cuttack extensions was well advanced, and, except on a few of the larger bridges, good progress had been made with the masonry. Platelaying was started in the Sini District, and the telegraph line has been erected from Sini to Calcutta *via* Midnapore, and from Midnapore to Cuttack.

Plans have been completed for the entrance of the railway into Cuttack and its extension to meet the East Coast (State) Railway at Barang. Proposals are under consideration for the entry of the railway into Howrah and for the working of the passenger traffic at that station, as also for the construction of a goods station at Shalimar with a wagon ferry to connect with the Kidderpore Docks.

The

* Commencement of earthwork sanctioned for famine relief purposes.
 † Provisionally sanctioned; see also paragraph 31.
 ‡ Earthwork on the Balotra-Barmer Section only is being proceeded with.
 § Commencement of work not yet authorised.

The construction of the 2ft. 6in. gauge line from Raipur to Dhamtari with a branch to Rajim, 60 miles, which will form an integral part of the Bengal-Nágpur Railway, will probably be started early in 1897.

Indian Midland Railway.—A length of 59·75 miles of the Saugor-Katni extension, between Saugor and Damoh, is expected to be ready for opening by the end of 1897.

North Western (State) Railway.—The Mushkaf-Bolán Railway was absorbed in the North-Western (State) Railway system, with effect from the 1st July 1896. Sanction to open the line for public traffic was accorded in March 1896, but actual opening has been deferred to facilitate the completion of the double line between Áb-i-Gum and Kolpur. The railway was, however, utilized for the carriage of both goods and passenger traffic for a few days during the period that traffic was suspended on the Sind-Pishin section owing to a very heavy slip near Fuller's Camp Station, and will be regularly opened very shortly.

The Kotri-Rohri chord line from Rahuki, on the Hyderabad-Shadipalli railway, to Rohri was completed and absorbed in the North Western (State) Railway system during the year. Work on the bridge over the Indus at Kotri, 5 spans of 350 feet, was commenced in May 1896, and well-sinking was in progress on four piers out of six.

Most of the work on doubling the line between Pipri and Kotri, a distance of 82 miles, was carried out during the year. The whole project, comprising a distance of 108 miles from Kíámári to Kotri, is expected to be practically completed by the end of March 1897.

Mári-Attock Railway.—Work was vigorously pushed forward throughout the year. The construction of all the bridges was well advanced with the exception of the Sohan and Kohad, on which preparations were made for an early start. Construction trains were running up to twelve miles out from Daudkheyl and nine miles out from Jand. Earthwork was well advanced throughout, and on the tunnels on the Campbellpore section only 800 feet of opening out remained to be done. Rails for the whole length have been received except for 14 miles, which are expected from the North-Western (State) Railway.

Rae Bareli-Benares Railway.—Work was in progress on this extension of the Oudh and Rohilkhand (State) Railway system, which is likely to be ready for opening by the 1st January 1898.

Eastern Bengal (State) Railway.—The work of doubling the line between Ránaghat and Porádaha junction was in progress.

Bengal Central Railway.—The railway was worked by State agency up to the 31st December 1896, from which date the working of the line is being undertaken by the Bengal Central Railway Company.

East Coast (State) Railway.—At the close of 1896 the last sections of this railway from Bhubaneswar to Naraj, near Cuttack, 17·42 miles, and the Puri branch, 25·71 miles, were ready for inspection prior to opening for traffic.

The reconstruction of the portions of the line between Bezwada and Ellore, which were breached and seriously damaged by the floods of September 1895, was practically completed during the year.

The project for a bridge over the Godáviri river at Rajahmundry is under consideration, and in view to the early commencement of work on orders being passed, a start was made with the collection of materials and the erection of quarters, workshops, and store sheds.

Bezwada-Madras Railway.—Earthwork was practically completed on the unopen section of the railway, between Ennúr and Bezwada, and, with one or two exceptions, the bridge-work was well in hand. The conversion of the existing metre gauge section of the South Indian Railway (to be utilised between Gúdúr and Nellore) to the standard gauge was commenced. Plate-laying is being commenced, and it is expected that the line will be opened for traffic in June 1898.

Great Indian Peninsula Railway.—The strengthening of the old 30-foot girder bridges on the line was completed, and the work of providing a uniform system of signalling arrangements throughout the main line was well advanced.

Bombay, Baroda, and Central Indian Railway.—The new terminal station at Colaba was completed in April 1896, and at the close of the year the new

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general offices at Bombay, and work in connection with the provision of additional accommodation for both the standard and metre gauge railways at Sábarmati were approaching completion. Thirty-one per cent. of the 60-foot Warren girders were renewed by steel-plate girders.

The earthwork in connection with the doubling of the line between Amroli, and Itola, and Virár and Dáhanu was practically completed, and all girders between Amroli and Itola, as also nearly all on the Virár-Dáhanu section, were erected.

Tapti Valley Railway.—On the 28th August 1896 the Tapti Valley Railway Company entered into a contract with the Secretary of State for India for the construction of the projected railway from Surat *viá* Nundurbar to Amalner, 162·47 miles. The first sod was cut on the 30th November 1896, land was being taken over, and preliminary operations had commenced. The line is being constructed by the agency of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, and will, when completed, be worked by that company.

The remaining portion of the project between Amalner and Jalgaon, 38·07 miles, will be constructed as an integral part of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. A survey is now being carried out.

Southern Punjab (Delhi-Samásata Railway).—The linking in from Samásata to Bhátinda, 218 miles, was started in April 1896, and completed in October of the same year; and good progress was made with the platelaying between Bhátinda and Delhi, 183 miles. The remaining works are in a forward state, and it is expected that the line will be complete, but only partially ballasted by the 1st July 1897.

Madras Railway.—The alterations and additions consequent on the junction of the Kolar Gold-Fields Railway with the Madras Railway at Bowringpet were completed, and the junction arrangements at Mettupálayam in connection with the Nilgiri Railway were in hand.

Bina-Gooná (Gooná-Bará Extension).—The earthwork on 22·05 miles from Goona to the Parbati River, in the Gwalior State, near Bará, sanctioned for famine relief purposes, was nearly half finished at the close of the year, and work on the minor bridges and culverts was in hand. The complete estimates for the Goona-Bará extension have been received, and are under consideration.

Bengal and North-Western Railway.—On the Tirhoot section the extension from Hajeepore to Begansarai and on from Garhara to Katihár, and on the company's section, the Ganges-Gogra Doab lines, which are under construction, are expected to be open for traffic in the spring of 1898. It is expected that portions of the branches on the company's section, viz., from Bulrampur to Tulsipur, from Jangal-Motipur to Katarnian Ghat, and the extension of the Turtipur branch to Barhaj, will be ready for opening by the middle of 1897, except the Rapti bridge on the Gonda-Bulrampur-Tulsipur branch.

Cawnpore-Lucknow-Gogra (Metre Gauge Line).—This line, sanctioned in connection with the scheme for the linking up of the metre gauge railways in Northern India, was practically completed with the exception of the permanent bridge over the Gogra River at Bahramghat.

Of the section between Cawnpore and Burhwal, 79·60* miles, which is being constructed by the State, the length between Burhwal and Daliganj, 34·57 miles, was opened for traffic on the 24th November 1896, and the remaining length between Aishbagh and Cawnpore will be opened as soon as the junction arrangements with the Rajputana-Malwa Railway at Cawnpore are completed.

Of the section beyond Burhwal to Jarwal Road, 9·30 miles, which is being constructed by the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company as part of their system, the length between Burhwal and the west bank of the Gogra River, 7·50 miles, was opened for traffic on the 24th November 1896, and as the temporary pile bridge over the Gogra River was opened for traffic on the 18th December 1896, the Bengal and North-Western Railway trains have been running through to and from Lucknow since that date, the present length of the Lucknow-Bareilly Railway between Daliganj and Lucknow being utilised. It is expected that the permanent bridge over the Gogra River at Bahramghat will be opened for traffic in the spring of 1898.

Southern

* Excluding 3·66 miles of the Lucknow-Bareilly Railway, to be utilised between Daliganj and Aishbagh.

Southern Mahratta Railway.—It has been finally decided that Tadépalli shall be the tranship station for goods traffic between the Southern Mahratta, the East Coast (State), and the Nizam's Guaranteed Railways, passenger traffic being exchanged, as at present, at Bezwada. A plan of the goods tranship station at Tadépalli has been submitted for approval. RAILWAYS.

On the Mysore section a site for the new station at Mysore having been fixed, plans and estimates are being submitted for the work. It is intended to retain the existing station building to serve special abnormal traffic in the case of fairs and festivals.

Assam Bengal Railway.—At the close of the year the total open mileage of this railway, viz., from Chittagong to Badarpur, including the Laksham-Chandpur branch, amounted to 285.90 miles. Of this length 127 miles between Akhaura and Badarpur were worked for goods traffic only from the 4th December 1896.

Of the unopen line, viz., Badarpur to Makum, and the branches from Badarpur to Silchar and Luming to Gauhati, a total length of 456.58 miles, 75 miles of the Gauhati branch, from Gauhati to Jamunamukh, were opened for traffic on the 1st January 1897, and it is expected that the remaining portions of this branch, from Jamunamukh to Lanka, 20 miles, and from Lanka to Luming, 17 miles, will be opened by the 1st April 1897 and the 1st January 1898, respectively, by which latter date it is also expected that the Silchar branch, 18.62 miles, will be opened for traffic.

Burma Railways.—The railways in Burma were transferred to the Burma Railway Company from the 1st September 1896, but until arrangements are made for the lines to be formally taken over by the Company, the working and construction will continue in the hands of the State.

On the Mandalay-Kuulon Railway, 66 per cent. of the earthwork had been completed on the first two divisions (87½ miles) and 40 per cent. on the third division (55½ miles), and 11 miles of rails laid out of Myohaung junction. The heavy rock cuttings were all in hand, and the re-alignments ordered by Government at the Zeebingyee ghât and the Gokteik gorge have been finally settled. Two survey parties were engaged, respectively, on the completion of the location of the Salween section and the survey of a southern extension from Thibaw.

Owing to the very heavy work on the first ghât, it is not likely that any portion of the line will be open before the 1st January 1898, when the first 80 miles to the Gokteik gorge should, it is expected, be ready for traffic.

In consequence of the scarcity prevailing, the commencement of earthwork as a measure of famine relief, under famine relief principles and conditions, has been authorised on the Meiktila-Myingyan branch.

Segowlie-Ruksaul Railway.—This line, which will be worked by the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company, is under construction by the agency of the Segowlie-Ruksaul Branch Railway Company, and is expected to be opened by the beginning of 1898.

Ahmedabad Parántij Railway.—This line, which will extend from Ahmedabad via Parántij to Ahmednagar, 54.59 miles in length, is being constructed by the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company on behalf of the Ahmedabad-Parántij Railway Company, and will, when completed, be worked by the former company. At the close of the year 1896, ninety-five per cent. of the earthwork was completed, and it is expected that the first section between Ahmedabad and Parántij will be ready for opening by April 1897.

Nilgiri Railway.—On the 1st April 1896, intimation was received that a new company had been floated in London to take over the railway from the old company then in liquidation. Construction work is now being proceeded with, and it is expected that the line will be ready for opening by March 1898.

Hyderabad-Godávári Valley Railway.—The survey for this railway was completed, and the commencement of earthwork for famine relief purposes authorised in the Nandair, Aurangabad and Jalna districts, as well as in the British section near Manimád.

Jodhpore-Bickaneer Railway Extension (Bickaneer-Kheri).—During the year the earthwork for this extension, started by the Bickaneer State for famine relief purposes, was in progress and seven miles nearly completed.

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Shadipalli-Balotra (Balotra-Jodhpore frontier section).—During the year the earthwork for this line was started by the Jodhpore State for famine relief purposes, and the banks for the first 60 miles were practically completed at the close of the year.

Rajkot-Jamnagar Railway.—It is expected that this railway will be opened for traffic by April 1897.

Barsi Light Railway.—This railway is expected to be opened for traffic during February 1897. The delivery of the rolling-stock is awaited.

Rajpipla Railway (Ankleswar-Pardi section).—It is probable that this line will be opened by the 1st May 1897.

On the 5th March 1896, an Act to amend certain sections of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, including the repeal of Section 81 of that Act, was passed into law as Act IX. of 1896.

As the terms for the construction of branch or feeder lines of railway, published in September 1893 and March 1895, were not fully understood by the public and promoters interested in railway extension, the Government of India, in April 1896, cancelled the previous resolutions, and notified in a concise form the improved concessions they were prepared to give, such concessions being usually limited to lines not exceeding 100 miles in length, and not being applicable to the longer or more important railways, or to mountain branches.

In addition to the Ahmedabad-Parántij Railway, previously sanctioned, the Tapti Valley railway has been authorised by the Secretary of State upon the branch line terms in force before this revision, while under the revised terms, the following branch lines have been sanctioned by the Government of India with the previous approval of the Secretary of State, and companies formed for their construction :—

	Miles.
Segowlie-Ruksaul - - - - -	18
Mymensingh Jamalpur-Subhankhali - - - - -	63
Hurdwar-Dehra - - - - -	30
Sultanpur-Bogra-Kaliganj - - - - -	60

Negotiations in regard to other branches are in progress.

The revised general rules for the working of open lines of railway have been introduced on the lines in British India administered by Government from the 1st August 1896; and from time to time since that date on all other railways excepting the Indian Midland and the Assam-Bengal railways.

Guaranteed Railways.

The transactions of the original guaranteed lines are illustrated by the following table. In this table the rupee is converted into sterling at contract rates :—

	Half-year ended the 30th June 1896.					
	Total Capital Outlay.	Net Revenue.	Guaranteed Interest.	Interest in Excess of Revenue.	Net Revenue in Excess of Interest.	Surplus Profits.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Great Indian Peninsula - - - - -	25,636,820	1,023,700	600,220	—	423,570	395,044*
Bombay, Baroda and Central India - - - - -	9,300,600†	557,876	217,738	—	340,138	340,138
Madras - - - - -	11,065,057	240,735	266,360	16,036	—	—
TOTAL - - - - £.	46,058,557	1,831,300	1,084,327	—	747,072	735,822
	Half-year ended the 31st December 1896.					
	Total Capital Outlay.	Net Revenue.	Guaranteed Interest.	Interest in Excess of Revenue.	Net Revenue in Excess of Interest.	Surplus Profits.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Great Indian Peninsula - - - - -	25,615,087‡	415,841	590,681	183,840	—	—
Bombay, Baroda, and Central India - - - - -	9,445,480†	230,457	215,554	—	14,903	14,903
Madras - - - - -	11,079,451	254,434	206,308	11,934	—	—
TOTAL - - - - £.	46,140,018	900,732	1,081,603	180,871	—	14,903
TOTAL for the Year 1896 - - - - £.	40,140,918	2,732,131	2,165,930	—	560,201	750,725
TOTAL for the Year 1895§ - - - - £.	45,853,984	2,880,101	2,104,151	—	724,950	882,048

* Excluding 27,886l. paid to Government as rent for the State lines leased to the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company.

† Excluding the State outlay on the Pátri branch, Rs. 8,08,405.

‡ The decrease as compared with the total capital outlay to the 30th June 1896 shown above is due to certain credits during the half-year ended the 31st December 1896.

§ As corrected from later information.

IRRIGATION.

The nature of the climate and the inequalities of the rainfall will account for the great antiquity of the practice of irrigation in India. Many of the irrigation systems now administered by the officers of the Public Works Department are founded on the lines of old native works which have been restored and extended or re-modelled. IRRIGATION.

The class of works dealt with by the Public Works Department under the head of irrigation may be roughly divided into canals and tanks, though these two kinds of works are frequently used in combination.

The storage of water in tanks for the purpose of irrigation is very common in Southern India. In the Madras Presidency alone there are some 60,000 tanks. The works are for the most part of native origin; but much has been done under the British Government in repairing and improving old tanks, and in constructing new works in Madras, the Bombay Deccan, and in Ajmere-Merwara.

In size the tanks vary from the small works formed by earthen embankments thrown across local drainages, often of only two or three square miles in area, to the costly reservoirs constructed by the Imperial Government, such as the Periyar and Rushikulya Works, the reservoirs of which have surface areas of 6,395 acres and 7,900 acres respectively.

Canal irrigation, in which the water is drawn directly from a river, has been practised on the largest scale and with the most successful results in the North-Western Provinces, the Punjab, and the deltas of the large rivers in the Madras Presidency. Irrigation canals are of two descriptions—viz., “perennial” and “inundation.” The former are furnished with permanent headworks and weirs, and are capable of irrigating large tracts of country throughout the year, independently of the local rainfall. The magnitude of some of the works of this class, which are almost entirely due to British enterprise and skill, may be judged by a few instances. The Upper Ganges Canal, which has been in operation since 1854, and has cost Rs. 2,963,213, comprises 440 miles of main canal, and 2,614 miles of distributaries, and in the year under review supplied water to 759,297 acres. The Sirhind Canal in the Punjab, which was completed in 1887, has cost Rs. 3,797,722, and consists of 542 miles of main channels and 4,655 miles of distributaries. In Madras the great deltaic irrigation systems of the Godaveri, Kistna, and Cauvery have respective lengths of main channel of 506, 372, and 844 miles, and together irrigate upwards of 2,000,000 acres. The inundation canals, which are peculiar to the Punjab and Sind, are of a much simpler and less costly description than the perennial canals. They are for the most part simply earthen channels, made without the expensive machinery of masonry dams and sluices, and are supplied with water by the annual rise in May of the Indus and its affluents. They constitute a very useful class of irrigation works, and in some cases have produced most successful financial results. The irrigation from them is, however, to some extent precarious. If the annual flood from the melting of the snows of the Himalayas does not sufficiently raise the level of the water in the river, it is impossible to pass the necessary volume of water on to the fields or even to give any water at all to many of them.

The works to which the preceding paragraph applies, in most cases take off from the larger rivers, which, drawing their water from lofty mountain ranges, can, even in times of drought, be depended upon for an unfailing supply. In tank irrigation, on the other hand, the supply of water is more or less dependent on the local rainfall, either directly or through the medium of the smaller rivers which dry up in hot seasons. This is the common system of irrigation in the Bombay Presidency where irrigation is largely dependent on storage works.

In parts of Biluchistan, where the rainfall is scanty and very capricious, a method is practised of drawing the water from underground springs by means

IRRIGATION.

of tunnels driven into the hill sides. There remains the method of irrigation more extensively used in India than any other—viz., that by wells, which, however, does not come directly within the scope of operations of the Public Works Department.

Financially considered, the irrigation works are classed as "Major" or "Minor." The former class includes all the works which have been undertaken from loan funds, in the expectation that they would be sufficiently productive to cover the interest charges on the sums spent on their construction. It also includes the works classed as famine protective, which are constructed not from borrowed funds, but out of the annual grant from revenue for famine relief and insurance. The cost of constructing the "Minor" works, as well as the sums annually required for their working and maintenance, are met from the ordinary revenues, and for the greater part of this class of works distinct capital and revenue accounts are not kept.

The distinction implied in the words "Major" and "Minor" is not in complete correspondence with the facts, as there are some Minor Works which are of more importance than some Major Works. But, speaking generally, the "Major" class includes the works of the greatest engineering importance, which have been constructed, or, as in a few cases of old native works, almost entirely reconstructed, by British officers.

The following statement gives a general view of the results obtained from working the canals, for which full accounts are kept, for 1895-96 and the two previous years:—

	Capital Outlay (Direct and Indirect) to End of Year.	Gross Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of Net Receipts on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Acres.
Major Works - - -	32,320,701	2,134,240	872,879	1,261,370	3.88	7,955,289
Minor Works - - -	4,054,050	572,100	282,871	289,228	6.90	2,353,701
TOTAL for 1895-96 -	37,474,751	2,706,418	1,155,750	1,550,608	4.1	10,308,990
TOTAL for 1894-95 -	30,617,680	2,777,014	1,193,401	1,583,613	4.3	8,092,658
TOTAL for 1893-94 -	35,852,896	2,740,163	1,141,686	1,607,477	4.4	9,383,843

There are great differences in the financial success of the irrigation works in the various provinces. These are due to the various physical conditions of the country in regard to surface, soil, climate, and the absence or presence of large rivers with a permanent supply of water, as well as to the differences in the character and habits of the people in different districts. There are also considerable differences in the manner in which the irrigation revenue is assessed and collected, which have an important bearing on the financial success of the works. In Madras the bulk of the irrigation revenue is collected with, and on most of the works is consolidated with, the land revenue. In Bengal and Bombay the receipts of the Irrigation Department consist to a great extent of "occupiers' rates, and are not supplemented by "owners' rates, as in the North-West provinces, nor with a few exceptions, by a share of the land revenue. In Sind the revenue of the canals consists almost entirely of the share of the land revenue allotted to irrigation. Cultivation is dependent on the artificial supply of water, and the consolidated revenue from the irrigated lands is divided in the proportion of 90 per cent. to irrigation and 10 per cent. to land. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and in the Punjab, the direct water rates are assessed partly on the occupier and partly on the owner of the land, the bulk of the rates falling on the former, and the irrigation receipts

receipts are further increased by a not unimportant contribution from the land IRRIGATION. revenue. The contribution from the land revenue is the amount considered due to irrigation when an enhancement of land revenue is levied at the periodical revision of the land settlement. Like the owner's rate, which is directly levied, it falls upon the owner of the land.

The following table gives the mileage of the irrigation canals in operation in each province, with the area irrigated during the year, and the estimated values of the crops raised by means of irrigation from the works :—

	Bengal.	North-West Provinces and Oudh.	Punjab.	Madras.	Bombay, including Sind.	Baluchistan.	Rajputana.	TOTAL.
MAJOR WORKS :	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.		Miles.
Main Canals - -	700	1,447	1,431	2,018	1,156	NIL	NIL	6,752
Distributaries - -	2,604	9,203	6,554	5,020	332	NIL	NIL	24,313
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area irrigated - -	579,693	1,868,447	2,519,344	2,406,000	581,715	NIL	NIL	7,955,289
MINOR WORKS :	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.		Miles.
Main Canals - -	47	—	2,055	1,171	1,949	4	Tank irri- gation.	5,826
Distributaries - -	—	591	724	1,172	351	43		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area irrigated - -	—	142,769	939,037	534,227	600,472	7,070	31,129	2,353,701
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Estimated value of crops raised by Major and Minor Works.	2,056,251	6,411,506	9,322,294	6,153,531	496,322*	7,569	61,732	—

* Excluding Sind.

The crops to which irrigation is most extensively applied in India are rice and wheat. The figures in the following statement, which are for the year 1894-95, show the areas of the principal crops irrigated by the works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept :—

Province.	Rice.	Wheat.	Jowar and Charl (Sorghum Fulgure).	Bajra (Pennis- setaria Spicata).	Sugar- cane.	Cotton.	Barley.	Indigo.	Maize.	Ragi (Eleusine Coracana).
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Bombay (excluding Sind) -	6,187	8,833	19,955	6,722	14,624	265	482	—	1,924	—
Sind - - - - -	417,624	166,128	220,428	210,037	—	59,967	2,329	—	—	—
Punjab - - - - -	140,285	942,322	174,253	23,724	71,425	804,873	25,768	77,431	101,462	—
Bengal - - - - -	452,865	3,830	—	—	46,016	147	10,020	1,971	—	—
Madras - - - - -	2,647,119	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50,079
North-Western Provinces -	126,826	83,973	12,223	251	218,006	20,378	6,385	308,632	8,895	—

Besides the works to which the preceding paragraphs apply, there is a large class of works, especially in Sind and Madras, for which capital accounts are not kept.

Individually, these works are insignificant, but collectively they supply the means of irrigation to a considerable area. In 1894-95, the latest date for which the figures are available, the net revenue from these works amounted to Rx. 784,439, and the area irrigated by them was 4,847,749 acres, or 57.3 per cent. of that irrigated by the major and minor works.

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IRRIGATION.

The immense systems of large artificial water channels with which some parts of India are covered, would appear at first sight to offer unrivalled opportunities for water carriage. But though efforts have been made to organise navigation services on the larger irrigation canals, it cannot be said that, on the whole, they have met with a large measure of success. In many cases the receipts from the traffic have failed to cover the working expenses. It is, indeed, obvious that the canals being designed primarily for irrigation purposes must often be unsuitable from their alignment and level for navigation.

The following statement gives the mileage of canals open to navigation during the year under review :—

PROVINCE.	Irrigation Canals open to Navigation.	Canals Designed for Navigation only.	TOTAL.	Number of Passengers Carried.	Estimated Value of Cargoes.
	<i>Miles.</i>	<i>Miles.</i>	<i>Miles.</i>		<i>Rx.</i>
Bengal	495	633*	1,128	658,427	11,616,938
Punjab	432	-	432	8,370†	—
North-West Provinces and Oudh	585	-	585	-	342,945
Madras	900	262	1,252	465,824	6,123,109

* Includes Nudda Rivers.

† Sirhind Canal only.

The following more detailed account of the irrigation operations of the year is given under the heads of the different provinces in which the works are situated.

Bengal.

In Bengal the results of the year's working were on the whole favourable. The net income derived from the canals was considerably larger than in the preceding year, and the area under irrigation was above the average.

The general results for 1895-96 of working all the irrigation and navigation systems, for which full accounts are kept, are compared with the results of the five previous years in the following statement :—

YEAR.	Capital Outlay to End of Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of Net Receipts on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
	<i>Rx.</i>	<i>Rx.</i>	<i>Rx.</i>	<i>Rx.</i>		<i>Acres.</i>
1890-91	7,277,301	216,727	198,166	18,561	0.2	543,315
1891-92	7,362,773	220,171	187,294	32,877	0.4	736,381
1892-93	7,417,261	259,544	196,162	63,382	0.8	662,230
1893-94	7,474,377	235,904	207,926	28,038	0.3	656,065
1894-95	7,528,530	216,978	200,911	16,067	0.2	509,811
1895-96	7,560,584	205,275	174,744	30,531	0.4	579,933

There are in Bengal four canal systems which are classed as Major Works. Three of these combine irrigation with navigation, and the fourth (Hidgellee Tidal Canal) is purely a navigation work.

The

The financial results obtained from the working of the Major and Minor IRRIGATION Works during the year under review are shown in the following statement:—

C A N A L.	Capital Outlay to End of Year.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of Net Receipts on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
<i>Major Works:</i>	Rx.	Rx.		Acres.
Orissa Canals - - - -	2,622,184	—5,559	—	142,017
Midnapore - - - -	845,403	—1,248	—	76,365
Tidal Canal - - - -	257,779	57	·02	—
Sone Canals - - - -	2,692,640	19,088	·72	343,909
Total Major Works - - -	6,418,006	12,838	·19	562,291
<i>Minor Works:</i>				
Calcutta and Eastern Canal -	548,635	16,360	2·98	—
Orissa Coast Canal - - -	447,700	1,820	·43	—
Sarun Project - - - -	69,675	12	·01	—
Total Minor Works - - -	1,066,070	18,192	1·7	—

The Calcutta and Eastern Canals, which are the most profitable of the canal works in Bengal, are navigation works designed to maintain communication between Calcutta and Eastern Bengal, through the Sunderbunds. The Orissa Coast Canal, also a navigation work, forms, with the Hidgellee Tidal Canal, a complete line of communication between Calcutta and Orissa; and in the event of famine in the latter district would be very useful as a means of importing food.

Besides the Minor Works mentioned in the foregoing statement, there are four works of this class for which capital accounts are not kept—viz., the Nuddea rivers system, the Gaighatta and Buxi Khal, and the Eden and Madhuban Canals. The first-named, which comprises about 455 miles of channel, is used for navigation purposes only.

The two great irrigation systems in Bengal, known as the Orissa and Sone Canals, continue to yield a very meagre return on the enormous sums which have been expended on their construction.

The construction estimate of the Orissa canals was closed on the 31st March, 1895, the distributary system being now fairly complete. Though the working results of this system continue to be very poor, there are signs of improved administration in the collection of the water rates.

The net revenue from the Sone Canals was much above the average of recent years. This improvement was due chiefly to the unusually scanty rainfall throughout the rabi season, and to economies in management.

In the following statement the traffic on the canals in Bengal in 1895-96 is shown in comparison with the traffic results of the previous year. The Nuddea rivers are included in this statement:—

YEAR.	Length of Canal open for Navigation.	Receipts.	Maintenance Charges.	Net Receipts.	Estimated Value of Cargoes.	Number of Passengers.
	Miles.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	No.
1894-95 - -	1,150	100,913	66,503	34,410	12,205,786	599,609
1895-96 - -	1,128	108,169	66,041	42,128	11,616,938	658,427

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The capital expenditure for the year amounted to Rx. 32,065, the greater part of which was expended on the Hidgellee Tidal Canal, and on the Calcutta and Eastern Canals.

North-West
Provinces.

The working results of the canals in the North-West Provinces for 1895-96 were very seriously affected by the abnormal rainfall in the winter season of the preceding year. The collections of revenue, including that for the rabi crop of 1894-95, which fell within the year under review, showed a decrease of nearly 20 lakhs of rupees.

On the other hand, the area irrigated within the limits of the year now under review was much above the average, and the revenue assessed on that area exceeded the assessments of 1894-95 by more than 28 lakhs. This increase will favourably affect the income collected in the succeeding year.

Taking the revenue actually realised, the general results of the year's working are compared with those of the five previous years in the following statement:—

YEAR.	Capital Outlay to End of Year.	Net Revenue.	Percentage of Net Revenue to Capital.	Area Irrigated during the Year.
	Rx.	Rx.		Acres.
1890-91 - - - -	8,135,747	383,355	4.74	2,014,114
1891-92 - - - -	8,180,278	446,011	5.45	2,045,030
1892-93 - - - -	8,230,083	424,780	5.10	1,700,840
1893-94 - - - -	8,280,050	430,928	5.31	1,645,107
1894-95 - - - -	8,360,083	428,117	5.12	929,461
1895-96 - - - -	8,491,515	267,687	3.16	2,010,021

Excluding the Betwa Canal, which is a protective work, the Major Works earned a profit of 3.45 per cent. on their capital outlay. The individual returns from the four works were as under:—

CANAL.	Percentage of Net Revenue (actually realised) on Capital.
Upper Ganges - - - -	4.08
Lower Ganges - - - -	1.12
Agra - - - -	2.70
Eastern Jumna - - - -	17.21

The Betwa Canal, the only "protective" work, was worked at a loss of Rx. 6,921.

The minor works comprise the Dun, Rohilkhand, and Bijnor Canals, and the Bundelkhand Lakes. The net revenue from these works amounted to Rx. 6,493, which gave a percentage of 2.46 on the capital outlay of Rx. 263,912.

The capital expenditure of the year amounted to Rx. 131,431. Nearly half of this sum was expended on the Lower Ganges Canal, chiefly on the new Fatehpur Branch, and the extension of the Ghatampur Distributary. The latter work is estimated to irrigate 32,000 acres.

Of the 1,403 miles of main and branch canals of the North-West Provinces and Oudh, 535 miles on the Upper and Lower Ganges, and Agra Canals, were open to navigation during the year.

The

The navigation operations on the irrigation canals are not profitable. The IRRIGATION figures for the last five years are given in the following statement :—

YEAR.	Excess of Working Expenses over Receipts.
1891-92 - - - - -	Rx. 785
1892-93 - - - - -	421
1893-94 - - - - -	1,148
1894-95 - - - - -	275
1895-96 - - - - -	127

Of the principal crops raised on irrigated land the chief place is this year held by wheat, of which there were 728,163 acres as against 83,973 acres in the preceding year. The large increase in this and other food grain crops was due to the scanty rainfall in the winter season. Irrigation was also applied largely to indigo, sugarcane and rice.

In addition to the area irrigated by the canals under the direct control of the Irrigation Department, there were 101,820 acres irrigated during the year by the Tarai and Bhábar Canals under the Commissioner of Kumaon.

The estimated value of the crops raised by means of irrigation from the major and minor works under the control of the department was Rx. 6,411,596, or Rx. 3.26 per acre. The total water rates, direct and indirect, levied amounted to Rx. 0.38 per acre, or 11.72 per cent. on the value of the crops.

In the Punjab the nature of the season was such as to bring into relief the great advantages possessed by the perennial canals over the inundation canals in times of scanty rainfall.

The area irrigated by the permanent works was the largest on record, and this result was mainly due to the failure of the cold weather rains.

On the other hand, the lowness of the rivers owing to deficient rainfall, and the absence of September floods, was unfavourable to the inundation canals, and the area irrigated by these works showed a marked decrease.

The general results of the year's operations for all works are shown in the following table in comparison with the records of the four previous years :—

YEAR.	Capital Outlay to end of Year.	Area Irrigated.*	Assessed Revenue.*
	Rx.	Acres.	Rx.
1891-92 - - - - -	6,904,558	2,976,461	803,426
1892-93 - - - - -	7,182,298	2,801,733	737,497
1893-94 - - - - -	7,555,941	2,725,209	729,558
1894-95 - - - - -	7,858,628	2,781,663	770,084
1895-96 - - - - -	8,203,560	3,458,544	1,105,875

* Includes Muzaffargarh Canals.

The above figures are exclusive of the Native States portion of the Sirhind Canal and Sirsa branch.

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IRRIGATION.

Taking the actual revenue collected during the year, the following table compares the individual results obtained from all the works for which full accounts are kept:—

CANALS.	Length of		Capital Outlay to end of Year.	Net Revenue collected in Year.	Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Outlay.
	Main and Branch Channels.	Distributaries.			
	Miles.	Miles.	Rx.	Rx.	
Major Works:					
Perennial Canals:					
Swat River	22	143	376,246	14,671	3.96
Western Jumna (including Sirsa Branch).	404	1,952	1,528,516	50,153	3.28
Bari Doab - - - - .	353	1,128	1,775,108	182,639	10.29
Sirhind (British portion) -	319	2,716	2,402,932	69,637	2.90
Chonab - - - - .	202	678	1,762,172	77,449	4.39
Sidhnai - - - - .	68	112	109,359	24,361	22.28
Inundation Canals:					
Lower Sohag and Para -	98	48	71,373	6,868	9.62
Minor Works:					
Upper Sutlej - - - - .	218	137	74,338	6,804	9.15
Lower Sutlej and Chenab -	783	19	11,686	21,832	186.82
Indus - - - - .	698	-	70,764	3,551	—
Shahpur (Imperial) - - .	78	78	19,943	2,906	—
TOTAL - - - - .	3,243	7,011	8,202,437	460,871	5.61

On the Native States branches of the Sirhind Canal the area irrigated was 276,268 acres against 112,337 acres in the preceding year. As in the case of the British portion of the canal, this increase was due to the deficient rainfall.

The estimated value of the crops raised on land irrigated by the Imperial canals (excluding the branches in Native States) was Rx. 9,322,293 giving a rate of Rs. 26.89 per acre. The principal crop was, as usual, wheat, of which there were 1,251,985 acres under irrigation.

The capital outlay on Imperial works for the year amounted to Rx. 387,236, of which Rx. 269,623 was expended upon the Chenab Canal. Great progress was made on the main line excavation and on the Gugera, Bhowani, and Jhang Branches. Five lakhs of rupees were expended on the Western Jumna Canal, where the works in connection with the Bhiwani Rajbaha project were practically completed at the close of the year, and 207 miles of new channel were opened.

The navigation operations on the Western Jumna and Sirhind Canals resulted in a profit of Rx. 6,641. There was a satisfactory improvement in the receipts of the Western Jumna Canal, due mainly to an increase in raft traffic. On the Sirhind Canal there was a loss amounting to Rx. 616.

Burma.

In Lower Burma there are no irrigation works that call for special notice. The expenditure recorded under the head of "Irrigation and Navigation" has reference to the river embankment and drainage works, and navigation channels.

In Upper Burma the attention of the Department was engaged in the improvement and maintenance of existing works in the Kyankse, Yamethin, and Meiktila districts, and in carrying out surveys for new projects.

In the Kyankse district the total length of the canals is 240 miles, and of the more important distributaries, 148 miles. The most important work in the Meiktila district was the restoration of the Nyaungyan-Minhla tank. In the Yamethin district improvements were carried out in the Kyankse tank.

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The surveys made during the year included the following projects :—

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	Estimated Cost.	Estimated Irrigation.
	Rx.	Acres.
Mandalay Canals - - - - -	823,280	72,000
Shwetachung Canals - - - - -	—	—
Shwebo Canals - - - - -	500,000	130,000
Canals from River Mon - - - - -	—	63,600
Remodelling Man River Canals - - - - -	—	—
Yenatha Canal, Madaya River - - - - -	—	10,000
Ye-u Canal, Mu River - - - - -	Survey just commenced.	

The irrigation in Ajmere-Merwara is from tanks, none of which are classed as major works. Ajmere-Merwara.

The rainfall of the year was below the average, and the tanks were consequently not sufficiently filled. The results for the present and preceding years are compared in the following statement :—

Year.	Capital Outlay.	Revenue Collected.	Working Expenses.	Net Revenue.	Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
1894-95 - - - - -	241,918	13,476	4,006	9,471	3.91
1895-96 - - - - -	244,380	13,262	3,895	9,366	3.83

The revenue is derived partly from water rates directly paid, but chiefly from a share in the land revenue, including a well assessment, credit being given to the tanks for their effect in raising the level of the water in the neighbouring wells.

The area irrigated or protected by the tanks was 31,129 acres, and the value of the crops raised during the year is estimated at Rx. 81,732.

From an irrigation point of view the Madras Presidency is distinguished by the variety and extent of its works, ranging from the great deltaic systems of the Godaveri, Kistna, and Cauvery, to the small tanks and channels maintained by the Revenue Department. Madras.

The number of tanks directly or indirectly dependent on the local rainfall is very large, and, speaking generally, the success of the irrigation operations is more affected by local climatic conditions than in Northern India where the irrigation works draw their supply from large rivers fed by the melting of the snows on distant mountain ranges.

In the year under review the rainfall was abundant, and the season was generally favourable for agricultural operations.

There are at present 10 "major" works and 26 "minor" works, for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept, and numerous other irrigation and agricultural works, individually small, for which such accounts are not kept. Of the 26 minor works for which full accounts are kept, 22 are irrigation systems, and four are tidal canals intended for purely navigation purposes.

On the Major Works the length of completed main canal was 2,126 miles, and of distributary channels 5,691 miles. The area irrigated during the year by the works for which full accounts are kept was 2,940,317 acres, the crops grown being valued at Rx. 6,153,531.

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IRRIGATION.

Taking all the works for which full accounts are kept, the general results of the year's working compared with those of the four previous years will be seen from the following statement:—

YEAR.	Capital	Area	Net	Percentage
	Outlay.	Irrigated.	Actual	of Net
	Rx.	Acres.	Revenue.	Revenue
				on Capital.
1891-92 - - - -	7,562,781	2,702,589	342,080	4.5
1892-93 - - - -	7,816,967	2,847,201	604,025	6.4
1893-94 - - - -	8,084,636	2,838,427	515,806	6.3
1894-95 - - - -	8,307,160	2,886,483	520,058	6.2
1895-96 - - - -	8,534,471	2,946,317	547,137	6.4

The net revenue recorded in the foregoing statement is that which has resulted from the outlay of Government capital. If the net revenue due to old irrigation be added, the total amount will be Rx. 1,001,711.

The results of the year's working for the Major Works in operation are shown by the following figures:—

WORK.	Area	Capital	Net	Percentage
	Irrigated.	Outlay.	Revenue.	of Net
	Acres.	Rx.	Rx.	Revenue
				on Capital.
Godaveri Delta - - - -	683,126	1,283,033	193,444	15.08
Kistna Delta - - - -	481,375	1,218,140	150,517	12.36
Pennér Anicut - - - -	70,128	188,073	13,879	7.34
Sangam Anicut - - - -	77,347	381,041	13,224	3.47
Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal - -	32,063	2,170,655	3,042	0.14
Barur Tank - - - -	4,229	42,346	539	1.27
Cauvery Delta - - - -	987,103	181,148	92,741	51.19
Srīvaikuntham Anicut - - - -	33,062	146,270	5,325	3.64
Rushikulya (Protective Work) - -	35,917	426,608	656	0.15
TOTAL - - -	2,406,090	6,037,523	473,207	7.84

The Minor Irrigation Works irrigated an area of 534,227 acres, and earned a net revenue of Rx. 72,892, equivalent to a percentage of about 10 on the capital expended on them. The purely navigation works, with the exception of the Buckingham Canal, were in each case worked at a small loss.

Besides the works referred to in the foregoing paragraphs, there is a large class of small works in Madras, partly maintained by the Public Works Department and partly by the Revenue Department, for which distinct capital and revenue accounts are not kept. The revenue derived from these works in 1895-96 was Rx. 917,114, and the area irrigated by them was 3,392,165 acres. A plan for the systematic repair of some of these works has now been in progress for some years, under the title of the "Tank Restoration Scheme." Up to the end of the year an expenditure of 59 lakhs had been incurred under this

this scheme, 33,176 square miles had been investigated, and estimates for IRRIGATION. 4,662 works had been prepared.

The capital expenditure for the year on the Major Works amounted to Rx. 156,918. This expenditure was incurred almost entirely on the Kistna, Periyar, and Rushikulya works.

The Periyar scheme, the expenditure on which has now reached the sum of Rx. 830,064, was, in its main features, practically complete, and the works were formally opened by the late Governor of Madras on the 10th October 1895.

The Rushikulya project was also approaching completion. The total outlay on the works at the end of the year under review amounted to 42½ lakhs of rupees out of a sanctioned estimate of 47½ lakhs.

There are 36 irrigation works in operation in the Bombay Presidency, of which nine are classed as Major Works. The canals in this Presidency are generally small, and the water being, in most cases, drawn from small rivers and local streams, more or less dependent on rainfall, a constant supply cannot be maintained without the aid of storage reservoirs. In fact, the reservoir projects, of which there are 27, include the more important works, such as the Bhátghar reservoir, the Lake Fife Works, and the Ekruk tank. Bombay, excluding Sind.

The area irrigated in 1895-96 was smaller than in the preceding year, but chiefly owing to reductions in working expenses, the net earnings were above the average of recent years.

A comparative statement of the results from those works for which full accounts are kept, for 1895-96, and the preceding four years, is given in the following table:—

YEAR.	Capital-Expenditure to End of Year.	Area Irrigated.	Revenue Realised.	Working Expenses.	Net Revenue.
	Rx.	Acres.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
1891-92 - - -	2,511,284	96,026	51,207	28,589	22,618
1892-93 - - -	2,531,673	65,487	54,554	30,777	23,777
1893-94 - - -	2,574,270	79,950	57,374	28,741	28,633
1894-95 - - -	2,611,751	84,237	56,848	35,092	21,256
1895-96 - - -	2,646,124	74,023	59,834	29,429	30,455

The net revenue realised for the year represents a return of 1.16 on the capital expenditure, as compared with 0.8 in the preceding year. The Major Works in operation produced a net revenue equivalent to 1.46 per cent. on the capital of Rx. 1,869,982 expended on them.

The most important of the Major Works, judged by the amount of capital expenditure, is the Mutha Canal system with the Lake Fife Reservoir, which in 1895-96 irrigated an area of 8,138 acres, besides supplying the cantonment and civil station of Poona with water. The total expenditure on this work is Rx. 658,812, and in the year under review the net revenue was equivalent to a return of 3.02 on the capital outlay. This was the most remunerative work in the "major" class. The works known as the Nira Canal and Bhátghar Reservoir, which are classed as protective, are estimated to cost Rx. 610,443 when complete, and will be capable of irrigating 56,640 acres. The return on capital outlay yielded by these works in 1895-96 was 0.64 per cent.

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IRRIGATION.

The minor works for which full accounts are kept earned a net revenue during the year of Rx. 3,148, equivalent to a return of 0·4 on the capital outlay.

The capital outlay during the year on all works amounted to Rx. 14,373, which was incurred principally on the Nira and Mutha Canals and the Mhasvad tank.

The total value of the crops irrigated is estimated at Rx. 496,322, against Rx. 565,723 in the previous year.

In the minor class of works for which distinct capital and revenue accounts are not kept, the expenditure for the year amounted to Rx. 23,688, and the revenue realised was Rx. 54,873, giving a net revenue of Rx. 31,185. The area irrigated by the works of this class was 143,805 acres.

Sind.

In Sind the success of the irrigation operations is dependent upon the regular rise of the River Indus. The inundation of 1895 was low, variable, and very unsatisfactory for high-lying areas. There were, however, no floods during the year, and a very small number of breaches in the embankments.

Taking the works for which full accounts are kept, the general results for 1895-96 and the four preceding years are shown in the following statement :—

YEAR.	Capital Outlay to End of Year.	Net Revenue.	Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
	Rx.	Rx.		Acres.
1891-92 - - - -	1,207,503	120,058	9·9	1,225,150
1892-93 - - - -	1,237,108	146,533	11·8	1,363,660
1893-94 - - - -	1,293,990	146,466	11·2	1,306,193
1894-95 - - - -	1,358,051	142,486	10·5	1,440,784
1895-96 - - - -	1,456,704	97,712	6·7	1,205,038

In Sind the existence of cultivation depends upon irrigation, and there is a constant demand for the canal water. This fact, and the comparatively inexpensive nature of inundation canals, will account for the favourable financial results obtained from the works.

There are four "major" works in operation in Sind, viz., the Desert, Unharwah, and Begari Canals, and the Eastern Nara Works. These four works earned profits at the respective rates of 5·35, 9·83, 13·13, and 4·28 on the sums expended on their construction.

The net revenue obtained from the minor works, though considerably smaller than in the preceding year, gave a return of about 10 per cent. on the capital outlay.

The capital expenditure of the year was incurred chiefly on the Jamrao Canal which was described in last year's report. There was also some expenditure on the Unharwah and the Dadwah project, and, among minor works, on the Fuleli and Sukkur Canals.

The excavation of the Dhamrao Canal was proceeding during the year.

There

There are no "major" works in Baluchistan. The class of "minor" works is represented by two schemes now in operation, viz., the Shebo Canal, and the Khushdil Khan Reservoir, the former of which has cost Rx. 67,723, and the latter Rx. 93,555. IRRIGATION-
Baluchistan.

In the year under review the net revenue from the Shebo Canal amounted to Rx. 1,020, equal to a return of 1.5 per cent. on the capital outlay.

The net revenue from the Khushdil Khan Reservoir was Rx. 1,010, or 1.08 on the capital expenditure.

The area irrigated by these two works was 5,855 acres, as compared with 4,930 acres in the preceding year. The value of the crops raised was Rx. 7,569.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.

The buildings and roads branch of the Public Works Department embraces all the operations of the Department which are not classed under the special heads of Railways and Irrigation. It includes the extension and maintenance of the road system, the construction and repair of all the buildings required for the proper discharge of the functions of government in all its branches, and a large miscellaneous class of works of public improvement, including light-houses, harbours, embankments, boat bridges, and ferries, and the water supply and sanitation of towns. BUILDINGS AND
ROADS.

The operations of this branch of the Department are classed primarily under two divisions, viz., military and civil works. The military works are executed entirely from Imperial funds.

The expenditure on civil works is chiefly met from provincial and local resources. The classification of the expenditure for 1895-96 under the heads referred to is shown in the following table:—

—	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total in India.	Expenditure in England.	Exchange.	GRAND TOTAL.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Military Works - - -	1,151,478	- - -	- - -	1,151,478	30,947	23,513	1,205,938
Civil Works - - -	611,458	2,003,159	1,777,957	4,452,574	86,375	65,025	4,604,574
TOTAL, 1895-96 - -	1,762,936	2,003,159	1,777,957	5,604,052	117,322	88,138	5,810,512
TOTAL, 1894-95 - -	1,466,678	1,991,074	1,698,707	5,156,519	107,142	89,140	5,352,801
TOTAL, 1893-94 - -	1,844,690	2,116,812	1,677,144	5,638,646	104,376	67,830	5,810,852

This statement does not include the outlay from Imperial revenues recorded under the head of Special Defence Works, which amounted to Rx. 324,974 in 1893-94, Rx. 217,867 in 1894-95, and Rx. 101,349 in 1895-96.

The greater part of the expenditure from local funds is absorbed by the maintenance and extension of roads. A portion of this expenditure is under the direct control of the Public Works Department, but the larger part of the local funds outlay under the head of Buildings and Roads, as well as a small portion of the provincial outlay, is under the management of the Civil Department, and is not controlled by the Public Works officers.

The extension of local Government in India has thrown a large portion of the smaller class of public works into the hands of the local boards. Speaking generally, the boards maintain their own establishments, but in the case of any works of unusual difficulty have recourse to the professional skill of the Public Works officers.

MILITARY WORKS.

MILITARY WORKS. The total expenditure on Military Works, ordinary and special, amounted to Rx. 1,357,702 in 1895-96, against Rx. 1,215,984 in 1894-95. The cost of Special Defence Works amounted to Rx. 151,764 against Rx. 208,033 in the previous year.

The expenditure of Rx. 1,205,938 on ordinary military works included an outlay of Rx. 483,062 on new works, of Rx. 348,013 on repairs, and of Rx. 279,809 on establishment. Under the head of New Works, additions to the barrack and hospital accommodation for British and native troops cost about Rx. 230,000, while General Cantonment Works figured at Rx. 62,853.

The expenditure of Rx. 151,764 on Special Defence Works was made up as follows:—

	Rx.
Coast Defences - - - - -	13,366
Frontier „ - - - - -	6,610
Armaments - - - - -	92,245
Establishment - - - - -	4,263
Tools and Plant - - - - -	278
Suspense - - - - -	35,002
TOTAL - - -	151,764

Of the expenditure under Armaments, no less than Rx. 90,943 was appropriated to Coast Defences, while only Rx. 1,302 was devoted to frontier works.

Inclusive of "Armaments," frontier defences cost Rx. 7,912, and coast defences Rx. 104,309. The largest outlay on the latter was at Aden and Bombay.

Nearly all the expenditure on land frontier defences was for the position at Attock.

Of the total expenditure on Special Defence Works, the net outlay in India was Rx. 21,716 and the balance was applied to the purchase of heavy guns, ammunition, and stores in England. The latter amount includes a sum of Rx. 120 contributed by the Imperial Government towards the defences of Aden.

The total amount expended on Special Defence Works up to the close of 1895-96 (exclusive of contributions from Imperial revenues) was Rx. 4,459,654. These works are now pretty nearly complete.

The scheme included the coast and harbour defences of Karachi, Aden, Bombay, the Hooghly, Burma and Madras, all of which have been practically completed except Madras, the project for which is still in abeyance. It is doubtful if any defences will ever be erected, though long range breach-loading and high-angle-fire guns will be provided to keep hostile cruisers at a distance. The position-finding schemes at Bombay and Karachi are also in abeyance.

The frontier defences include Peshawur and the Khyber, Attock, Rawal Pindi, Ferozepore, Sukkur, Mooltan, Quetta, the defensible position in front of Quetta, roads in Pishin, Chaman, and defence of the tunnel. All these have also been practically completed with the exception of the defensible positions in front of Peshawur, and at Mooltan, and the new ordnance depôt at Aden. Probably none of these will now be carried out. A part of the Rawal Pindi defences has also been held in abeyance.

CIVIL WORKS.

CIVIL WORKS. The following statement shows the distribution of the total outlay in India on Civil Works among the different provinces:—

EXPENDITURE in India on CIVIL WORKS in 1895-96.

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	India, General and Political.	Bengal.	North-West Provinces and Oudh.	Punjab.	Burmu.		Central Provinces.	Assam.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL
					Upper.	Lower.					
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
<i>Expenditure by Public Works Department :</i>											
Civil Buildings - - - -	46,611	195,052	105,376	87,285	108,755	98,893	37,014	26,906	172,131	175,418	1,053,641
Communications - - - -	46,851	73,338	210,695	180,490	115,676	104,360	77,830	165,646	26,424	201,344	1,202,652
Miscellaneous Public Improve- ments.	4,998	6,410	11,074	51,380	6,529	13,260	1,428	11,006	2,037	10,171	128,783
TOTAL Works and Repairs .	98,000	274,800	327,145	922,155	280,959	216,503	116,272	204,167	201,492	392,933	2,385,070
Establishment - - - -	31,152	83,119	124,976	82,086	69,326	62,296	39,297	52,913	58,030	109,010	712,205
Tools and Plant - - - -	2,048	2,629	2,729	2,697	2,363	3,475	1,054	3,766	9,850	7,394	38,006
*Profit and Loss, Suspense, &c. -	419	- 5,266	- 0,405	- 5,581	482	- 8,138	- 1,015	- 3,501	- 5,813	- 226	- 38,164
TOTAL Expenditure by Public Works Department - - }	132,279	855,282	445,385	401,357	303,080	274,136	155,008	257,335	203,659	509,111	3,097,132
<i>Expenditure by Civil Department -</i>	11,851	400,987	80,009	15,484	21,549	36,672	22,142	9,877	508,659	149,212	1,356,442
TOTAL Expenditure in India -	144,130	856,269	525,394	416,841	324,629	310,808	177,150	267,212	772,218	658,323	4,452,574

* Under this head has been deducted a sum of Rx. 4,077 for outlay in England from imperial funds and exchange thereon.

CIVIL WORKS.

The greater part of the outlay by the Civil Department, shown in the foregoing statement, was expended upon communications. The following abstract shows the total sums expended in India, by both the Public Works Department and the Civil Department, under the three heads of Buildings, Roads, and Miscellaneous Public Improvements. As in the previous statement, military works are not included.

	By Public Works Department.	By Civil Department.	TOTAL.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Civil Buildings - - - - -	1,053,041	122,126	1,175,837
Communications - - - - -	1,202,652	822,948	2,025,600
Miscellaneous Works - - - - -	128,783	198,304	327,087
TOTAL Works and Repairs - - -	2,385,076	1,148,448	3,528,524
Establishment - - - - -	712,205	174,389	886,594
Tools and Plant - - - - -	88,005	7,836	46,841
Profit and Loss, Suspense, &c. - - -	-38,154	29,709	-8,385
TOTAL - - -	3,097,132	1,355,442	4,452,574

The expenditure in England consists to a great extent of furlough and absentee pay and allowances of military and civil officers of the Public Works Department. It also includes the expenses of the Royal Indian Engineering College at Cooper's Hill, which amounted in 1895-96 to 26,489*l.* The revenue of this institution for the year was 24,724*l.*

The following more detailed account of the operations of this branch of the Public Works Department for the year under review is given under the heads of the different provinces in which the expenditure was incurred.

Bengal.

In Bengal the number of useful and important works undertaken during the year was greater than usual.

The following is a statement of the year's expenditure on civil works:

	Rx.
Imperial—Civil - - - - -	46,306
Provincial - - - - -	327,616
Local - - - - -	481,347
Total - - -	855,269

The only imperial work of special importance undertaken during the year was the construction of a new building in Calcutta for the Postal Department. Some useful additions to the opium factory at Goolzarbagh were taken in hand.

The greater part of the expenditure from provincial funds was upon the construction and repair of buildings; the maintenance and extension of the road system in Bengal being very largely in the hands of the district boards.

Special attention was given to the lodging of students at various educational institutions. A hostel for female students attending the Campbell Medical School, Sealdah, was built at a cost of Rx. 10,800. Another, estimated to cost Rx. 10,534, was commenced in connection with the Calcutta Madrassa. Buildings with a similar object were under construction for the Eden Hindu Hostel, Calcutta, and the Boys' School at Kurscong.

A first step was taken towards the reconstruction of the Calcutta Medical College buildings, by erecting a new building for the study of anatomy. Steps were taken for improving the sleeping barracks in jails, and works with this object were in progress in the Bhagulpur and Buxar Central jails, and elsewhere.

where. A new hospital was erected at Bhawanipur, and a lying-in-ward for the Campbell Hospital, Sealdah, was supplied. The new east block of the Indian Museum and other improvements were completed, and a new building for the accommodation of the Stamps and Stationery Department was provided. CIVIL WORKS.

New buildings for the accommodation of the civil courts at Howrah were in hand, and the general question of supplying residences for munsifs in outlying stations was under consideration.

An experiment is being tried of entrusting provincial civil and imperial works in certain districts to the control of the district boards, and the results of the working will be carefully reviewed.

The total length of road communication in Bengal maintained by public authorities during 1895-96 was:—

	Metalled Road.	Unmetalled Road.	TOTAL.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Maintained by Public Works Department -	1,108	491	1,659
„ Local Authorities - - -	3,080	33,602	36,682
TOTAL - - -	4,188	34,093	38,281

A scheme for the provision of feeder roads to the eastern and northern sections of the Eastern Bengal State Railway and the Bengal Central Railway was under preparation. The improvement of road communication in the Duars received special consideration, and generally it is proposed to draw up a detailed scheme of roads to meet the wants of the several districts of Bengal.

Of the larger bridges sanctioned for construction the most important was a bridge over the Poonpoon river on the Grand Trunk-road in the Gaya district. A masonry bridge across the Dhauria Nala on the Cuttack-Puri-road was also sanctioned.

An Act, known as the Calcutta Electric Lighting Act, was passed in 1895 to facilitate and regulate the establishment of works for the supply of electricity for lighting and other purposes within any part of Calcutta.

The expenditure on Buildings and Roads in the North-West Provinces and Oudh for 1895-96 was unusually small. The outlay under the different heads of service was as follows:— North-West Provinces and Oudh.

	Rx.
Imperial - - - - -	14,998
Provincial - - - - -	285,611
Local - - - - -	224,785
TOTAL - - -	525,394

Among the buildings which were in progress during the year, the following works of interest or importance were included:—Additions and alterations were carried out at the medical school buildings at Agra. The construction of a Bacteriological Laboratory at Muktesar was nearly completed. Progress was made with the conversion of Sherwood House into a suitable residence for the Lieutenant-Governor at Naini Tal. New kacheri buildings were under construction at Naini Tal and Gorakhpur, and special repairs to La Martinière Boys' School, Lucknow, were nearly completed during the year.

CIVIL WORKS.

The works of communication included the clearing of the Mohan Pass on the Meerut, Roorkee, and Landaur road, and the construction of protective works against floods and landslips. The remodelling of the Tonga road from the Brewery to Naini Tal was practically completed, and protective measures were undertaken for the safety of the Sher-ka-Danda Hill.

The repairs rendered necessary by the Gohna flood were completed at a total cost of Rx. 9,163.

Among miscellaneous works may be mentioned the drainage of the towns of Kasganj and Amroha. Works were undertaken for protecting Azamgarh City against floods. The usual operations for maintaining a navigable channel in the Ganges between its junctions with the Gogra and Jumna were successfully carried out.

Expenditure to the extent of Rx. 7,528 was incurred on works of public utility by private individuals and from private contributions.

Punjab.

In the Punjab the expenditure was considerably larger than in the preceding year. The outlay on civil works was as follows:—

	Rx.
Imperial - - - - -	40,400
Provincial - - - - -	267,055
Local - - - - -	109,386
	Total - - - 416,841

The Public Works establishments maintained by the district boards and municipalities are distinct from the Provincial Government staff. Efforts are being made towards unification of these different establishments, economy sometimes resulting from the employment of district board officers to carry out provincial works, and *vice versa*, of officers of the provincial establishment to supervise or carry out works executed from district or municipal funds.

The most important works under the head of Imperial were the buildings and water supply for the cantonment and civil station at Para Chenar, in the Kurrum Valley.

The provincial works included a combined boarding house for the Central Training College, the Normal School and Central Model School at Lahore; new sessions house at Jhelum; quarantine cells at Peshawur; a lock-up at Muzaffarguh; and a Commissioner's residence at Delhi. Among works of communication may be mentioned the metalling of a section of the Lahore and Sheikhpura-road; a new girder bridge over the Jhelum at Kohalla; feeder roads in the Chenab Canal colony in connection with the Wazirabad-Lyallpur Railway; the improvement of the Kangra Valley cart road, with a bridge over the Guj torrent; and the extension of the Indus river protective bund at Dera Ghazi-Khan. The district works included the Jubilee High School at Rohtak; and metalling the Delhi-Najafgarh and Gujranwala-Hafizabad roads, and a section of the Sialkot-Amritsar road. The more important works carried out from municipal funds were school buildings at Simla, waterworks at Umballa, the distribution of water supply in the Rawul Pindi city, and drainage works at Lahore and Dera Ghazi-Khan.

The comparative expenditure on civil buildings and communications was as follows:—

	Original Works.	Repairs.	TOTAL.
Civil Buildings - - - - -	Rx. 46,692	Rx. 40,592	Rx. 87,284
Communications - - - - -	33,598	146,891	180,489

Excluding station roads the total road mileage at the end of the year was 25,831 miles, viz., 2,374 miles metalled, and 23,457 unmetalled. Boat bridges and ferries were maintained at various points on the Indus and its tributaries.

At

At Dera Ismail Khan and Dera Ghazi Khan steam ferry services are worked in connection with the North-West Railway. The capital cost of all boat bridges and minor ferries amounted to Rx. 54,786, and the cost of maintenance during the year was Rx. 13,540. CIVIL WORKS.

A serious erosion of the river Indus occurred at Dera Ghazi Khan, which necessitated an immediate outlay of Rx. 50,000 on protective works to secure the safety of the city and cantonments. It is expected that a further outlay of 5 or 7 lakhs will be necessary for this object.

In Lower Burma the total expenditure for the year was as follows:— Burma.

	Rx.
Imperial - - - - -	1,497
Provincial - - - - -	221,517
Local - - - - -	87,794
Total - - -	310,808

At Rangoon the new Government House and the cathedral were completed, and part of the new Public Offices were occupied. New record rooms and court houses were supplied at various places for the accommodation of the Department of Law and Justice, and the wants of other departments received attention, though no works of any unusual importance were undertaken.

The total length of roads maintained in Lower Burma was 2,897 miles, of which 20 miles were opened during the year.

In Upper Burma the outlay was chiefly met from Imperial funds. The year's expenditure was as follows:—

	Rx.
Imperial - - - - -	299,939
Provincial - - - - -	—
Local - - - - -	24,690
TOTAL - - -	324,629

No large civil buildings were undertaken during the year. Court houses, police thanas, barracks for civil and military police, &c., were built when required, and additions and alterations were made in existing buildings to suit local requirements. Considerable progress was made with the Ruby Mines-road, and it is expected that this road will be finally completed in two years time. Much was also done to improve the Myingyan-Fort Stedman and Mandalay-Lashio roads. In the Chin Hills work was done in tracing roads for mule tracks. The total length of roads maintained in Upper Burma was 3,123½ miles, of which 342 miles were opened during the year.

The expenditure on buildings and roads in the Central Provinces in 1895-96 was smaller than in the preceding year. The following statement gives the figures for the year under review:— Central Provinces.

	Rx.
Imperial (Civil) - - - - -	2,043
Provincial - - - - -	134,852
Local - - - - -	40,855
TOTAL - - -	177,750

There were no works of any magnitude under construction from Imperial funds. The Provincial expenditure on civil buildings was largely under the heads of Police and Jails, but with the exception of the additions and alterations to the Narsinghpur Jail, included no works of importance. A sum of Rx. 59,780 was expended from Provincial funds on the extension and upkeep of communications, including several important roads. Surveys for new roads, aggregating 282 miles in length, were carried out during the year.

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CIVIL WORKS

The total length of road maintained by the provincial and local authorities are as follows:—

	Miles.
Metalled - - - - -	1,382
Unmetalled - - - - -	5,620
TOTAL - - -	7,002

Important water supply schemes, the cost of which is met from local loans, are under construction at Jubbulpore and Khandwa, and projects for supplying water to Harda, Bhandara, and Wardha, are under consideration.

There are two collieries managed by the Provincial Administration, viz., at Warora, in the Chanda District, and at Umaria, in the Rewah State. The total output from the Warora Mines was 114,800 tons against 112,202 tons in the previous year, showing an increase of 2,598 tons. The net profit from the working of the colliery was Rx. 13,071, or 6.56 per cent. on the total capital outlay. The Umaria Colliery yielded a net gain of Rx. 1,200, or 1.09 per cent. on the capital expenditure. The output from this colliery was 121,189 tons, against 126,706 tons in 1894-95.

Assam.

The total expenditure in Assam for the year was as follows:—

	Rx.
Imperial Civil - - - - -	42,220
Provincial - - - - -	147,811
Local - - - - -	77,181
TOTAL - - -	267,212

The expenditure on public works in Assam is mainly devoted to the maintenance and improvement of the road system; the outlay on buildings being comparatively small. The most important work in hand was the Nichuguard-Kohima-Manipur cart-road, which is now approaching completion, the portion from Kohima to Manipur having been opened for cart traffic in January 1896. A monument is being erected in Manipur to Mr. Quinton and the officers and men who lost their lives in 1891.

Besides 20 miles added to the Nichuguard-Manipur road, 84 miles of new road were constructed at the cost of provincial and local funds. Most of the expenditure on provincial and local works was devoted to the substitution of permanent bridges for temporary structures, and to the general improvement of the various communications of the province.

Madras.

The expenditure in the Madras Presidency for the year 1895-96 was as follows:—

	Rx.
Imperial, Civil - - - - -	3,653
Provincial - - - - -	338,726
Local - - - - -	429,839
TOTAL - - -	772,218

In the classes of buildings and roads there were no Imperial works of importance in progress, and the year's expenditure came almost entirely under the heads of Provincial and Local Civil Works.

The buildings under construction or extension in the town of Madras included the old High Court buildings, in which the improvements were completed, the Law College, and the first and second storeys of the Presidency College. In the districts the buildings under construction were of the usual type of taluk offices and cutcherries, and other buildings required by the different branches of the Administration.

Under the head of Communications a few important roads are in the hands of the Provincial Public Works Department, and there was some expenditure during the year on the maintenance and improvement of the Ootacamund-Kullar and Calicut-Gudalur roads. The greater portion of the road system in Madras

Madras is, however, in the hands of the local boards, whose expenditure is not under the control of the Public Works Department. They maintain their own engineering establishments, though in some cases they employ the Agency of the Public Works Department for particular works. In the year under review 125 miles of road were constructed, and 20,832 miles were repaired by the local boards. CIVIL WORKS.

An important feature in the Public Works of the Madras Presidency, owing to the length of its coast line, is the maintenance of its harbours and lighthouses.

The work done in the Madras harbour consisted chiefly of constructing the south pier-head and erecting a lighthouse upon it. At the close of the year under review a few weeks' work was all that was required for the completion of the harbour in accordance with the sanctioned design.

At Tuticorin a sum of Rx. 5,087 was expended on the construction of a new pier and the reclamation of the foreshore.

A systematic inspection of the lighthouses of the Presidency was made during the year, and a comprehensive scheme was drawn up for improving and adding to the existing lights, and for revising the organisation and methods of work of the staff.

The total value of the work done at the Public Works workshops at Madras, Bezvada, and Dowlaishwaram was Rx. 38,706.

The expenditure on Civil Works in the Buildings and Roads Branch in the Bombay Presidency for 1895-96 was as follows:—

	Rx.
Imperial - - - - -	21,648
Provincial - - - - -	339,971
Local - - - - -	296,704
TOTAL - - -	658,323

The civil buildings under erection from Imperial funds did not include any work of extraordinary interest. Buildings for the accommodation of the Customs Department were in course of construction at Bombay and Karachi; and, on the Somáti Coast, progress was made with the Residency and court-house at Zaila, a dispensary at Bulhar, and the pier at Berbera.

The grant from provincial funds included a provision of three lakhs of rupees for new police buildings, the most important being the head-quarters's police offices and lines on the Esplanade, Bombay, which are near completion, and the city police lines at Poona.

Under the heads of Land Revenue and Excise there were no buildings of special importance in hand. The Educational buildings completed or under construction, included the provision of quarters for students and other improvements at the Deccan College, Poonah, the Rás Bahadur Govindráo Ramchandra Garud High School at Dhulia, a high school at Godhra, the Maháráshtra Female High School at Poona, and the Methárám Hall at Hyderabad.

The new Cathedral High School for Boys at Bombay was completed, and progress was made with the Gujarat College at Ahmedabad. Numerous local fund and municipal school-houses were in progress; the most important of which were the Vernacular School-house for Boys at Dhulia, and the Female Training College at Hyderabad. No buildings of unusual size were in hand for the Departments of Law and Justice, and Jails. Under Medical, the Morarbhái-Vrijbukandas Hospital for women and children at Surat was nearly completed, and the new Civil Hospital and Medical School at Hyderabad was finally completed. A new Veterinary Hospital was commenced at Ahmedabad. The large lunatic asylum at Nowpada in the Thána Collectorate, which is estimated to cost Rx. 39,879, made good progress during the year, and the extension of the Public Works Buildings at Bombay was completed.

The total outlay on communications for the year amounted to 26½ lakhs of rupees. The total mileage of road extension and improvements carried out during the year by Public Works Agency was 115 miles. The most important of the bridges under construction during the year were the "Harris Bridge," at Dapuri, and a new masonry bridge over the Godavari at Násik.

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CIVIL WORKS.

The works comprised under the head of Miscellaneous Public Improvements consisted chiefly of schemes of water supply and drainage carried out from municipal and local funds. Of the former, the most important were the Surat and Rander Waterworks, lately commenced, estimated to cost Rx. 96,382.

The waterworks at Dhulia, Hubli, and Panvel have been practically completed. The chief drainage projects in progress were at Admedabad, Násik, and Nadiad. Schemes were also under consideration for the towns of Dhulia and Hubli.

The work of strengthening the rubble-stone pitching of the foreshore at Black Bay, Bombay, was continued. The works for protecting the city of Surat from the floods of the Tapi river were completed, and a bund round the town of Kotri to protect it from the Indus floods was commenced.

Berar.

The expenditure on public works in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts was as follows:—

	Rx.
Imperial - - - - -	2,985
Provincial - - - - -	102,131
Local - - - - -	30,603
TOTAL - - -	135,719

The greater part of the year's outlay was upon the extension and repair of the road system. A road from Nandura to Motalla was completed at a cost of about Rx. 17,000, and the work of stone metalling and tree-planting along the roadsides was in progress on various existing roads. The most important bridge under construction was across the Bhimla river at Paloti.

The length of roads maintained by the Provincial Public Works Department was 1,039½ miles

The buildings completed or under construction during the year do not present any feature of unusual interest. The largest items of expenditure were the sums spent respectively on the distillery at Akola, a new tahsili at Ellichpur, and additions and improvements to the Civil Hospital at that place.

The Akola Waterworks were practically completed during the year, and progress was made with the Secunderabad Waterworks, which are estimated to cost Rx. 84,941.

Coorg.

In Coorg there were no works in progress of sufficient importance to call for individual notice. The expenditure for the year on civil works amounted to Rx. 22,436, of which Rx. 20,594 was met from Imperial Funds, and Rx. 1,842 from local resources.

The length of road maintained by the Public Works Department was 178 miles from Imperial Funds, and 119 miles from local funds.

NATIVE STATES.

NATIVE STATES.

A full account of the public works in the districts under Native administration in India cannot be given owing to the want of information in the case of some of the States. In the minor States the works are for the most part insignificant, but in the larger States there are works of great importance, and some of considerable size, in many cases carried out by European engineers lent by the British Government.

Central India.

The total expenditure by the Public Works Department of the Central India Agency in 1895-96 amounted to Rx. 29,983, the greater part of which was upon the extension and maintenance of roads. The total length of road communication maintained by the Department was 771 miles.

The operations of the Public Works Department in the Agency have been much reduced by the transfer to the chief Native States of the care of the metalled roads in their territories, which has been noticed in previous years' reports. The duties of the Public Works Department lie not only in maintaining important lines of communication, such as the Agra and Bombay, Nimach and Mhow, and Mowgong and Sutna roads, and in designing and executing projects within territories which are too intermixed or too impoverished

ished to be treated on the footing of the larger States, but also in advising the States that are capable of executing their own projects as to the direction in which their efforts may be most usefully exerted, and in inspecting the work done by the larger States on behalf of the Imperial Government. NATIVE STATES.

The chief feature in the public works carried out in the Native States is the extension of railways. There are now upwards of 1,120 miles of railway opened in Central India, and there is a growing tendency among the rulers of Native States to promote railway extensions within their borders.

Of other works executed or in course of construction in the various States comprised in the agency, the following may be noted:—

In Gwalior the Victoria College and Memorial Hospital were completed, and progress was made with the Maharaja's palace at Ujjain. About 800 miles of metalled road were maintained. There are no works of special importance to notice in Indore or Bhopal, nor in the smaller States.

The total outlay in 1895-96 on public works in Rajputana amounted to Rajputana. Rs. 537,355, of which Rs. 499,848 was incurred in the Native States.

The progress during the year was good, and much interest and activity was shown by the States in the development of railway construction. The Jodhpore railway system now comprises 364 miles of open line, and extensions of the main line and feeder lines are now under consideration. Some very useful and important irrigation works have also been carried out by the Jodhpore Durbar, such as the Chowpasni Tank, for supplying the city and gardens of Jodhpore with water, and the Jaswant Sagar Tank, which, with canals, has cost Rs. 88,964.

The expenditure in Jeypore was Rs. 84,843. The public works in this state carried out and maintained during the year were multifarious and extensive, and numerous projects were under consideration for irrigation, roads, railroads, and buildings. The irrigation system consists at present of 136 completed works, comprising 709 miles of main ducts and 605 miles of distributaries.

In the Meywar State the Oodeypore-Chittore railway was opened during the year. The expenditure on other works amounted to Rs. 20,740, the largest item of which was the outlay on the New Zenana Palace.

Irrigation schemes and improvements to the city are being vigorously pushed on in Bhartpur. The largest irrigation work undertaken is the Baretta Bund, estimated to cost Rs. 9,000.

Irrigation from wells and tanks is receiving attention in the Bikanir State, and a scheme is on foot for bringing water from the Punjab from the Gugger river into Bikanir territory.

The Kotah State is pressing for the construction of a railway to connect their capital with the Bina-Guna line.

The expenditure incurred on Public Works in Mysore was about 39 lakhs, Mysore. the largest items being Irrigation, Communications, and Miscellaneous Public Improvements. The large outlay under the last-named head was chiefly incurred on the water supply projects for the cities of Mysore and Bangalore. The Irrigation Works comprised the construction or restoration of tanks, and the maintenance of 883 miles of river channels. The total length of metalled roads in the Mysore State was 1,921 miles. Over a hundred miles of new roads and extensions were opened out during the year. At the close of the year there were 373 miles of open railway in the State.

In the Native States under the control of the Madras Government there was no event of importance to notice during the year in connection with public works. Madras.

In Travancore the total expenditure was Rs. 167,009, of which Rs. 45,532 was upon communications, Rs. 26,490 upon buildings, and Rs. 20,064 on irrigation. Seventy-nine miles were added to the 1,773 miles of cart-roads already existing.

In Cochin the expenditure was Rs. 39,550, of which Rs. 15,374 was upon bridges and canals. The miles of roads maintained amounted to 372.

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NATIVE STATES.
Bombay.

The Government of Bombay exercises political control over some 350 Native States, presenting numerous gradations of size, wealth, and civilisation.

Leaving out of account the railways, which are dealt with in a separate section, the amounts expended by the Native States in Bombay on public works during the year were generally small, and, excepting the Lalpuri water-works, there were no individual works of unusual importance to be recorded. The most important group of Native States lies in North Gujarát, and covers an area of about 44,000 square miles. Of the Chief States included in this area, Cutch expended Rx. 12,349, Palanpur Rx. 1,774, Radhanpur Rx. 7,943, and Malí Kantha Rx. 12,173. In the Káthiáwár States the outlay on public works amounted to Rx. 225,289, Bhávnagar heading the list with an expenditure of Rx. 57,759. The most important public work undertaken was the Lalpuri irrigation and water supply project in the Rajkot State, estimated to cost about 3½ lakhs of rupees. Various small sums were devoted to public works in Cambay, Rewa Kántha, and Nárukot.

In the groups of Native States comprised in South Gujarat and North and South Konkim, there is nothing in the public works expenditure to call for detailed notice. The largest amount expended was in Dharampor, where there was an outlay of Rx. 7,706. The same remark applies to the States in the Deccan and South Mahrátha country. The largest items were an expenditure of Rx. 32,537 in Kolhapur, and of Rx. 10,971 in the Sangli State.

XI.

POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHS.

POST OFFICE.

THE receipts and charges of the Post Office for the last two years, as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts, are given in the following statement:—

YEAR.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net Revenue.	Net Charge.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
1894-95	1,631,746	1,606,034	25,712	—
1895-96	1,712,962	1,643,317	69,645	—

If indirect expenditure in connection with the Post Office were added, on the one hand, and a deduction made, on the other hand, of the charges for the District Post (except Baluchistan), which are provided for by local cesses, the net financial results of the two years would be surpluses of Rx. 75,083. and Rx. 108,974 respectively.

The extent of the sphere of operations of the Post Office, and its develop-

YEAR.	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	Length of Postal Lines.
	No.	No.	No.	Miles.
1893-94	8,978	13,975	3,970	60,306
1894-95	9,242	15,002	4,144	83,597
1895-96	9,268	16,927	4,362	85,323
Increase in 1895-96 over 1894-95.	346	925	118	1,726

ment during the last three years, are shown in the tables in the margin. These figures are exclusive of the District Post, of which the Post Offices increased from 1,471 in 1894-95 to 1,473 in 1895-96, and the letter-boxes from 3,100 to 3,463. The staff of village postmen fell, however, from 3,109 to 3,029.

YEAR.	Letters (including Postcards).	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Book and Pattern Packets.	TOTAL.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1894-95	347,142,859	28,144,707	2,561,572	16,247,609	394,103,797
1895-96	364,168,096	28,928,622	2,577,883	16,196,379	413,670,240
Increase	17,018,147	783,915	15,511	1,945,920	19,764,443

The increase in postal lines was greatest under the head of runner and country boat lines; but there was also an increase of 545 miles under mail cart lines due, chiefly, to the establishment of mail cart services on the Chitral communications in Waziristan, and on one or

two lines in Bengal. In addition to the 85,323 miles of Imperial Postal lines shown in the statement, there were 35,731 miles of District Post lines, and 1,228 miles of political and military lines administered by the Imperial Post Office, so that the total length of the lines over which mails were conveyed was 122,282 miles at the close of 1895-96, as compared with 120,171 miles at the close of the previous year.

The general correspondence returns, of which a summary is given above, show an increase of over 19½ millions of articles carried by post in 1895-96, as compared with 1894-95. Of this increase over 6½ millions were due to letters, and nearly 10½ millions to postcards, which represent nearly one-half of the entire number of communications passing through the post, and which, in Bengal, Bombay, and the Punjab, exceeded the total number of paid letters.

POST OFFICE.

The total number of articles sent out for delivery, including money orders, was nearly 416 millions, of which 99·08 per cent. were delivered; 3,538,777 articles reached the Dead Letter Offices for disposal; of this number, 636,872 articles were disposed of by being re-directed, and then delivered to the persons to whom they were addressed, while 1,963,050 were returned to the senders, and 938,855 were found to be unreturnable.

From the Rajputana Dead Letter Office it is reported that the Marwari traders in the Bombay Presidency continue to send to members of their firms, who have gone back to Rajputana on visits, heavy packets containing pieces of iron or wood, or waste paper, on which no postage is paid, with the object, it is supposed, of suggesting to the addressees the necessity of their return to work. These packets are almost invariably refused, and finally reach the Dead Letter Office, where the name of the sender cannot be ascertained.

In the Bombay Presidency, including Sind, each person received on an average nearly three postal articles, in Burma and the Punjab about two, and in Bengal, Madras, and Assam one and one-third to one and a-half. The number of postal articles per head of population for the whole of India was 1·44.

The letters and postcards despatched from India to the United Kingdom in 1895-96 are estimated at 2,983,379, against 3,030,941 in 1894-95, or a decrease of 1·56 per cent. Those received in India from the United Kingdom are estimated at 3,123,485, against 3,208,899 in the previous year, or a decrease of 2·66 per cent.

The reduction in the number of homeward letters and postcards was due to a considerable falling off in the number of soldiers' and seamen's privileged letters posted for despatch to the United Kingdom, which were about 170,000 less than the number posted in the previous year. This decrease is believed to have been due to the equivalent of the statutory penny rate being raised from 9 pies to 1 anna in April 1895, and also, perhaps, in some measure to the Chitral campaign.

The newspapers, book-packets, and samples despatched home from India show an increase of 6·91 per cent.; but the number of such articles received in India from the United Kingdom shows a decrease of 13·28 per cent., or nearly three-quarters of a million, for which it is difficult to account. It has to be remembered, however, that these figures are founded on a record of weight taken only twice a year, and that the packet mail particularly is liable to great fluctuations, owing to the inclusion or non-inclusion of large quantities of pamphlets and circulars.

The statistics of correspondence exchanged between India and foreign countries and colonial administrations are taken only once in three years, alternately in May and November, and the figures for the period from November 1893 to May 1896 show an increase of 53·58 per cent. in the case of letters and postcards, and one of 49·06 per cent. in the case of newspapers, book-packets, and samples.

In letters and postcards despatched from India to such countries there is an increase of 62·08 per cent., and in newspapers, &c., one of 134·11 per cent. Of this increase, more than half, in the case of letters and postcards, and about eight-ninths in that of newspapers, &c., was made up of the increase in those despatched to the British Colonies of Ceylon, Australasia, China, and the Straits Settlements, and is consequent on the additional facilities placed at the disposal of the public, during the year under review, for the transmission of correspondence to Australasia and the Far East by way of Tuticorin and Colombo. The additional number of letters and postcards received in India from the same group of colonies accounted for 560,000 out of a total increase of 680,000 in those articles.

The parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom formed more than 74 per cent. of the whole foreign parcel traffic. There was a decrease of 2,301 in the parcels exchanged through the British Post Office and through the agency of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, taken together. There was but little variation in the number of parcels exchanged between India and continental Europe. There was a large increase in the parcels sent from India to non-European countries, which is mainly due to the continued growth of the parcel exchange with Ceylon.

The

The receipts from the insurance of letters and parcels were Rx. 23,128, as compared with Rx. 21,844 in the preceding year. The number of insured articles was greater by 1·62 per cent. The amount paid as compensation was Rx. 505, being 2·18 per cent. of the insurance fees, as compared with Rx. 337 and 1·54 per cent. in 1894-95. POST OFFICE.

The number of articles sent by the value-payable post was nearly 1,878,000, and the amount declared for recovery by the Post Office from the addressees was Rx. 2,165,703, the commission on which was Rx. 38,420. There was an increase of 8·16 per cent. in the number of articles, of 8·64 per cent. in the value specified for recovery, and 6·62 in the commission realised. Nearly two-fifths of the entire business of the year was, as in previous years, transacted in the Bengal circle, which practically means Calcutta. Under the arrangement with Ceylon for the transaction of value-payable business, which was introduced in 1891, 18,464 articles, of the aggregate value of Rx. 17,672, were despatched from India to Ceylon, as compared with 14,455 articles and Rx. 14,106 of value in the preceding year.

The number and value of inland money orders issued in India, including telegraphic money orders, but excluding transactions with Native States, increased respectively from 9½ millions and Rx. 19,431,000 in 1894-95, to over 10 millions and Rx. 20,620,000 in 1895-96, and the commission realised, from nearly Rx. 245,000 to Rx. 260,000. The average value of an inland money order was Rs. 20. 8., against Rs. 20. 10. in the previous year.

There was a small increase in the number and value of revenue money orders, this method of revenue payment being especially popular in the North Western Provinces and Oudh. In the Punjab the power of issuing such orders was withdrawn from certain post offices where it was not thought safe to receive large sums of money, and there was, in consequence, a decrease in the number and value of revenue money orders in that Province. The system of remitting miscellaneous Government dues through the agency of the Post Office held its ground in the North Western Provinces and Oudh, and continued to make progress in the Lower Provinces of Bengal. It was introduced into Madras at the beginning of the year under review.

The number and value of rent money orders during the year under review fell off in the North Western Provinces and Oudh, and in the Central Provinces; but showed a slight increase in the Lower Provinces of Bengal.

In the money-order transactions with Native States there was an increase of more than Rx. 2,600 in the value of the issues in those States, but a decrease of more than Rx. 2,200 in the value of payments in the States.

The number of telegraphic money orders issued in 1895-96 was 128,206, for Rx. 1,485,772, as compared with 122,030 orders for Rx. 1,360,215 in the preceding year. The average value of a telegraphic money order was Rs. 115. 14. 2., against Rs. 111. 7. 5. in 1894-95. As in previous years, this mode of remittance was more freely used in Burma than elsewhere, the orders issued from that Province being 41·67 per cent. of the total number for the whole of India; and the payments in Burma being larger in amount than in any other Province.

The foreign money orders for and from the United Kingdom, most of the British Colonies and possessions, foreign European countries and most of their colonies and possessions, and Egypt, are issued in sterling, payments being made by the remitters and to the payees in India at the rates of exchange fixed by the Post Office from time to time for this purpose. The number of such orders issued rose from 49,850 in 1894-95 to 54,999 in 1895-96, and the value from 163,059*l.* to 173,739*l.*, while the drawings of foreign countries upon India increased in amount from 129,685*l.* to 152,288*l.* In 1894-95, of the total sterling money-order transactions (292,743*l.*), no less an amount than 257,347*l.* was with the United Kingdom and British Colonies, and in 1895-96 the proportion was 287,425*l.*, out of 330,027*l.* A striking feature of the year was the rapid increase in the drawings of Western Australia upon India, the value of which was seven times as great as in the previous year. It would seem that the mining industry in that colony has attracted a number of natives of India, and that they have been prospering.

POST OFFICE.

At the close of the year there were 6,343 offices performing savings bank business, against 6,384 in the preceding year, thus showing a decrease of 41 offices during the year. This was chiefly due to a decrease of 119 sub-offices in the Bombay Presidency, owing to the withdrawal of savings bank powers from small post offices which had no transactions. The number of accounts in the Post Office savings banks rose from 611,947 in 1894-95 to 653,892 in 1895-96; the deposits from Rx. 4,311,698 to Rx. 4,746,242; the withdrawals fell from Rx. 4,403,191 to Rx. 4,361,115; and the interest rose from Rx. 227,553 to Rx. 255,388. The balance at the credit of depositors at the close of 1895-96 stood at Rx. 9,042,307, against Rx. 8,401,792 at the close of 1894-95. The average balance at the credit of each depositor was Rs. 138.28, as compared with Rs. 137.29 in the previous year. Of the total number of accounts nearly 90.77 per cent. were held by natives.

During 1895-96 the total amount invested in Government securities by savings bank depositors through the agency of the Post Office was Rx. 14,650, against Rx. 24,650 in the preceding year; and the balance of securities in the hands of the Comptroller General at the close of the year was Rx. 46,900, compared with Rx. 47,220 on the 31st March 1895. The decrease in the number and amount of such investments is apparently due to the high rates of premium on Government securities which prevailed during the year under review.

The arrangement for the sale of Government quinine to the poorer classes through the agency of the Post Office remained in operation during the year in Bengal, Assam, the Central Provinces, Berar, the Punjab, Rajputana, and Bombay. In the Lower Provinces of Bengal more than 3½ million packets, each containing five grains of quinine, were sold to the public at post offices, and the amount remitted to the supplying depôts was Rx. 4,354, as compared with Rx. 2,762 in 1894-95. The arrangement has been extended to Sind and Baluchistan, Madras, and Burma.

The system of paying the pensions of Native Army pensioners through the agency of the Post Office, in the Punjab, continued to work satisfactorily. The total number of pensioners paid during the year was 23,485, and the amount paid to them was Rx. 167,490.

Among the changes introduced during the year under review were—

(1) The provision of additional facilities for the despatch of correspondence to Australasia and the far East by way of Tuticorin and Colombo, already referred to.

(2) The improvement and extension of parcel post arrangements between India and France, Greece, Turkey, Tunis, Tripoli, Egypt, and some British and foreign possessions.

(3) The closure of the Indian Post Office at Zanzibar, in consequence of the assumption by the Postal Administration of British East Africa of the management of the posts of the island.

(4) The opening of a number of post offices in Meywar, Marwar, Bhurtpore, and some other minor Native States, in which the management of the posts has been transferred to the Imperial Postal Department.

(5) The experimental introduction, in a few districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, of the Bertillon system of thumb impressions in the case of money orders paid to illiterate persons, with a view to secure evidence, if required, for the identification of the actual payee.

TELEGRAPHS.

TELEGRAPHS.

The following statement refers to the whole of the telegraph system under the control of the Government of India, but excludes the Indo-European Department, extending from Karachi to Teheran, for which, as usual, a separate account is given. The system now consists of 46,375 miles of line, 142,926 miles of wire, and 263 miles of cable.

During

During the year Rx. 138,428 were added to the capital expenditure, of which the greater portion was for new lines, the net additions to the system during the year comprising 1,727 miles of line and 4,670 miles of wire. The total capital outlay at the close of the year stood at Rx. 5,876,858. TELEGRAPHS.

The number of telegraph offices open to the public at the end of the year, including those not maintained by the Department, was 4,046, of which 1,461 were departmental or combined offices, and 2,585 were on railways and canals. The net addition to the number of offices during the year was 239.

The following statement shows, for a period of five years, the progress that has been made in extending public telegraphic communication:—

	Capital Expenditure.	Miles of Line.	Miles of Wire.	Miles of Cable.	Offices Opened.		
					Departmental, Ordinary and Postal combined.	Railway and Canal.	TOTAL.
Up to beginning of 1891-92 -	Rx. 5,024,167	37,070	1,13,512	251	949	1,428	2,377
During 1891-92 - - -	194,212	1,555	6,647	2	52	— 33	19
„ 1892-93 - - -	216,281	2,405	6,002	21	99	58	157
„ 1893-94 - - -	225,437	1,677	8,004	—	124	58	182
„ 1894-95 - - -	78,330	1,941	4,001	— 3	138	10	148
„ 1895-96 - - -	138,428	1,727	4,670	— 8	99	12	111
To end of 1895-96 - - -	5,876,858	40,375	1,42,926	263	1,461	1,533	2,994

A general view of the operations of the Department in 1895-96, in comparison with the results of the five previous years' working, will be gained from the following statement:—

YEAR.	Number of Messages during Year.	Gross Receipts, including State Messages, but excluding <i>pro forma</i> Revenue.	Charges.	Net Receipts.	Dividend on Capital.	Capital Outlay during the Year.
		Rx.	Rx.	Rx.		Rx.
1890-91 - - -	3,407,100	678,301	468,880	209,421	4.17	196,858
1891-92 - - -	3,808,998	738,028	483,429	254,599	4.88	194,212
1892-93 - - -	3,981,411	753,172	515,699	237,472	4.37	216,281
1893-94 - - -	4,184,700	791,852	530,476	261,376	4.61	225,437
1894-95 - - -	4,391,226	792,510	560,321	232,189	3.89	78,330
1895-96 - - -	4,736,734	886,072	578,372	307,700	5.24	138,428

The whole of the annual expenses connected with the telegraphs in India, whether incurred on capital account for the construction of new lines, or on revenue account for the maintenance and working of the system, are defrayed from the revenues of the Government of India. In 1895-96 the receipts of the Department were sufficient to cover both the working expenses and the amount expended on capital account, and there was therefore no net charge on Government revenues.

Compared with the previous year there has been a large increase, both in the number of messages sent and in the revenue receipts. The gross revenue of the previous year was, however, reduced by special payments, for which the Revenue Accounts of the year were not responsible. But, after allowing for this circumstance, the results of 1895-96 show a very satisfactory advance over those of preceding years.

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TELEGRAPHS.

The following figures show, for the last two years, the division of the traffic between State and Private, and between Inland and Foreign, messages respectively :—

Class of Telegrams.	1894-95.		1895-96.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		Rx.		Rx.
State, Inland - - -	585,571	115,285	603,366	126,166
„ Foreign - - -	6,804	5,699	6,985	6,327
Total State - - -	592,375	120,984	610,351	132,493
Private, Inland - - -	3,231,555	321,597	3,491,571	347,532
„ Foreign - - -	567,296	201,605	624,812	227,534
Total Private - - -	3,798,851	523,202	4,126,383	575,066
GRAND TOTAL - - -	4,391,226	644,186	4,736,734	707,559

The increasing use of telegraphy by the Indian public is measured by the growth of the inland private traffic, and it is satisfactory to find that in the year under review this class of traffic, when compared with the figures of the preceding year, increased by 8 per cent. both in number and value. The following statement shows the development of the revenue from the inland private traffic for the past 10 years :—

	Rx.
1886-87 - - - - -	181,779
1887-88 - - - - -	198,181
1888-89 - - - - -	223,151
1889-90 - - - - -	227,830
1890-91 - - - - -	245,328
1891-92 - - - - -	269,542
1892-93 - - - - -	288,856
1893-94 - - - - -	305,229
1894-95 - - - - -	321,597
1895-96 - - - - -	347,531

In foreign private telegrams there is also an increase over the figures for the previous year, of 11.9 per cent. in number, and of 12.86 per cent. in value.

The revenue from trans-Indian traffic exhibits a satisfactory rise to Rx. 99,705 in the year under review, thus exceeding by Rx. 26,550 the figure of Rx. 73,155, at which the revenue stood in 1890-91, prior to the reduction in the transit rates.

The messages sent in the service of the State constituted 12.89 per cent. of the whole number, and the payments made by the Government on account of them made up nearly 19 per cent. of the total message revenue of the Department.

The following figures show the division of the inland traffic into the three classes of Urgent, Ordinary, and Deferred, during the last two years :—

	PERCENTAGES.					
	Urgent.		Ordinary.		Deferred.	
	1894-95.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1895-96.
State - - - - -	11.40	13.00	21.80	22.07	67.21	64.93
Private - - - - -	6.83	6.01	40.00	40.20	54.08	53.79
Press - - - - -	6.21	7.10	21.44	18.55	73.95	74.26

The

The average charge for an inland private telegram is 15 annas and 6 pies, and the average length may be taken as 10 words, with free address of at least eight words. TELEGRAPHS.

The steady annual improvement in the speed of transmission, noticed in previous Reports, was maintained in the year under review, especially between Bombay and Calcutta and Calcutta and Karachi. The average time taken in the transmission of a message from Calcutta to Bombay was 21 minutes.

The number of complaints received relating to the Indian Telegraph Department was 1,568, equivalent to 0.030 per cent. of the total number of paid messages, of which 817 were admitted. Of those admitted, 179 applied to non-delivery, 180 to delay, and 256 to mistakes. The number of messages that for various causes could not be delivered amounted to 15,166, equivalent to 0.258 per cent. of the total number received for transmission. The total number of interruptions to communications amounted to 2,177, which shows a slight decrease over the previous year. The total duration of the interruptions was also less.

The number of telegraphic money orders rose to 129,912 from 121,618 in the previous year. On the 1st May 1893 the exchange of telegraphic money orders with Ceylon was commenced, and in addition to the figures given above the total number of orders sent and received during the year under review amounted to 8,183 as compared with 4,546 during 1894-95, and 1,949 during the 11 months of 1893-94.

The Inland Press telegrams sent numbered 24,892, of the value of Rx. 9,616, against 26,202, valued at Rx. 10,280, in the previous year. The Foreign Press messages numbered 3,422, and the Indian share of the charges thereon amounted to Rx. 1,986.

As regards electrical improvements, experiments in simultaneous Morse and Vibrator working over a single wire were carried out with the result that a combination of induction coils and condensers were adopted for trial. These are still under experiment. Cardew's Vibrating Sounders, which, as noticed in the review of the Report for 1894-95, proved so valuable in maintaining communications through the faulty Ceylon cables, maintained communication between Bunji and Chilas when a portion of the line was buried under the snow, and also between Moné and Kengtung over the temporary uninsulated line of 197 miles, when, owing to heavy rain, the line would have been unworkable with ordinary instruments.

The carrying capacity and utility of some of the long circuits worked duplex were increased by an ingenious arrangement, made by Mr. Melhuish, by which intermediate offices were enabled to use the through circuit for short intervals when it was not being worked by the terminal offices. This arrangement has proved useful in reducing delays and affording additional facilities to intermediate stations without any expense for new wires.

The use of the telephone continues to show satisfactory progress. At the end of the year 1895 there were 1,537 subscribers and 1,546 exchange connections to the Telephone Companies at Bombay, Calcutta, Kurrachee, Madras, Moulmein and Rangoon. There were also 31 exchanges and 265 exchange connections under the control of the Telegraph Department.

The construction of a telegraph line between Moné, the most easterly telegraph station in the Southern Shan States, and Kengtung, 197 miles to the east, having been decided on, a temporary line was started by the end of May 1895. Work was rapidly pushed on simultaneously in three different directions, and a telegraph office was opened at Kengtung in the beginning of July 1895, intermediate offices having been opened at Saihkau and Mongping by the end of June 1895. Telegraphic communication with Kengtung was maintained by Cardew's Vibrating Sounders up to the end of the year, by which time the work of re-constructing the line in a permanent manner was well advanced.

In Kashmir the line from Ramghat to Jalipur was re-constructed, and an extension from Jalipur to Chilas, 24 miles, was completed during the year under review. On the Murree-Srinagar and Srinagar-Gilgit sections, special attention was paid to the removal of line from localities in which it had suffered in previous years from avalanches, with the result that no interruptions were caused by avalanches on the former section, and only seven on the latter.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

INDO-EUROPEAN
TELEGRAPH
DEPARTMENT.

The system of telegraph lines and cables connecting the terminus of the Indo-European Company's telegraphs at Teheran with the Indian Government system at Karachi is known as the Indo-European Government Telegraph Department, and consists of two parts, one, designated the Persian Gulf Section, extending from Karachi to Bushire, with a branch to Fão, where a connection is made with the Ottoman Government line; and the other, called the Persian section, extending from Bushire to Teheran. It comprises 1,719 knots of cable, 1,377 miles of line, and 3,424 miles of wire, exclusive of the Persian Government line from Teheran to Mashed, 568 miles, which is maintained by the Department.

The administration of the Indo-European Department, which in 1888 was amalgamated with the general telegraph system of India, was re-transferred to London, with effect from 1st April 1893. It has been found convenient to maintain separate accounts for this Department, partly for the sake of comparison with previous years, and partly because the conditions under which the Indo-European lines are worked, and the influences affecting the traffic are completely different from those prevailing on the Indian telegraph system generally.

The capital account of the Department, which stood at Rx. 1,144,288 at the beginning of the year under review, amounted at its close to Rx. 1,148,920, an increase of Rx. 4,632, which was due to outlay on construction of quarters for the staff at Teheran.

The financial results of working the Department, as compared with the four preceding years, were as follows :—

YEAR.	Total Capital Outlay.	Gross Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of	
					Net Receipts to Capital.	Expenditure to Gross Receipts.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.		
1891-02	1,151,509	110,048	99,844	10,204	1.40	80.0
1892-03	1,145,960	130,251	86,484	43,767	3.80	66.3
1893-94	1,144,619	135,085	86,000	49,025	4.28	63.7
1894-95	1,144,288	157,042	82,080	74,953	0.50	52.6
1895-96	1,148,920	107,008	81,745	85,263	7.42	48.9

Under Message Revenue there was a net increase of Rx. 7,224 over the previous year, wholly due to earnings in India on homeward transit messages. There was also an increase in Miscellaneous Revenue.

Owing to the Joint Purse Arrangement which has existed since 1878-79 between the Department and the Eastern and Indo-European Telegraph Companies, the amount shown as gross receipts does not correspond with the actual traffic earnings of the Department, which in 1895-96 amounted to Rx. 194,049.

The Indo-European route actually carried more traffic than its fixed share under the Joint Purse Agreement, with the result that 8,695% had to be refunded by the Department to the other partners, against 8,255% in the previous year. There was also a further refund under the Australasian Message Fund Agreement.

The share of Revenue drawn out by the Department under the Joint Purse Agreement has steadily increased since the Agreement came into operation, and has in the year under review reached the highest sum yet recorded.

From

From the 1st January 1894 a Supplemental Agreement came into force, which gave the Department a larger share in the receipts from Indian traffic. The proportions in which the total receipts are divided between the different parties to the Joint Purse Agreement are shown in the following statement:—

INDO-EUROPEAN
TELEGRAPH
DEPARTMENT.

Administration.	Indian Receipts.		Trans-Indian Receipts.
	To 1894.	From 1894.	
Eastern Telegraph Company - -	60.39	59.82	80.53
Indo-European Telegraph Company -	22.84	22.12	12.03
" " Department	17.27	18.06	7.44

The general working of the lines and cables in Persia and the Persian Gulf has been very satisfactory, the total interruptions on the Departmental lines only amounting to 5 hours and 16 minutes. In addition to this, however, the Indo-European Company's line was totally interrupted for 399 hours and 22 minutes. The average rate of transmission between the United Kingdom and Teheran still maintains its high standard, and the accuracy of transmission shows an improvement on last year, the percentage of errors being only 0.171 against 0.284 in 1893-94.

The working of the Turkish route continues to be very unsatisfactory, and the lines between Fào and Constantinople were interrupted for no less than 111 days, 17 hours, 35 minutes.

At the request of His Imperial Majesty the late Shah, the Department has undertaken the maintenance of the Borasjoon-Ahwaz line (300 miles), at the expense of the Persian Government.

CHAPTER XII.

EDUCATION, LITERATURE, AND THE PRESS.

EDUCATION.

EDUCATIONAL institutions in India are of two classes—

(1.) Those in which the course of study conforms to the standard prescribed by the Department of Public Instruction or by the University, and which either undergo inspection by the Department, or else regularly present pupils at the public examinations held by the Department, or by the University. These institutions are called "public," but may be under either public or private management. To the latter class, for example, belong those "aided schools," receiving grants from Government or from local or municipal boards, which occupy so important a place in the primary system of Madras, Bengal, and Burma.

(2.) Those which do not fulfil the above conditions, and which are called "private."

The system of education operates, generally speaking, through three grades of institutions, viz. :—

(1.) Primary schools, which aim at the teaching of reading, writing, and such elementary knowledge as will enable a peasant to look after his own interests.

(2.) Secondary schools, which are divided into English and Vernacular. Those in which English forms part of the regular course of study of all the scholars, or at least of all the scholars in the higher classes, are counted as English schools; if English is an optional subject only, they are reckoned as Vernacular.

(3.) Colleges.

Bengal.

The gross expenditure on education in Bengal (Rx. 1,068,127) exceeded that of 1894 by 8·6 per cent. This sum was contributed from the following sources in the proportion set against each :—provincial revenues, 24·6 per cent. ; district funds, 11·1 per cent. ; municipal funds, under 1 per cent. ; fees, nearly 44 per cent. ; all other sources, about 19·5 per cent. The expenditure was thus distributed :—upon institutions managed by Government, 19·2 per cent. ; upon those managed by district or municipal boards, 1½ per cent. ; upon aided schools, nearly 50 per cent. ; upon unaided schools, over 16 per cent. ; the balance of more than 13 per cent. being the cost of inspection (Rx. 61,046), scholarships, &c. Distributing the expenditure in a different manner, it appears that Rx. 107,903, or 10·1 per cent. of the total amount, was spent upon university education ; Rx. 384,175, or 36 per cent., upon secondary, and Rx. 324,554, or 30·4 per cent., upon primary education ; Rx. 42,080, or 3·94 per cent., upon schools for special instruction ; Rx. 68,584, or 6·4 per cent., on buildings and furniture, and Rx. 140,831, or 13·2 per cent., on inspection, &c.

In the past ten years there has been an annual average increase of 1,332 schools and 31,897 pupils. In the year under review the number of pupils in public institutions rose by 36,651, or 2·4 per cent., to 1,537,810, but the number of pupils in private institutions diminished slightly to 139,192. Taking the population of school-going age at 15 per cent. of the whole population, the total of 1,677,002 scholars represents 15·6 per cent. of the total population of a school-going age. More than 93 per cent. of the scholars were males and under 7 per cent. were females, representing respectively 28·6 per cent. of the boys, and 2 per cent. of the girls, of a school-going age. In 1894-95 these percentages were 27·9 and 2·0 respectively.

The number of public institutions increased by 1,309 to 57,109; but with a diminution of 197 in the number of private institutions (13,744), the total net increase was 1,112. The total number of institutions (70,853) is equivalent to

29.6 institutions for every hundred towns and villages. The district boards EDUCATION. continued to work in harmony with the Education Department, and to be guided by the advice of the deputy inspectors.

The number of colleges increased from 37 to 39, of which 11 are supported by Government, and 1 by municipal funds, 8 are aided, and 19 are unaided. The number of candidates at the First-Arts Examination (2,583) fell off, and the percentage of those who were successful declined from 41 to 39.

Secondary Schools increased in number by a little over 1 per cent. to 2,422, and the pupils attending them by 27 per cent. to 207,542. Increased attention was paid in these schools to drawing; also to physical training and the encouragement of manly games. Cricket and football maintain their popularity. Instances of flagrant breaches of discipline and gross immorality were reported from every division, but in proportion to the number of pupils they were not very numerous. Boarding houses, which are said to be excellent aids to discipline, are becoming more popular. There were in all the province 166 of them, with 4,757 resident students.

The number of upper and lower primary schools increased by 1,200 to 50,998, and the number of pupils by 2.8 per cent. to 1,240,426. Both grades show steady progress. More schools and candidates competed for primary scholarships than in any previous year, and more were successful.

There was a falling off in the number of training schools for teachers of both sexes, and the number of pupils attending them diminished from 1,006 to 966. It has been decided to add an English department to each of the existing training schools for the training of teachers in English secondary schools.

Medical educational institutions increased in number from 9 to 12, and medical students from 1,784 to 1,854.

The Sibpur College, transferred in 1894-95 from the Public Works to the Education Department, has an engineer department with 106 students, of whom all but six are Hindus; an apprentice or foreman-mechanic department with 215 students, of whom 173 were Hindus, 39 Europeans, and three Muhammadans; and an artisan class with 13 students. The workshops are said to be self-supporting. A complete electric installation has been carried out at a cost of Rs. 8,000 for the lighting of the college and for the thorough training of the students in electric engineering. The college affords a practical training, which puts its students in the way of obtaining profitable employment, and will be of the utmost use in the industrial development of the country. All the trained apprentices find employment without difficulty under engineering firms or steamer companies, upon railways or in tea-gardens. An agricultural class will soon be attached to the college.

There was an average monthly attendance of 621 pupils at the three Government survey schools at Dacca, Patna, and Lutrack. The Government School of Art was attended by 273 students. There was an increase of two in the number of European schools (78), while the scholars attending these schools rose from 7,640 to 7,721.

The total number of Muhammadan pupils (494,294) shows an increase of a little over 1 per cent., but the increase in the number of such students attending colleges and high schools has not as yet been accompanied by an improvement at the University examinations.

With respect to female education, there were 3,356 schools and 102,590 pupils, representing a gain of 140 and 470 respectively.

It was remarked last year that the number of children in the North-West Provinces and Oudh receiving education of the simplest form was, relatively to the population, less than in any other province; that the total expenditure on education from public funds was small relatively to the aggregate provincial and local revenues, and that of this expenditure an undue proportion was devoted to secondary and to English education; that the average cost of each child under instruction was excessive; that the receipts from fees, especially in the case of high schools and colleges, were below the standard prevailing elsewhere; and that the training provided for teachers by means of normal schools was altogether insufficient. Steps were taken during the year under review to deal with these shortcomings, and especially to popularise education with the view of removing the reproach of ignorance attaching to these provinces.

North-Western
Provinces and
Oudh.

EDUCATION.

Among the more important changes that took place during the year, or soon after its close, it may be noted that the normal schools for vernacular teaching at Allahabad, Agra, and Lucknow, were reorganised; the code for village schools was revised; vernacular schools will, for the future, receive Government recognition, though they may not conform to the departmental type; an additional grant of Rx. 7,500 was allotted to the district boards to promote the efficiency of the existing indigenous schools of the province; the practice of teaching English and the vernacular from the commencement in Anglo-vernacular schools was discontinued, and in future English will not be used as the medium of instruction until a boy has passed the upper primary standard in the vernacular.

The direct expenditure (Rx. 270,650) was higher by 4.47, and the indirect (Rx. 84,579) by 1.2, than in 1894-95. To the aggregate sum (Rx. 355,229) public revenues contributed 54.38 per cent.; municipal revenues, 2.97 per cent.; fees, 25.69 per cent.; and endowments and subscriptions, 16.92 per cent. Colleges absorbed over 17 per cent. of the direct expenditure, general schools nearly 81 per cent., and special schools 2 per cent.

A net increase of ten schools raised the number of institutions to 4,824, of which 4,530 were for boys, and 279 (a decrease of three) for girls, the balance of 15 being schools for special instruction. The average attendance (216,345) was a few hundred less than in 1895, and 16,000 less than in 1894.

With the same number of colleges the average attendance was about 10 per cent. less, and though there were more boys' schools and fewer girls' schools, the attendance at the former fell off and at the latter improved. On the whole, notwithstanding the increase in population and a greater expenditure on education, there were fewer scholars under instruction at the end of the year than at the beginning.

The number of Arts colleges was 16, of which three are State institutions, six are aided, and seven unaided. The average attendance was 1,506 against 1,638 in 1894-95, and this falling off was attended by a decrease in the number of students presenting themselves at the University Examinations. The cause is to be found in the enhancement of the fees. The object of the Government is to maintain a limited number of colleges in the highest state of efficiency as exemplars, and to require the classes which resort to them to make a reasonable contribution towards the necessarily high expenditure. This contribution does not amount to more than one-third of that of the Government. In the Anglo-vernacular schools a similar falling off is attributable to the same cause, but by the enhancement of the fees in State schools private enterprise has been stimulated. It is contemplated to carry this effect further by withdrawing Government aid from a number of small aided schools in this class, which are in excess of the actual requirements of the province, and are, moreover, inefficient.

The number of scholars (174,883) at vernacular schools represents the small proportion of 4.8 per cent. of those of school-going age. The most backward portion of the combined province is the Eastern, comprising Oudh and the Benares Division. For the falling off in 1895-96 want of funds, sickness and scarcity are the explanations generally given. Improvement is expected from the new policy of extending the grant-in-aid system to vernacular schools.

Technical education is represented by the law classes attached to eight Art colleges, by the Agra Medical School, the Thomason College of Engineering at Rurki, the Agricultural School at Cawnpore, and by a few industrial schools at Lucknow and elsewhere. The number of students in the law classes fell from 752 to 602, but 51 instead of 45 passed the prescribed examinations. The Thomason College is doing good work. The industrial schools, with the exception of that at Lucknow, are in connection with various missionary societies, and are reported to be satisfactory.

The standard in the majority of the female schools is very low, but much educational work, which is not recorded, is being done in the larger towns by ladies connected with missions.

By

By an increase of 27 the number of public institutions in the Punjab was raised to 3,149, which were attended by 182,355 scholars, an increase of 5,234. The private schools (5,514) were six less than in 1894-95, but the number of scholars attending them (83,260) were 1,620 more. The total number of scholars (265,615) represented 8·48 per cent. of the children of school-going age; 242,724 were males, or 14·37 per cent. of the boys of school-going age, and 22,891 were females, or 1·58 per cent. of the girls.

EDUCATION.
Punjab.

The expenditure (Rx. 302,797) was 10 per cent. in excess of the total for 1894-95. Under direct expenditure the increase was Rx. 7,130; under indirect expenditure it was Rx. 18,623. In 10 years the increase has been more than 50 per cent. District and Municipal Funds contributed 33 per cent. of this expenditure; fees, nearly 25 per cent.; Government, 28·8 per cent., and other sources, 12·9 per cent.

In the University and B.A. examinations the number of passes was about 50 per cent. above the results of 1894-95. In middle schools the success attained was nearly as great, while in the case of primary schools the improvement was nearly 10 per cent. In girls' schools there was a slight falling off.

The Medical College at Lahore continues to attract an increasing number of students, and in the Law School the number of students has risen from 84 in 1893 to 336. Technical education gives less ground for satisfaction.

On the whole, the year under report was one of fair progress in most respects. Schools and scholars were more numerous; the receipts from fees notably increased; examination results were good; school management is becoming more efficient, and private enterprise continues to spread.

The year was one of much progress in Burma, especially in Upper Burma. The number of primary schools under inspection, of pupils in these schools, and of passes by the prescribed standards, largely increased. Middle vernacular schools also increased in numbers, and succeeded well at the examinations. Normal classes and pupils increased, but the examination results were poor. Additional female schools with efficient female teachers are much wanted. Good progress was made in providing special education for Karens and Tamil-speaking children, but in Mahomedan schools little or no improvement was observable.

Burma.

The number of institutions of all sorts increased by 4·3 per cent., to 15,732, and the number of pupils, 253,629, was 3·6 per cent. more than in 1894-95. Of these, 225,801 were males, or 38·73 per cent. of those of school-going age, and 27,828 were girls, or nearly 5 per cent. These proportions are higher than in any other province. A large number of primary schools qualified for recognition during the year.

The total expenditure amounted to Rx. 134,392, of which Provincial Revenues contributed Rx. 53,116, and Municipal and other Local Funds Rx. 29,217, while Rx. 23,824 were realised from fees.

The most marked progress was that made in primary education. From 4,500 schools with 129,143 pupils, at the beginning of the year, the numbers rose at its close to 4,852 with 138,244 pupils. Of these, 113,081 attended Burmese indigenous schools, being an increase of 8·7 per cent. The number of pupils who passed one or other of the primary standards was 23,807, an increase during the year of 14·5 per cent. The progress was greatest in the Upper Division of the Province.

The prejudice with which the Education Department had to contend in past years appears to be dying out, and the younger pōngyis (monks), especially in Lower Burma, are ready to co-operate with the officers of the Department, and to adopt the Government code in their monastic schools.

The unsatisfactory result of the teachers' examinations is believed to arise from the text-books being too advanced. The kindergarten classes at the missionary schools were well attended.

Public institutions in Assam increased by 152, or 5·1 per cent., and the pupils attending them by 3,839, or 4·2 per cent., there being at the close of the year 3,091 schools with 89,843 scholars. The percentage of the latter to the population of school-going age was 11·44, against 11·00 in 1894; the percentage for boys separately was 20·33, and for girls, 2·01. The high schools sent up 150 candidates for

Assam.

EDUCATION.

the entrance examination of the Calcutta University, of whom 103, or 68·66 per cent., were successful, a much higher proportion than in the year preceding. But the best progress was in primary education, the boys' schools having increased by 106, or nearly 4 per cent., to 2,681, and the pupils by 3,283, to 77,922, while the girls' schools rose from 210 schools with 3,761 pupils to 240 schools with 4,005 pupils. The total number of girls under instruction, including those taught in boys' schools, was 7,949. There were more training schools, but slightly fewer pupils in them. The same was the case with private institutions, but the aggregate of all classes of institutions shows a gain of 156, with 3,737 more pupils.

The expenditure amounted to Rx. 64,400, of which 38·4 per cent. was covered by fees and other receipts. The direct expenditure from public funds was Rx. 24,942, of which 26·6 per cent. went to secondary, 65 per cent. to primary, and 8 per cent. to special education. The expenditure from provincial funds was mainly directed to secondary education; that contributed by local boards and municipalities to primary education.

In connection with the opinion expressed by Dr. Voelcker, in his report on the improvement of Indian agriculture, that the tendency of education in the past has been to draw the rising generation away from the land and to give a purely literary training, it has been decided, as the result of a conference held at Gauhati in January 1896, to re-model the system of education, with a view to making it more practical, and by the encouragement of habits of observation, and a course of elementary instruction in science, to prepare the minds of pupils for more technical instruction later. The primary schools under the management of several missionary bodies are intended chiefly for the education of aboriginal and hill tribes. Their number increased by 11 to 322, and the pupils by 304 to 6,402.

Central Provinces.

There were 2,477 colleges and schools in the Central Provinces with 154,101 pupils. Excluding the schools in certain feudatory states, which for the first time find a place in the returns, the figures represent a net increase during the year of 17 schools and 146 scholars. The proportion of scholars to those of school-going age was 15 per cent. in the case of boys, and 16·7 per cent. of girls. Educational progress was retarded by agricultural distress and epidemics of disease, following on two successive seasons of scarcity, and the small increase was in the circumstances satisfactory. There was a larger attendance of the children of the poorer classes who were employed in Government and private service, and a considerable decline in the children of the agricultural, trading, and labouring classes, who are more liable to be affected by the failure of crops. The attendance at the three colleges of the province averaged 113 pupils for each, a fractional improvement upon 1894-95. In that year secondary schools rose in number, but in the year under review several were reduced to the primary standard. A large apparent advance in primary education is due to this cause.

The expenditure increased by Rx. 2,768 to Rx. 100,068, towards which provincial revenues contributed nearly 36 per cent.; local rates and cesses, 22 per cent.; municipal funds, nearly 10 per cent.; fees over 13 per cent.; while about 18 per cent. came from other sources.

Berar.

Owing partly to the unhealthiness of the year, but mainly to the gradual closing of indigenous private schools, education in Berar made no progress during the year. The schools and pupils fell from 1,228 and 49,985 respectively in 1894-95, to 1,180 and 49,243. 3,473 of the pupils were girls, being 500 more than the year before. The percentage of scholars to population of school-going age was, for boys, 20·46, and for girls, 1·65, against 21·01 and 1·41 in 1894-95. Of 42 boys sent up from the two Government high schools, 18 passed the matriculation examination. A private high school was opened at Amraoti by four young men from Nagpur, three of whom were graduates of the Calcutta University. It drew away 103 scholars from the Government high schools at Amraoti and Akola, and had 129 students at the close of 1895-96. The District Board primary schools for boys increased by 19, to 628, and the number of scholars by 1,957, to 34,416; and of those who were examined by the inspecting officers, 56·09 per cent. were successful, against 51·02 in 1894-95.

The

The expenditure from district funds and subscriptions increased, but less aid was derived from other sources, and the expenditure from provincial revenues was reduced by Rx. 10,673, owing to financial pressure. The total expenditure of the Department decreased by Rx. 2,108, and amounted to Rx. 41,188. EDUCATION.

The total number of educational institutions in Madras advanced by 884, or 3.5 per cent., to 26,066, of which 20,932 were public, and 5,134 were private colleges or schools. Of the public institutions, 404 were managed by Government, 3,526 by local fund or municipal boards, and one by a Native State; the remainder were under private management, 10,385 being aided by Government or by local or municipal boards, and 6,616 being unaided. The private institutions are neither aided nor under Government supervision. Madras.

The number of scholars increased by 27,280, or 3.6 per cent., to 791,634. Of these 681,174 were males and 110,460 females, the proportion of male and female scholars to the male and female population of school-going age being respectively 25.76 and 4.1 per cent. In the past four years the increase has been 2 per cent. under male and .2 per cent. under female scholars, and the proportion of scholars to population has risen from 1 in 49 to 1 in 45. The distribution of the scholars amongst the different classes of institutions was as follows:—Government, 2.9 per cent.; Boards, 20.3; aided, 45.4; unaided, 18.4; private, 13.0. The children of the richer and poorer classes advanced by 3.0 and 4.4 per cent. respectively, while fewer scholars were returned from the middle classes.

The expenditure on public instruction amounted to Rx. 660,466, or Rx. 18,042 (2.8 per cent.) more than in 1894-95. In the last four years the increase has been Rx. 64,429. Over 30 per cent. of the expenditure was defrayed by Government, nearly 14 per cent. by local boards, and 3.4 per cent. by municipalities, while nearly 20 per cent. was met by fees, and the balance from endowments, subscriptions, and miscellaneous receipts.

Of the aggregate outlay, 12.76 per cent. was devoted to university education, 60.68 to general school education, and 7.54 per cent. to special school education; the balance of 19 per cent. was indirect expenditure, more than a third of which (Rx. 46,098) was the cost of direction and inspection. In 10 years grants-in-aid have increased from Rx. 73,777 to Rx. 95,136.

The year was one of progress. More candidates appeared at the various university examinations, and a larger percentage (45 per cent.) passed. At the primary, lower secondary, and technical examinations, a large number of candidates presented themselves, and a large proportion were successful; but the results of the upper secondary examination were less satisfactory. Fewer candidates appeared for teachers' certificate examinations, but a larger number were successful. The number of male and female students in every stage of instruction advanced, excepting the girls in the upper secondary or high school stage. Professional colleges (except the training colleges and the College of Agriculture) and the schools for special education (excepting the training schools for masters) gained in strength. Chiefly in consequence of an increase in the number of public primary schools from 18,852 to 19,269, the number of teachers in that class of school was raised from 23,798 to 24,866, of whom all but 38 per cent. were qualified, either by certificate or by length of service. Night schools made a great recovery. To three schools for the blind was added, by the Church Missionary Society, a class for deaf-mute girls. The Association of Women Teachers carried on its useful work, and a teachers' guild was formed in Madras for the purposes of discussion, improvement and social intercourse. The Department continues to frame its policy upon the recommendations of the Education Commission.

The public and private institutions in the Presidency of Bombay numbered 12,938, with 704,217 pupils, representing an increase respectively of 173 and 22,276. Omitting those private institutions which were not under Government inspection—the total number of which was 2,856, attended by 76,676 pupils—there were 551,876 boys and 75,655 girls under instruction in public institutions, as compared with 533,850 boys and 73,956 girls in the preceding year; while, taking girls and boys together, the average monthly number on the rolls rose Bombay.

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EDUCATION.

from 585,539 to 603,635, and the average daily attendance from 438,046 to 453,376. Of the 211 new public institutions opened during the year, 189 were primary and 18 were secondary schools; one was an Arts college and three were special schools. The number of professional colleges and training schools remained unchanged. While there was a falling-off in the number of institutions maintained by Government and by local boards, there was an increase in those maintained by Native States and municipalities and in those classed as aided. The attendance at all classes of schools increased, all casts contributing to the advance.

The gross expenditure from all sources amounted to Rx. 728,681, or 4·4 per cent. more than in 1894-95. The percentage of the total cost borne by Government was 29·8; by local funds, 13·4; by municipal rates, 5·5; by fees, 22·0; by Native States, 14·3 per cent.; while from all other sources the contribution was 15 per cent. In the British districts of the Presidency, Government and local funds contributed respectively 36·6 and 16·4 per cent. An increase of Rx. 8,507 was mainly due to the larger number of secondary schools, to the revision of quinquennial grants, to enhanced grants to the Bombay Municipal Schools, to fewer officers being on leave, to the extension of the subordinate staff, and to larger building grants.

Primary schools for boys increased by 174, or 2 per cent., to 8,810, and the attendance by 16,296, or 3·2 per cent., to 523,802. The increase occurred mainly under aided schools in the Southern Division, and in schools maintained by Native States. The Local Board Schools continued to prosper; the Municipal Schools were generally well managed; in Native States, where 21 new schools were opened, all but those of two petty States are reported as efficient. There was a general improvement throughout the Presidency in the attendance at girls' schools, and for the encouragement of female education a number of scholarships were founded during the year.

The number of candidates from high schools for the University Matriculation Examination showed a considerable increase. School tuition maintained its superiority over private tuition by passing 45·7 per cent. of the candidates sent up, while of candidates without school certificates over 93 per cent. failed.

With regard to special education, the most noteworthy points are the large increase in the number of Muhammadan pupils in the various schools and of children belonging to aboriginal or hill tribes; the general efficiency of the training schools, of the medical school at Poona, the Veterinary College at Bombay, and of the industrial schools generally.

Coorg.

The number of public schools in Coorg increased by 2 to 79, and the pupils by 66 to 5,195, of whom 4,363 were boys, and 832 girls. The private unaided schools fell off by 4 to 31, but the attendance (583) was about the same. The expenditure (Rx. 4,292) was less than in 1894-95, and was met from the following sources:—provincial funds, Rx. 2,031; fees, Rx. 1,135; the balance from municipal funds, the plough-tax, and other sources. The one high school of the province sent up 14 boys for the Matriculation Examination, and passed seven.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

LITERATURE.

Act XXV of 1867, passed by the Governor General's Council for the regulation of printing presses and newspapers, provided, amongst other things, that every book or paper printed within British India shall have printed legibly on it the name of the printer and the place of printing, and (if the book or paper be published) of the publisher and the place of publication. It also made provision for the registration of every book, pamphlet, map, &c., printed or lithographed in British India.

Bengal.

Owing to greater literary activity, and to steps taken to prevent evasion of the law requiring the registration of books, the number of publications received in the Bengal Library was 2,689, or 29·5 per cent. more than in 1894-95. It is believed that many works, both European and Native, still evade registration. Of the number received, 1,674, or 45 per cent., were original publications, while

while 952, or about 35·3 per cent., were in the Bengali language, being 340 more than in 1894-95. Of the Bengali books, 546 treated of language, poetry and religion; 62 of mathematics and mechanics; 29 of medicine; 19 of law. There were 48 English newspapers, and 52 periodicals. The vernacular paper having the largest circulation is the *Bangabasi*, a weekly paper with 20,000 subscribers. LITERATURE.

In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh there were 95 publications in English, 560 in Urdu, and 354 in Hindi; the figures for 1894-95 being respectively 102, 623, and 306. Thirty-two works were published in Sanskrit, 32 in Arabic, and 71 in Persian—against 42, 45, and 48 in the previous year. Twenty-one vernacular newspapers were started in 1895, while 25 stopped during the year; 96 remained on the register at the year's close. The "*Bhārat Jīwan*" has the largest circulation, with 1,500 subscribers. North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

In the Punjab there were 90 vernacular newspapers and periodicals, the largest circulation being that of the "*Paisa Akhbar*," published weekly at Lahore, of which 10,000 copies are issued. Punjab.

In Burma the number of publications rose from 35 in 1894-95 to 68; 13 were educational, and 27 were religious; 55 were printed in Rangoon, six in Mandalay, and the rest in Akyab, Bassein, and Moulmein. Burma.

In the Central Provinces it is said that literary activity hardly exists. Nevertheless 25 publications were issued during the year, and the number of English and vernacular newspapers and periodicals remained at 12 and two respectively, as in 1894-95. Central Provinces.

The number of works published in Assam increased from nine in 1894-95 to 21, of which 12 were educational and 13 were original works; the copies of educational works printed increased from 4,125 to 12,000. The two Bengali papers published in Sylhet were amalgamated during the year, and one English and one vernacular paper were published at Dibrugarh and Gauhati respectively. Assam.

Seventeen books were registered in Berar, compared with 19 and 20 in the two preceding years. Berar.

In Madras there were 84 vernacular newspapers and periodicals; 25 of which were in Tamil, 19 in Telugu, 18 in Malagalam, five in Hindustani, four in Canarese, and 13 in more than one language. The vernacular papers with the largest circulation were the "*Satyadūtan*" in English and Tamil, and the "*Messenger of Truth*" in English and Telugu. Madras.

Notwithstanding the general progress in vernacular and other education the literary outturn of the Bombay press showed a further heavy decline. The number of registered publications fell 22 per cent. to 1,421, the great majority being ephemeral contributions. The larger proportion of the original vernacular works were poetical, embodying popular religious legends and beliefs. Bombay.

The number of newspapers and periodicals rose from 200 to 204, but with no appreciable improvement in the circulation. A few of them were ably conducted and fitly represented various phases of intelligent native opinion, but the majority were unskillfully compiled rather than edited. The majority are fairly moderate and loyal in tone.

CHAPTER XIII.

EMIGRATION.

EMIGRATION AND MIGRATION.

Calcutta.

Two notifications were issued by the Government of India, under Section 8 of the Indian Emigration Act, 1883, relating, in the one case, to the sleeping accommodation of emigrants during the voyage; in the other to the use of vessels for the conveyance of emigrants, which in their previous voyage had carried a cargo of salt.

Labourers were required by seven colonies, viz., Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica, Mauritius, Natal, Fiji, Surinam. It was ruled that emigrants returning from Demerara and Trinidad, after 10 years' residence in the Colony, or holding a certificate of exemption from labour, should for the future pay, the men one-fourth, and the women one-sixth, of the passage money; the destitute, however, will still be sent back free. After five years' residence, or holding a certificate of exemption, an emigrant may return at his own cost. The privilege of a free return passage is now withheld from emigrants who have once returned to India. The other colonies continue to provide a free passage, as a rule, after 10 years.

In place of 14,638 labourers demanded in 1894, the number required in 1895 was only 9,487. The requirements of Demerara dropped from 6,675 to 1,840, while Trinidad took 2,000 instead of 3,000. On the other hand, those of Natal rose from 1,700 to 1,900, of Fiji from 950 to 1,340, and of Surinam from 1,219 to 1,617.

Against 1,023 licenses granted to recruiters in 1894, the number in 1895 was 838, of which 13 were cancelled owing to misconduct.

The number of emigrants registered was 17,315 (against 26,707 in 1894), of whom 18 per cent. were recruited in Bengal and Behar, 59 per cent. in the North West Provinces, and 23 per cent. in Oudh. Deducting casualties arising from rejection for unfitness, desertion, and other causes, 13,104 emigrants reached Calcutta. At the depôts, in which they were received, there were also 1,423 emigrants of the previous year. Great improvements have been effected of late years in the food and clothing provided for the emigrants, and also in the sanitary surroundings of the depôts. There was less sickness in all but two of the depôts, and the mortality fell from 51 to 28.

Fresh desertions from Calcutta (10.39 per cent.), further rejections for unfitness, and discharges on various accounts, reduced the total to 11,512, of whom 10,688 were shipped to the colonies, 9,071 going to British colonies, and 1,617 to the Dutch colony of Surinam. Of the former, 2,453 or 27 per cent. went to Demerara; 2,177 or 24 per cent. to Trinidad; 1,518 or 16.73 per cent. to Natal; 1,432 or 15.78 per cent. to Fiji, 211, or 2.01 per cent., had emigrated before; in 1894 there were 770 re-emigrants, or 5.88 per cent. The mortality on the voyage was 1.11 per cent. against 2.11 per cent. in 1894. The number of emigrants in 1894 was 15,924.

As compared with 3,804 emigrants who returned to Calcutta in 1894, the number for 1895 was 6,514. Their ascertained savings amounted in the aggregate to Rs. 133,868, giving an average of 205½ rupees as compared with one of 156 rupees in 1894. The largest average was that of the Natal emigrants, 338 rupees, Trinidad and Surinam coming next with 254 and 257 rupees respectively. The Mauritius average, 21 rupees, was lower even than in 1894, but 14 emigrants returning from French Colonies brought between them only 54 rupees.

Madras.

Mauritius and Natal continue to be the only colonies which maintain emigration agencies at Madras. Coolies to the number of 724 were shipped from that port to the former colony, and 1,691 to the latter. In 1894 the numbers were 543 and 1,465 respectively. The districts supplying the largest numbers were North Arcot and Chingleput. Four hundred and thirty-six emigrants returned to Madras from Mauritius with savings averaging less than 11 rupees per man, and 279 from Natal with an average of nearly 190 rupees per man. Martinique repatriated 222 emigrants and Reunion 74, their average savings being 24 and 28 rupees respectively.

Indentured

Indentured emigrants from Negapatam to the Straits Settlements declined from 1,784 to 1,617, but the number of free passengers to that Colony from all ports in the Madras Presidency rose from 13,232 to 14,545. EMIGRATION

During the year 181,530 emigrants left the Madras Presidency for countries outside British India, against 143,541 in 1894, and 165,900 in 1893.

Emigration to Ceylon, is confined chiefly to the Madura and Tinnevely districts, and rose from 87,235 to 123,975; the increase from Tinnevely alone was 32,665, and is attributed to an unfavourable season. The number of immigrants into the Madras Presidency from the various colonies rose from 93,272 to 117,012, of whom Ceylon returned 101,156, as compared with 82,223 who returned from that island in 1894.

The only form of emigration from the Presidency of Bombay is the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, for which Bombay is the chief port of embarkation for Natives of India and for a certain number of pilgrims from Afghanistan and Central Asia. Out of 12,458 pilgrims who thus passed through Bombay in December 1895 and the four following months, 9,741 were Natives of India, and 9,100 of them returned.

MIGRATION.

MIGRATION.

As many as 72,837 immigrants entered Assam in 1895, being 56·5 per cent. more than in 1894, and more than double the number reported in 1890. Assam. Every district but Sibságar received a large number, but in the districts of the Surma Valley (Cachar and Sylhet), the excess was 133 per cent. Of the adults, who numbered 56,501, about 32·5 per cent. (18,369) were registered as having come from Chota Nagpur, which has hitherto supplied by far the larger number of coolies, but in 1895 the North Western Provinces and Oudh supplied as much as 33·5 per cent. of the whole number, and 272·5 for every hundred whom they had sent up in 1894. The number from Behar (4,790) was more than double that of 1894, and the Central Provinces sent 7,932 in place of 2,014. The number of immigrants from Ganjam increased from 457 to 841. The non-Act or free immigrants increased from 11,983 to 25,666, or by 114 per cent., and from being less than one-third in 1894 were nearer one-half (45·3 per cent.) of the adult immigrants in 1895. The percentage of women to men was less than in 1894 from all the recruiting districts, but the falling-off was proportionately greater in Bengal and Behar, where, especially in Behar, many more non-Act men were recruited, and only a few more women. This result is attributed to the good harvest which kept back families from emigrating, and increased the proportion of emigrants having no family ties.

The mortality on the Dhubri route to the tea-gardens of the Assam Valley rose from 143 in 1894 to 248, cholera, as in 1894, accounting for the greater number of deaths. In the transit between Goalundo and the Surma Valley the mortality (94) was also higher than in 1894, so far as the imperfect figures given can be relied upon. There was a large increase in the number of complaints by coolies. This, however, was due not to a greater prevalence of malpractices in connection with emigration, but to the greater promptitude and system with which enquiries were conducted. The majority of the complaints were found to be groundless.

The labour-force of the province at the close of the year was larger by 8·7 per cent. than at its commencement, amounting to 537,312 persons, of whom 341,889 were adults. The number of offences, not including desertions, dropped from 1,032 in 1894 to 935. Desertions again rose from 16,105 in 1894 to 17,386, or from 5·18 to 5·21 per cent.; they were, as usual, more prevalent among the non-Act coolies, the percentages being respectively 4·55 and 5·58 for Act and non-Act labourers respectively, but in this connection it must be borne in mind that the desertions reported among the non-Act population include many cases in which coolies not under any form of contract have simply left the garden without permission. Desertions were also more frequent, as usual, from the unhealthy gardens, but not to the extent of former years. The death-rate (33·6 per cent.) amongst all classes of labourers, including their children, though higher than that of 1894 (31·9 per cent.), compares not unfavourably with the rate among the general population throughout India.

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MIGRATION.

In 1894 the rate was exceptionally low. The percentage of unhealthy gardens diminished from 10·6 to 8·7 per cent. The relations between employers and labourers were generally satisfactory. The area of land held direct from Government by time-expired coolies rose during the year from 46,948 to 53,618 acres. In 1881 there were 78 adult labourers to every 100 acres of tea; in 1895 there were 121.

Burma.

Burma, with a sparse population, offers a wide field for emigration and settlement. It appears that 71,625 emigrants and 77,181 immigrants passed through Rangoon during the year, and 2,699 emigrants and 1,461 immigrants through the port of Moulmein. Shans, Kachins and Chinese from over the Eastern border are settling in the Sinkan valley of the Bhamo district, and natives of India in the Lower Chindwin district. Every year hundreds of Maingthas, Panthays, and Chinese come to the ruby mines from November to June. From Chittagong, in Bengal, many labourers migrate to the Akyab district during the paddy harvest, but few of them stay.

The number of free emigrants from Madras ports, who embarked for Burma (38,978), was rather less than in 1894, and much less than in 1893, when the number was 54,574. The number who returned from Burma to Madras was 42,672 in 1894 and 35,888 in 1895. The number of emigrants from Madras to other parts of British India, excluding Burma, was 61,227; and 63,432 returned.

XIV.

TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

(Detailed information regarding the Trade of British India being annually furnished in a separate Parliamentary Paper, a brief Review only is given in the present Chapter.)

TRADE.

THE total trade of British India with other countries by sea and land during the five years ending on the 31st March 1896, was valued as follows:—

		Tens of Rupees.				
BY SEA.		1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Private Imports :		Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Merchandise - -		66,597,457	62,605,030	73,956,057	70,167,438	69,316,395
Treasure - - -		14,722,662	17,009,810	18,425,256	9,550,007	13,358,086
		81,310,119	79,614,840	92,382,213	79,726,445	82,675,381
Private Exports :						
Foreign Merchandise re-exported - -		4,485,179	4,590,290	4,481,975	5,057,561	4,717,970
Indian Merchandise - -		103,550,831	101,945,707	102,015,615	108,757,438	109,545,161
Treasure - - -		3,143,186	6,928,994	4,024,737	8,158,017	4,232,301
		111,179,196	113,464,991	110,472,327	116,973,016	118,495,441
Government Transactions :						
Imports { Stores - -		2,844,026	3,660,247	3,064,475	3,361,555	3,620,358
{ Treasure - -		0	0	36,000	22,200	9,000
Exports { Stores - -		137,582	59,479	55,770	98,779	71,598
{ Treasure - -		148,500	29,920	75,455	68,055	27,510
		3,126,008	3,749,655	3,231,709	3,550,589	3,728,466
TOTAL Trade by Sea -		195,615,323	196,829,486	206,086,249	200,250,050	204,809,288
BY LAND.						
Imports - - -		4,249,592	3,895,389	4,351,251	4,026,735	4,050,428
Exports - - -		4,067,044	3,594,690	3,698,321	4,249,727	4,220,460
GRAND TOTAL of Trade by Land and Sea -		203,932,559	204,319,566	214,135,821	209,426,512	214,079,176
Excess imports of treasure - - -		11,435,976	10,050,187	14,361,054	1,355,135	9,108,175
Net excess of exports over imports of merchandise, Government transactions, and treasure - - -		27,123,285	29,978,613	14,467,943	33,352,642	31,550,842
India Council Bills paid in India - - -		23,248,600	26,977,500	16,422,700*	28,884,100†	33,080,900

India's trade has completely recovered from the disturbance caused by the closing of the Indian mints to free coinage of silver; and has practically recovered from the imposition of import duties. The year 1894-95 had been marked by the imposition in December 1894 of a 5 per cent. duty on imported cotton manufactures, accompanied by a 5 per cent. countervailing excise duty on cotton yarns of the finer kinds spun at Indian mills. In February

* During 15 weeks of the year 1893-94 no Council Bills were sold.
 † As in previous years, the Council Bills and Telegraphic Transfers actually paid during the year in India are given; the Bills actually drawn and the Telegraphic Transfers granted by the Secretary of State on India during the year 1895-96 amounted to Rx. 31,085,500, yielding 17,523,581½, at an average rate of 13'641 pence per rupee.

TRADE.

February 1896 the rate of import and excise duty on mill-made cotton fabrics of all kinds was reduced to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*, while cotton yarns were made altogether free of duty. The year 1895-96 was marked by a rise in the value of many of the chief staples of India's import trade. The only notable exceptions were cotton goods and salt. The importation of cotton goods was kept low by the doubts concerning the permanency of the cotton duties, which were said by producers in the United Kingdom to be protective of Indian goods against British fabrics. Since the cotton duties were readjusted in February 1896, the importation of British cotton goods into India has increased greatly, while the Indian cotton mills have also done a good business for their home markets, and also for their customers in Africa and further Asia. The decline in importations of salt was due to the very large stocks carried over from the previous year. The largest proportionate increases in importations occurred under the heads of machinery and mill work (32 per cent.); metals (29 per cent.); petroleum (41 per cent.), and silk (27 per cent.).

There was an increase of $5\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in the value of the exports of Indian merchandise; the increase was most marked in the case of raw cotton; but there were large increases also in the exportations of grain and pulse, cotton yarn and cloth, hides and skins, indigo, jute manufactures, and lac. There was a recovery in the wheat exports compared with the preceding year, but the trade continues to be much smaller than in former years. The only large falling-off was in the exports of oil-seeds, which decreased by Rx. 4,484,000, thus partially countervailing the increase of Rx. 6,316,000 in the exports of raw cotton. The values of raw jute and of opium exports showed some decline. But the aggregate value of all exports of merchandise was considerably larger than in any previous year.

The trade across the land frontier of India was valued at Rx. 9,180,000, or about the same as the preceding year. Trade by land to and through Afghanistan showed some small recovery; though Indian goods for Central Asia prefer the cheaper and quicker route by sea and by the trans-Caspian railway. Trade with Kashmir, Nepal, Siam, and the southern Shan States showed some increase; but trade with Western China and the northern Shan States fell off.

The coasting trade between Indian ports continues to increase steadily; it was valued at Rx. 74,604,000 in 1895-96, as compared with Rx. 70,317,000 in the previous year. More than three-fourths of the coasting trade of India is now carried by steamers.

The value of the chief articles imported to, and exported from, India in the past three years, exclusive of re-exports, is as follows:—

VALUE OF CHIEF ARTICLES OF IMPORT (exclusive of Treasure).

	Tens of Rupees.		
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Cotton woven goods	20,269,000	29,822,000	22,784,000
Metals and hardware	7,580,000	6,346,000	8,106,000
Oils, chiefly petroleum	8,570,000	2,221,000	3,137,000
Silk, raw and manufactured	3,188,000	2,314,000	2,037,000
Cotton yarns	3,109,000	2,851,000	2,971,000
Sugar	2,824,000	2,875,000	3,107,000
Machinery and mill work	2,618,000	2,442,000	3,237,000
Provisions	1,783,000	1,576,000	1,707,000
Chemicals, medicines, dyes	1,837,000	1,866,000	2,101,000
Woollen goods	1,892,000	1,542,000	1,446,000
Liquors (alcoholic, including beer)	1,458,000	1,458,000	1,696,000
Apparel	1,578,000	1,435,000	1,594,000
Railway material	1,243,000	1,567,000	1,521,000

VALUE OF EXPORTS (exclusive of Re-exports of Imported Goods).

TRADE.

	Tens of Rupees.		
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Raw cotton	13,207,000	8,703,000	14,000,000
Rice	10,247,000	13,692,000	13,431,000
Oilseeds	16,753,000	14,202,000	9,717,000
Jute, raw and woven	11,000,000	14,788,000	14,740,000
Opium	8,019,000	9,065,000	8,459,000
Wheat	5,194,000	2,565,000	3,914,000
Cotton yarns	4,074,000	5,872,000	6,731,000
Tea	6,585,000	7,566,000	7,665,000
Hides and skins	5,801,000	6,560,000	7,639,000
Indigo	4,182,000	4,746,000	5,355,000
Coffee	2,002,000	2,122,000	2,108,000
Cotton woven goods	1,268,000	1,300,000	1,463,000
Wool, raw	1,080,000	1,377,000	1,353,000

Since the closing of the Indian Mints, India's trade in merchandise with gold-using countries has fallen from 77 to 75 per cent. of the total trade, while her trade with silver-using countries has risen from 23 to 25 per cent. Of India's whole trade 65½ per cent. was with Europe, 47·4 per cent. being with the United Kingdom. The values of India's trade with some of the chief countries has advanced or decreased thus :—

	Total Value.	
	1891-92.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.
With the United Kingdom	82,812,000	83,304,000
France	12,009,000	9,657,000
China	16,701,000	15,755,000
Germany	5,254,000	10,413,000
Straits Settlements	7,603,000	8,285,000
Belgium	6,790,000	6,682,000
Italy	3,540,000	3,561,000
Ceylon	3,396,000	4,214,000
Japan	1,361,000	3,237,000
United States, America	5,079,000	7,053,000
Russia	1,370,000	2,269,000

The largest comparative advance has been in the trade with Japan, Russia, and Germany; the largest decrease has been in the trade with France.

Among the maritime provinces of India the Bombay Presidency had 35·87 per cent. of the foreign trade in merchandise, Bengal had 40·19 per cent., Madras had 10·08 per cent., Burma had 8·32 per cent., and Sindh had 5·54 per cent. Among the chief seaports Bombay had 40·02 per cent., Calcutta 36·72 per cent., Rangoon 6·17 per cent., Madras 5·57 per cent., and Karachi 5·17 per cent. of India's total foreign trade in merchandise and treasure. The greater part of the trade in treasure belongs to Bombay; in merchandise Calcutta was considerably ahead of Bombay, the former showing 72½ millions and the latter 65½ millions as the total value of their export and import trade.

The net imports of treasure rose as compared with the previous year. The statistics for 1895-96 show a net importation of Rx. 9,108,000 of treasure into India, as compared with a net import of Rx. 1,355,000 during 1894-95, and of Rx. 14,361,000 during 1893-94. The 5 per cent. duty on silver imports yielded Rx. 356,000 of customs revenue, as compared with Rx. 349,000 in the previous year. The net gold importations were valued at Rx. 2,526,000, as compared with net gold exports valued at Rx. 4,974,000 in the year 1894-95.

MANUFACTURES.

MANUFACTURES.
General.

The domestic industries of India, such as weaving and spinning, pottery, brass-work, iron-work, and art work of many kinds, continue to be practised after ancient methods all over the continent of India. But Indian fabrics and products, made on a small scale by workers at their homes, have for years past been giving way before the cheaper cotton yarn and fabrics, and the iron or steel products of British factories. Meanwhile, without any protection, favour, or advantage other than is afforded by cheap Indian labour and by the production of raw materials in India, an important manufacturing industry has been growing up, and steam power factories are at work, among which those for spinning and weaving cotton, for spinning and weaving jute, for making paper, for husking and cleaning rice, for sawing timber, and for brewing beer, are the most important. Steam power is also largely employed in factories on tea gardens and indigo estates.

There were, at the end of the year 1895-96, 147 cotton mills worked by steam, of which three were opened during the year; 101 of the mills were in the Bombay Presidency; and the whole represented a nominal capital of about Rx. 12,800,000. Twelve of the mills are situate in Feudatory States or in French territory. The cotton mills employed a daily average of over 146,000 hands. They contained 37,278 looms and 3,844,307 spindles. The cotton mills of India are said to have used during the year 4,800,000 cwts. of cotton. This industry dates from 1851, when the first mill was started. Seventeen years ago there were in India 58 cotton mills, employing 39,000 hands, working 13,000 looms, and 1,437,000 spindles, and representing a capital of Rx. 5,300,000. The industry has thus increased nearly threefold since the year 1879.

The number of jute and hemp mills was 29 as in the previous year; all but two are in Bengal; of these two, one is at Cawnpore, and the other—the only hemp mill—is in Vizagapatam. The nominal capital of these mills is about Rx. 4,000,000. They employed 79,000 hands, on 10,579 looms and 216,139 spindles. In 1879-80 the corresponding figures were 21 mills, 27,000 hands, 4,645 looms, and 70,840 spindles. There were six woollen mills at work at the end of 1895, containing 17,244 spindles, and 531 looms, and producing goods valued at Rx. 256,000 a year. The fabrics consist chiefly of blankets and of woollen cloths worn by the Army and the police.

Seventy-one rice mills for husking and cleaning rice, and 68 saw mills, most of which were in Burma, employed about 45,000 hands; the amount of white or fully-cleaned rice produced by the rice mills continues to increase, while the proportion of cargo or half-cleaned rice exported decreases. Of the ten paper mills in India, one at Gwalior and another at Bombay were not worked during the year. For seven out of the ten factories the nominal capital was Rx. 627,000. The quality of papers made is now good, and they have an increasing sale. Most of the paper used in Government offices is now obtained from Indian mills; and the value of papers imported into India in 1895-96 was Rx. 402,000 as compared with Rx. 343,000 in 1894-95. The produce of the ten paper mills had increased to 40 million lbs. in weight, against 34½ million lbs. in 1894, and in value to Rx. 600,000, against Rx. 289,000 in 1889. The paper factories employed 3,594 hands, and the materials they used were chiefly moonj grass, jute and hemp cuttings, straw and rags of different kinds. Small paper works, making common paper without machinery, exist in several provinces, but for these petty industries no statistics are available. There were 23 breweries at work, which produced during the year 6,239,000 gallons of beer and porter, or 117,000 gallons more than they yielded in the previous year. The Commissariat Department bought 2,900,000 gallons of this malt liquor, as compared with 3,260,000 gallons purchased in 1894, for the use of European soldiers. The largest brewery was at Murree in the Panjab Himalayas, and the output of that concern was 851,000 gallons in 1895. The quantity of beer imported into India has recently averaged 2,908,000 gallons a year, or about one-half the quantity produced in the country.

Among

Among other "large industries," which are shown in the Indian Returns **MANUFACTURES.** for 1894, may be mentioned:—

Woollen mills - - - -	5	Cutch and lac factories (large)	12
Silk mills - - - -	6	Oil mills and factories - -	56
Soap factories - - - -	4	Flour mills - - - -	54
Tanneries - - - -	63	Ice factories - - - -	36
Iron and brass foundries - -	51	Pottery and tile factories -	9
Sugar factories (large) - -	14	Bone-crushing factories - -	14
Coffee works - - - -	23	Tobacco and cigar factories -	41
Cotton ginning factories, cotton presses, and jute presses -	480	Silk filatures - - - -	78
Cotton and woollen spinning and weaving establishments, not classed as mills - - - -	25	Glass factory - - - -	1
		Saltpetre refineries - - - -	1,508

Bengal contains jute mills, cotton mills, paper mills, collieries, the only large ironworks in India, and the largest pottery factory in India, besides factories for lac, sugar, rope, indigo, and saltpetre, tanneries and foundries. The coal, saltpetre, leather, pottery, jute, lac, and paper industries all made a good year; the output of saltpetre and lac increased very largely in consequence of a favourable season and a strong demand; the production of silk decreased somewhat, and the cotton mills did not have a good year. The mica industry made progress, the output being nearly double that of the preceding year. The production of the large pottery works at Raniganj doubled during the year; and the Barrakur iron works did fairly well. Bengal.

Among native industries in the North-West Provinces, brass-work, stone-quarrying and stone-carving, and weaving, are the most important; but these Provinces, which contain more large cities than any part of India, possess a great number of flourishing arts and crafts. North-West Provinces.

The Government of the North-West Provinces have published during the year two valuable reports on local industries, (1) on pottery and glass making and (2) dyes and dyeing. The coloured and fancy pottery of Lucknow, Aligarh, Chunar, and Benares, the glazed pottery of Bolundshahr and Rampore are all flourishing industries; trade in glass armlets and bracelets, of which a woman who is not a widow ordinarily wears 20 on each arm at the cost of one to three annas (1*d.* to 3*d.*) a set, is a large business. But the great work of the potters is to keep up the supply of glazed and unglazed red ware which is used by all trades and classes of Indian society for holding water, oil, and often grain; for cooking and eating in every household; for pipe-bowls; for raising water on irrigation wheels; for making gods and godlings; and for making sacrifices to gods; in millions of households no earthen vessel can be used a second time. Glass phials and articles of glass, other than bracelets and armlets, are made only in a few districts, and as yet little white glass of a good kind, no sheet glass, and no good bottles such as required for beer and wine. Notwithstanding all this demand, it is said that about one-third of the 702,000 potters, enumerated at the census of 1891, have left the calling of their caste, and have taken to agriculture. The town and village potters who practise their calling are said to earn Rs. 60 to Rs. 80 a year per household; while makers of fancy and coloured pottery earn considerably more. The three great divisions of potters are, (1) those who carry their clay on bullocks; (2) those who carry their clay on donkeys; and (3) Moslem potters who chiefly make goblets.

The dyers of the North-West Provinces use a great number of indigenous dyes, vegetable, mineral, and animal. The vegetable dyes predominate; but the use of aniline dyes has spread everywhere; and every small grocer sells five or six kinds of these dyes procured through the Cawnpore or Delhi agents of an Elberfeld firm in Rhenish Prussia. Al (Morinda Citrifolia), the favourite red vegetable dye of India in past times, is now in little demand; but indigo, acacia catechu, and acacia arabica are as much used as ever. The dyeing business certainly has not fallen off, cotton thread, cotton goods, silk thread and silk goods, woollen goods, leather, sweetmeats, calico printing, men and women's hair, ladies' faces and fingers, paper, hempen goods, and pottery all require a vast quantity of dyeing materials in the year. The local demand for "narra" (myrobolams)

MANUFACTURES. (myrobolams) is greater than ever. Coloured garments and cloths are used invariably by all who can afford them at birth, marriage, funeral, and other religious or quasi-religious ceremonies.

Punjab. In the Punjab there are few large industries apart from agriculture. As has been mentioned in previous Statements, the Punjab Government published during the four years 1889-92 monographs on some one of the principal indigenous industries of the Province, namely, upon the brass and copper industries, upon work in gold and silver, upon the fibrous plants of the Punjab other than cotton, and upon the leather industry. The large industries of the Punjab are, one woollen mill, nine breweries, 23 cotton pressing and ginning factories, and three iron foundries.

Burma. The large industries of Burma are 61 rice mills, 53 saw mills, one petroleum refinery, and seven ironworks for working imported iron and steel, not for smelting iron ore, one cotton press, and one oil press. All these are worked by steam. There are also three shipbuilding yards and six cutch factories. Among the more important local and indigenous industries are boat-building, weaving, gold and silver work, wood-carving, cigar-making, *ngapi* or fish-curing, pottery, lacquer-work, brass-work, and marble-work. The gold and silver work of Burma are appreciated not only by the Burmese, who are fond of ornaments of this kind, but by European customers. Wood-carving is an art much cultivated, and is employed in the ornamentation of monasteries and private houses, most of which are built of wood, as well as in the adornment of the river craft. Cigar-making is carried on largely by women for home consumption and for export; most of the tobacco used in the Burmese cigars comes from continental India. The curing of fish and making of fish-paste, constituted a very important industry; and the supply of fish from the rivers, inland waters and sea is very large; but very little of these products is exported, though the local trade therein is important. Lacquer-work is an important industry in Prome and Pagan; gums or oils from certain of the Burma forest trees are used in the manufacture, the basis of the lacquered articles being usually fine bamboo basket-work.

Central Provinces. The large industries of the Central Provinces are six cotton mills, of which one is situate in the chiefship of Nandgaon. They contain 1,700 looms, and 108,389 spindles, and employ 6,375 persons, of whom 4,637 are adult males; the amount of cotton consumed in these mills during the year 1895-96 was 182,000 cwts.; the contraction of the output, as compared with the previous year, was due to the unfavourable season. Besides the cotton mills, 20 other steam factories, including two collieries, were at work during the year. The usual domestic industries are practised in the Central Provinces; but there has been no revival of the cottage industry in embroidered or fine cloths for which the Nagpur country used to be celebrated.

Assam. The production of tea continues to be the first industry of Assam; the area under tea plants increased to 276,000 acres, or 7,000 more than in the preceding year; the average out-turn of the year rose from 414 to 425 lbs. per acre over the whole tea-producing area; but prices of Assam tea in the Calcutta and London markets ruled 16 or 17 per cent. lower during 1895 than in the previous year. The number of persons, inclusive of children, working on tea-gardens in Assam is returned at 537,000 against 494,000 in the preceding year; the number of labourers who immigrated into Assam during the year 1895 was 73,000 as compared with 47,000 in 1894; the death-rate among all classes of labourers and their families rose from 31.9 per thousand in the previous year to 33.6 in 1895. The death rate of 1894 was unusually low on account of the season having been healthy throughout Assam. The relations between employers and labourers are said to have been generally satisfactory. The land held direct from the State by time-expired immigrant labourers rose from 46,948 to 53,618 acres; the coolies also cultivate considerable areas with rice and vegetables within the limits of nearly all tea gardens. The output of Assam collieries increased one per cent. to 171,095 tons, and the output of the Sylhet lime quarries also increased.

Madras. Weaving continues to be the most important domestic industry in Madras, though it is still reported to be declining under the competition of machine-made goods. Eleven cotton mills in the Presidency worked up 257,000 cwts. of raw cotton, employed 11,600 hands, and the value of their products in yarn and woven goods was stated to be Rx. 1,016,500. The Basel Mission factory on the

the west coast, together with 13 other weaving establishments in South Canara, produced Rx. 20,700 worth of hand-woven fabrics of many kinds. One mill for weaving hempen bags used 46,000 cwts. of hemp. The number of cotton presses in the Presidency rose from 47 to 49, and they pressed during the year 222,500 bales of 400 lbs. each. Twenty-three coffee-curing works turned out 26,700,000 lbs. of cleaned coffee. The tanneries of Madras, Madura, Bellary, and Vizagapatam continued to produce large quantities of excellent leather, inferior to none in India except the best Cawnpore products. Twenty-two factories in South Canara, Tinnevely, and Malabar made large quantities of tiles and cement, and employed over 3,600 hands. Forty cigar factories were at work in the Godavari and the southern districts, and turned out Rx. 64,400 worth of cigars. Indigo is made on a small scale and of inferior quality at some hundreds of vats, and was exported to the value of Rx. 1,402,000 against Rx. 992,000 in the previous year. Sugar was made on a large scale at factories near the north coast, at some of which considerable quantities of rum were distilled.

In the Bombay Presidency there were 292 steam factories at work at the end of 1895, of which 124 belonged to the city of Bombay; at these factories 139,000 hands were employed, of whom 111,000 were employed in the cotton industry. The spinning and weaving mills were 101 in number. Besides the workshops belonging to the railways and the great steamship companies, 17 factories in Bombay and Sind turn out ironwork of all kinds. Among other large factories using steam are dye-works; woollen-weaving mills and wool-cleaning mills; some hundreds of cotton ginning and cleaning mills; saw mills; paper mills, one of which, at Poona, is large and increased its output considerably during the year; bone-crushing mills; rice-cleaning mills; flour mills; and mills for pressing oil.

Of the domestic industries and manufactures conducted after native methods, the chief are hand-loom weaving and cotton spinning, which supply the hand-woven goods still worn by the majority of the lower classes; calico dyeing and printing, gold and silver lace-making, the making of silk, and of garment pieces partly of silk for women's wear, the weaving of cotton and woollen carpets; brocade work, and embroidery of gold and silver, for which Guzerat, Nasik, and Sind workmen are specially renowned; the making of glass bangles or bracelets; wood-carving, the art speciality of Guzerat; and sculpture, which is practised in Cutch and Kathiawar; in these three provinces also silver work is done of a special kind and of much excellence. In many parts oil for domestic use, for soap-making, for lubricating machinery, and for lamps is expressed by labour of cattle and men from castor-beans, sesame, rape-seed, poppy-seed, mbaura or (mhowa) nuts, liuseed, ground-nuts, and cocoa-nuts. In the previous year a monograph on the pottery and glasswork of Bombay was published by the Government; and this was followed in 1895-96 by a report on "Dyes and Dyeing in Bombay."

The report dwells on the importance of the dyeing industry in a country where vast quantities of cotton, and silk, woollen, and leather goods are dyed to meet the large demand from all classes of the population. All the work is done by hand and mostly as a home industry. Even the printers on calico, silk, and leather work at their homes, save in some of the power silk mills at Bombay, where the goods are hand-printed from wooden blocks, after the ancient Indian method, by people of regular hand-printing craft. The importation of coloured and dyed cotton goods from Europe has increased and is increasing; the yearly value of these goods, apart from dyed yarns, was Rx. 2,390,000 on the average of the two years 1890-92, and was Rx. 2,970,000 on the average of the two years 1893-95. Dye-houses for yarns or goods are now attached to most of the cotton and silk mills in Western India. The importation of aniline and alizarine dyes into Bombay has greatly increased; the average yearly value of these dyes coming into Bombay was Rx. 70,000 during the five years 1882-87 and had reached Rx. 540,000 during the two years 1894-96. These dyes to some extent take the place of the vegetable and mineral dyes of India, while dyers often use them mixed with Indian dyes. The business of dyeing with imported dyes is much simpler than with the local dyeing materials, most of which require careful preparation; and it is said that nowadays anyone can become a dyer, whereas formerly the business was

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MANUFACTURES.

confined to the castes and families which had inherited capacities for, or had been brought up to, the work of dyeing. Dyers in fair work, in town or in country, appear to make a good living.

Berar.

The only large manufactory in Berar is the steam mill at Badnera, where yarn and cotton cloth are manufactured. It produced 1,049,000 lbs. of twist and yarn, and 991,000 lbs. of cloth, against 927,000 lbs., and 930,000 lbs. respectively in the preceding year. The number of persons employed in this factory was 1,037, as compared with 996 in the previous year. There are altogether 33 steam cotton presses and 66 cotton ginning factories in the province; of these the largest turned out 20,000 bales of cleaned cotton during the year. The three oil presses at Amraoti and Sheogaon produced 1,297 tons of oil and more than double that quantity of oil cake. The domestic industries of Berar are the weaving of silk, cotton pieces with embroidered borders, cotton carpets, coarse cotton cloth and garment pieces, turbans and blankets. No marked change in the working of these crafts was reported during the year.

FACTORY ACT.

FACTORY ACT.

The present Indian Factory Act came into force on the 1st January 1892. The changes introduced into the previous law were, briefly,—

The law could be applied to establishments employing 20 hands or over, instead of only to those with 50 hands or over;

The minimum age for child labourers was raised from seven to nine years, and the maximum age from 12 to 14 years;

The maximum hours for child labour in any one day were reduced from nine hours to seven hours;

The hours of labour for women workers, which were unrestricted under the Indian Factory Act of 1881, were limited by the Act of 1891 to 11 hours a day;

Hours of rest during work were prescribed for all labourers, namely, half an hour in the middle of the day for all hands; and one hour interval for women workers.

The reports of factory inspectors show the number of factories inspected, and the results of the inspections, to have been as follows:—

STATISTICS OF FACTORIES IN INDIA, INSPECTED UNDER THE FACTORY ACT DURING THE YEAR 1895.

PROVINCE.	Number of Factories liable to be inspected.	Number of Inspections in the Year.	Average Number of Hands employed daily.				Number of Factories.					Number of Persons convicted of breach of Act.	Number of Accidents Reported.			
			Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	With Sunday Holiday.	With other Weekly Holiday.	Exempted from Sunday stoppage.	Worked otherwise.	Fatal.		Serious.	Minor.	Total.	
Bengal	166	1,029	806,093	18,425	11,311	135,829	169	10	40	1	1	17	234	278	526	
North-West Provinces and Outh.	51	287	20,856	690	1,154	23,701	27	7	6	1	-	0	36	55	97	
Punjab	61	391	8,999	767	470	10,326	47	8	5	1	-	4	12	52	68	
Burma	125	326	16,945	362	36	17,023	120	-	2	-	-	2	10	25	46	
Central Provinces	28	166	7,131	1,093	730	9,374	14	13	-	-	-	1	15	28	44	
Madras	78	310	22,673	2,843	1,764	28,280	60	2	1	-	-	3	37	178	218	
Bombay	292	1,341	104,939	27,561	6,488	139,479	221	64	-	-	-	17	66	962	1,090	
Assam	10	20	1,094	318	90	1,802	10	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	
Ajmere	1	5	445	20	43	629	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	
Berar	67	454	2,667	2,172	128	5,267	32	35	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	
TOTAL, 1895	874	4,513	293,836	44,530	22,755	371,091	660	139	60	2	2	61	438	1,612	2,101	
TOTAL, 1894	922	3,340	275,806	52,127	20,877	249,810	596	128	75	7	2	58	371	1,594	1,933	

Bombay.

The largest number of factories is in the Bombay Presidency, and 124 are in Bombay city alone. It is said that in Bombay the Factory Act has been properly carried out. The supply of drinking water and the conservancy arrangements were sufficient; ventilation in some of the Bombay city mills is being further improved.

improved. The general health of the workpeople has been reported on all sides FACTORY ACT to be satisfactory; about 10 per cent. of the hands are usually away on their holiday, or at their villages; the wages earned are good, and are punctually paid. There were no strikes, and labour was plentiful. Much attention was devoted to measures for protecting children and other operatives from avoidable accidents. The Chief Inspector considers it "as eminently satisfactory that no irregularities or infringements of the provisions of the Act have, in spite of increased vigilance, been brought to light." He states that "the system of supervising factories was, in 1895, far more searching than it had previously been."

From Bengal it is reported that the results of the Inspectors' visits and the medical officers' visits "left little to be desired." Suggestions made by inspecting officers were "for the most part promptly" attended to by the managers." Forty-six factories, as compared with 61 in the previous year, were exempted by Government from the rule requiring a weekly holiday. The jute factory opened during the previous year in French territory, close to the suburban factories near Calcutta, is worked on practically the same lines as mills in British territory, the only difference detected by the Inspector being that some of the children may have been under the minimum age of nine prescribed by the Indian Factory Act. The water supply for factories is mostly good; and conservancy arrangements are satisfactory. The general health of all the operatives was exceptionally good, and attention is being directed to the improvement of the dwellings of the workpeople. The fencing of machinery was found to be properly maintained. Disputes and disturbances about wages and the payment thereof, or about Moslem holidays, arose at certain factories near Calcutta; the operatives made threatening demonstrations against the European employes, who had recourse to firearms. The police, however, arrived on the spot in each case with promptitude and in strength sufficient to prevent any harm being done.

In Madras medical inspection and professional inspection of factories were satisfactorily performed. Sanitary arrangements, the condition of the factories, and the health of the operatives were found to be good. Machinery was satisfactorily fenced, and there was a decrease of serious accidents.

From the North-West Provinces it is reported that the sanitary condition of factories was found satisfactory; managers and owners readily meet the suggestions of inspectors; the health of operatives was good. The law and rules for the prevention of abuses were observed.

From the Central Provinces reports were satisfactory; the action taken by inspecting officers continued to improve; the notes recorded by medical officers were full and received due attention; health and sanitation of factories were favourably reported on; the larger mills are said to show special consideration for the health and comfort of their workpeople. The serious accidents were due to causes for which the managers were not blameable.

In Burma the health of the operatives was good, save at one mill where cholera broke out; conservancy arrangements and quarters for the hands are receiving attention; inspections were regular, and the inspectors were generally satisfied with the condition of the factories. None of the accidents were found to be due to defective fencing of machinery.

CHAPTER XV.

FRONTIERS, NATIVE STATES, AND TRANSMARINE INTERESTS.

FRONTIER STATES
AND FOREIGN
RELATIONS.
Chitral.

THE most important event on the north-west frontier was the Chitral Expedition. At the beginning of April 1895 the Political Agent and British force in Chitral were beleaguered by Sher Afzul, a former usurper, and Umra Khan of Jandol, supported by the Chitralis generally. A force under Colonel Kelly, consisting largely of Kashmir troops, aided by native levies from the feudatory states of Panyal, Hunza, and Nagar, was on the way to the relief of Chitral from Gilgit, while a larger expedition of British troops under Sir R. Low was forcing its way by the direct route from Peshawur by the Malakhand and Lowari passes towards the same object. The military operations are described in a subsequent section. Chitral was relieved, and it remained for H.M.'s Government to decide upon its Chitral policy, and upon the necessary arrangements for giving effect to it. The Government of Lord Rosebery came to the decision that no military force or European agent should be kept at Chitral, that Chitral should not be fortified, and that no road should be made between Peshawur and Chitral. This decision was reversed by the Government of Lord Salisbury, which came into power on 2nd July 1895. The proposals of the Government of India for maintaining British influence by the retention of an agent and a military force in Chitral were adopted. The route between Peshawur and Chitral was permanently opened. Arrangements were entered into with the Khan of Dir and with the intervening tribes, and certain allowances were offered them for the purpose of keeping the road in order, for maintaining postal communications, and for forwarding supplies. These arrangements have proved satisfactory, and the ordinary reliefs of the garrison at Chitral have been effected by the Malakhand-Dir road without difficulty and without trouble with the tribesmen. Supplies obtained for the Chitral garrison from the Swat and Bajour country have been more abundant than was expected, postal communications have been regularly maintained, and ordinary transactions of trade along the new road have rapidly increased. Meanwhile British troops have been retained on the Malakhand pass and at the crossing of the Swat river at Chakdarra.

With the opening of the Peshawur road the political separation of Chitral from the Gilgit agency became possible and desirable. The Assistant Political Officer with the charge of Chitral up to the Shandur and Darkot passes was placed under the orders of the Political Officer for Dir and Swat, who was directly subordinate to the Government of India. The Mastuj governorship was also attached to the charge of the Chitral Officer. At Chitral Shuja-al-Mulk was formally installed as Mehtar by the British Political Agent in the name of the Maharaja of Kashmir as suzerain of the State and with the authority and approval of the Government of India. As the new Mehtar was a minor, three of the principal men of Chitral were appointed to advise him and to instruct him in matters of internal administration, and the Mehtar was informed that he might always call upon the Political Officer for advice or assistance. Traffic on slaves was forbidden in the State, and it was made known that the Government of India would not permit murderous outrages such as those that had led to the recent disturbances. The Kushwakt county which lies to the east of Mastuj and the Darkot pass was separated from Chitral and was left under the control of the British Agent at Gilgit. Governors and headmen were accordingly appointed directly by him on behalf of the Kashmir State. The removal of Chitral and Dir from the supervision of the Gilgit agency reduced the importance of that station, and it was found possible in various ways to diminish the garrison and establishment previously maintained there. This matter can, however, be more properly treated in the paragraph dealing with Kashmir.

Boundary
delimitation.
Pamirs.

The year 1895-96 saw great progress in defining and demarcating the boundaries of British territory and British influence in India. The Pamir boundary was demarcated by a joint Anglo-Russian commission, in accordance with

with the Agreement of March 1895. The last of the arrangements to be carried out under that Agreement was the surrender of Darwaz south of the Oxus by Bokhara to Afghanistan. This was carried out in October 1896. The Amir of Afghanistan has undertaken to conduct the administration of Wakkhan between the Hindu Kush and the Russian frontier, in return for an increase to his subsidy.

FRONTIER STATES
AND FOREIGN
RELATIONS.

The work of demarcating the Afghan boundary on the sides of India and Baluchistan was undertaken in five sections. Four of these and a portion of the fifth have been completed; so that between the Hindu Kush and Persian territory, the whole line of frontier is defined or demarcated, except a portion in the neighbourhood of Peshawur from Nawa Kotal on the north to the Safed Koh range on the south of the Kabul river. This section which passes through the Mohmund country will shortly, it may be hoped, be clearly determined, and, possibly, demarcated.

Afghan
Frontier.

The southern half of the boundary between Persian territory and British influence in Baluchistan was laid down in 1872 by General Goldsmid's Mission. In 1895-96 the remaining portion between Jalk and Malik Siah Koh, where Persian and Afghan jurisdictions meet, was finally and satisfactorily demarcated by an Anglo Persian-Commission.

Perso-Baluch
Frontier.

Reference was made in last year's Statement to the visit of Shahzada Nasrullah Khan, the second son of the Amir of Afghanistan, to England. In Afghanistan itself the most important event was the Afghan conquest of Kafiristan, the whole of which country was left within the Amir's sphere of influence by the boundary agreements with the British Government. Steps were taken by the Afghan troops to open up routes through Kafiristan from the Kunar valley to Badakshan. In consequence of the conquest of the Kafirs, the Amir assumed the new title of Zia-ul-Millat-ud-din, or the Light of the Nation and Religion. An unfortunate incident of the year's history was the murder of the British Agent at Kabul, Akram Khan, by one of his servants. No political significance was attached to the outrage. Akram Khan has since been replaced by Maulvi Ghafur Khan.

Afghanistan.

The year was a dry one, and the receipts of the province, which is under direct British administration, fell somewhat short of the estimates, and amounted to Rx. 56,000. The Government allotment under the provincial contract was Rx. 86,500. The expenditure of the year slightly exceeded the sum of these two amounts. The health of the population was good, the crops moderate, and prices higher. Settlement operations are gradually being carried out in British Baluchistan, and the payment of revenue in cash is taking the place of revenue in kind.

Baluchistan.

The principal event in the agency was the death of the Jam of Las Bela, Sir Haji Jam Ali Khan, K.C.I.E. The late Jam had been at variance with his eldest son, and desired that one of his younger sons should succeed him. The succession of the eldest son, Mir Kamal Khan, was, however, recognised, and he was installed as Jam in May 1896.

The Kalat State was freed from one cause of disturbance by the death of Gauhar Khan, ex-Chief of the Jhalawan tribe, referred to in last year's Statement. Subsequently, His Highness the Khan made a tour with 120 men of his reformed troops to Mekran, confirming his authority there, and making arrangements for future administration, and for collection of revenues. A garrison of 100 sepoy was left in Kej and Panjgur for the support of the Khan's Nazim.

The tribal levies worked satisfactorily. The Waziris gave exceptionally little trouble during the year; and the only serious troubles in the Agency were an affray over a grazing dispute between Marris and Lunis, for which punishments were duly inflicted on the ringleaders, and a series of murders, including that of Lieutenant Home, by Chuharkhel Sheranis of Loara. The outrage arose out of the abduction in 1894-95 of a girl belonging to this tribe by the Khidderzais. The offenders in this case were also duly punished.

The efforts to obtain petroleum in Baluchistan have been finally abandoned. The amount of coal raised in the agency in 1895-96 was 21,000 tons. Two new forests were reserved for protection during the year, raising the area of State forests to 175 square miles.

No administration Report of the Kashmir State has been received since that for 1893-94. Chitral affairs have already been described. The opening

Kashmir.

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of the Malakand-Dir route to Chitral, and the experience that it could be utilised for the peaceful relief of the Chitral garrison rendered it feasible to reduce the establishment and troops at Gilgit. In the first place, the Imperial Service Infantry of the Kashmir State was reduced from six to four battalions, two of which are to be stationed in the Gilgit command, together with a battery of artillery and two companies of Sappers belonging to the Kashmir State and the British agent's escort of 200 rifles. The troops are to be concentrated at Gilgit, Bunji, and Chilas, local levies taking charge of the outlying posts, which had hitherto been occupied by detachments of the regular troops. At the same time, it was found possible to diminish considerably the number of British officers in the Agency, and to reduce the salary of the Political Agent at Gilgit. The saving of expenditure resulting from these changes is estimated at 2½ lakhs of rupees, of which 1½ will accrue to the Kashmir State. In the budget for 1896-97 the total revenue of the State is estimated Rs. 551,700, of which Rs. 350,000 are derived from land, Rs. 76,900 from forests, and Rs. 39,000 from customs; the expenditure of the same year is calculated Rs. 543,100, of which the principal items are Rs. 134,400 for military and Rs. 129,000 for public works. Both these heads show considerable reductions from the average of recent years. Still further reduction of military expenditure is likely to result from the measures of military re-organisation already referred to.

Punjab.

Except for the Chitral relief operations the affairs of the Punjab border were tranquil, and the tribes behaved well. No doubt the impression made on the inhabitants of the hills by the successful march of the expedition conduced to this good result. The history of the Kurram valley since its occupation in 1892 has been one of quiet, peaceful, and rapid progress. The strength of the garrison has been reduced; the local militia have been brought into a state of efficiency; the land revenue is collected with ease; there is little crime; civil litigation is decreasing; new hamlets and villages are being founded; irrigation is developing, and trade has largely increased. A similar result may be hoped for from the occupation of the Tochi valley and of Wana in the year under review. In the previous year the Dauris and Waziris had petitioned the British Government to occupy the Tochi valley, and offered to pay land revenue. This was agreed to, and pending a formal measurement and assessment of the lands, a cash assessment of Rs. 6,000 a year for three years was imposed. Allowances were assigned to the headmen, conditional on the good behaviour of the tribes. Local levies were enlisted, and levy posts constructed; and, generally, the task of reducing chaos to order throughout the tract was taken in hand. The military occupation of Wana and the opening of the Shahur route and the protection of this and other routes by levy posts also conduced to order and the development of trade. The trade of the frontier suffers now mainly from the exactions of the Amir's Government, whose policy is directly opposed to free commercial intercourse; consequently the amount of the Khaibar tolls again declined in 1895-96. The demarcation of the frontier with Afghanistan has already been referred to; the only portion of the border remaining undefined was that between the Nawai Kotal in Bajour and the Safed Koh south of the Khaibar.

Nepal and Tibet.

The relations of the Government of India with the Nepal State were as cordial as usual, and trade continued to expand. A dispute, at one time thought to be serious, arose between Nepal and Tibet on the question of the barter of Tibetan salt for Nepalese rice, and in regard to the frontier; but after some discussion the questions were amicably settled.

Tibet and Sikkim.

No further progress was made in 1895-96 towards the final settlement of the Sikkim-Tibet frontier in connection with the Sikkim-Tibet Convention of 1890. The advance of the frontier trade with Tibet is shown from the following figures of trade registered at Yatung:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports into British Territory - -	6,38,954	7,07,063
Exports from British Territory - -	6,16,756	8,61,087

This increase of trade was in despite of the fact that the Tibetans continued to obstruct, rather than to give facilities for, trade at Yatung. The trade between Sikkim and British territory is also increasing rapidly, as shown from the following figures :—

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	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Imports into British Territory -	2,43,591	2,84,270	4,18,879	5,03,681
Exports from British Territory -	1,80,979	2,07,068	3,06,006	4,33,856

Politically, the restoration of the Raja to power was the most important event in Sikkim. The results have been satisfactory. He still, however, maintains many ties with Tibet, where also his eldest son remains. The public revenue of Sikkim has practically been created by the British administration in the last few years. Formerly there were no taxes, and consequently no police, no education, and no public works expenditure. The revenue now exceeds Rx. 9,000. In 1895-96 the crops were fairly good.

Relations with Bhutan were friendly. It is noticed that the State correspondence has recently been written in the name of the Dharma Raja, instead of, as formerly, in that of the Deb Raja. It is not known whether there is any special significance in the change. Bhutan.

The frontier tribes on the north of Assam generally behaved well in 1895-96. The blockades of the Bor Abors and of the Chulikata and Bebejia Mishmis were maintained; but that against the Passi Meyong Abors was discontinued. These blockades were established after the expedition of 1893-94. Raids beyond the frontier continued as usual. An attack of Panibotia Miris on a party of Apatanangs has led to some subsequent troubles. Assam Frontier
and Manipur.

In Manipur the revenue rose to Rx. 36,000, while the expenditure amounted to Rx. 29,500. The Raja of Manipur and his half-brother are being educated at the Mayo College, Ajmere. There was a local ecclesiastical question between rival families of Brahmins claiming the management of the royal temples which somewhat disturbed the minds of the Manipuris, but in other respects the year was one of quiet progress. The demarcation of the boundary between Manipur and Burma was concluded after the close of the year. The Manipur-Kobima cart-road was opened for traffic. The last instalment of the indemnity was paid off. The year closed with a State balance of Rx. 11,000. Expectations of a bumper harvest were, unfortunately, dashed by heavy rains in December.

In consequence of the failure of the Chief Kairuma to pay the fine imposed on him in April 1895, an expedition marched against him from three sides from Aijal (Assam), Falam (Burma), and Lungleh (Bengal). No resistance was offered, and the Chief's power was broken. The North Lushai Hills District was formally incorporated in the province of Assam from 5th September 1895. The South Lushai Hills District was likewise formally annexed to Bengal during the year, and the Bengal Government was empowered to declare what laws should be in force in the district. The North and South Lushai Hills District will be administered under similar regulations. Lushai Hills
(Bengal and Assam).

The Chin Hills District was also annexed, and was incorporated as an integral part of Burma. After the close of the year under review a regulation was passed placing its administration on a legal footing. The tracts between the Upper Chindwin District and Manipur remain beyond the borders of regular administration. The inhabitants are, however, precluded from raiding into the plains. On the Pakokhu border the nearer tribes pay tribute, and are expected to keep the peace among themselves as well as to abstain from raids; otherwise, they are subject to but little control. The tribes more remote are not interferred with at all, provided they do not raid tracts under administration. During the year 1895-96 the disarmament of the tribes in the districts under Chin Hills
(Burma).

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administration was completed. As has already been mentioned, a Burma column co-operated in the successful expedition against the Chief Kairuma. The Yawdwin frontier was disturbed by two raids on the plains, and a tributary Chin village was raided by villages beyond British influence. Steps were taken for inflicting suitable punishment on the offenders. In other respects the behaviour of the Chin tribes in 1895-96 was satisfactory. The whole tribute was collected without difficulty. Trade increased, and as a result of more peaceful times it has been decided to replace the troops in the southern hills by a reduced garrison of military police. The Chin Hills were for the first time visited by the head of the Province, who held darbars at Tiddim, Falam, and Haka.

Kachin.
(North East
Frontier).

On the North-East frontier an expedition was sent to punish the Kachins of the Sana tract for raids in past years. There was little opposition. An important tour was undertaken by the Superintendent of Police at Bhamo along the Chinese frontier. Many disputes were settled by him in association with the Sawbwa of the Chinese Shan State of Nantien, who was deputed for the purpose by the Sub-Prefect of Momein. Another important tour was undertaken in the Jade Mines District. The tract is remote and inaccessible, and is resorted to by adventurers of various races, consequently its administration is difficult; arrangements for its proper control are still under consideration. The Kachin Hill Tribes Regulation came into force in July 1895; it legalised procedure, but made no important changes. The abolition of tolls on the frontier is under contemplation. The only serious disturbances in the Kachin Hills tract during the year were two raids on caravans on the Eastern frontier of the Myitkina district and some dacoities in the newly-opened ruby mines tract in the neighbourhood of Nanyaseik. The boundary with China still awaits demarcation. As a result of negotiations the line of frontier recognised in the Convention of 1894 has been modified. Relations with the Chinese officials on the frontier were friendly and satisfactory.

Chinese
Frontier.Shan States and
Karenni.

Peace and prosperity continued to reign throughout the Shan States. There was no organised crime, but murders were apparently more frequent, and in the Northern Shan States some serious crimes of a non-political character were recorded. A force of military police visited Manglun, and met with some resistance from the wild Was. No other military operations were required. After the settlement of the Anglo-French boundary, referred to in last year's Statement, trans-Mekong Keng Cheng was evacuated by the British force and handed over to the French authorities. Keng Cheng this side of the Mekong was incorporated with Kengtung. Towards the end of the year under review the young Sawbwa of Kengtung, who had shown promise of becoming a capable ruler, and was acting loyally with the British Government, died. The question of succession was still undecided at the end of the year. Remarkable progress is reported to have been made in Hsipaw, where financial equilibrium was established, and great impulse given to agriculture. North and South Hsinwi were successfully administered. The Kachin tracts withdrawn from the control of the Sawbwa of North Hsinwi were restored to him during 1895-96. The most important event of the year in the States was the decision to construct the railway from Mandalay to the Kunlong Ferry on the Salween. The work is being rapidly pushed on. When the railway is opened new conditions will be created, and some changes in administration will be required. It is recorded in the report on the Southern States, that road-making and bridge-making have become a sort of mania with all Sawbwaws; but improvements beyond their individual capacities are required. Trunk roads and a branch railway to the centre of the Southern Shan States are urgently needed. At present there is a plethora of production ensuing on years of peace and prosperity, and cultivators find it impossible to sell their produce, and consequently find it difficult to pay their dues.

Meanwhile experiments to introduce the cultivation of wheat, potatoes, and English fruits promise success, and make it still more necessary to ensure accessible markets. Trade in both north and south divisions of the Shan States is rapidly expanding. Population at the same time is increasing. An exception in this respect is to be found among the Karens, who appear to be dying out. Their country is, however, being rapidly peopled by Sians.

INTERNAL STATES.

INTERNAL STATES.

THE population of the Native States, based on the census of 1891, may be taken at 63½ millions, and their aggregate revenues at 21 crores of rupees. The number of their military forces, mostly of a very undisciplined and inefficient kind, but including the Imperial Service Troops, is returned at 250,000.

The actual strength of these troops on 1st July 1896 is shown in the margin. The reports on the various units show the force to be now in a very efficient

Cavalry	8,048
Artillery	299
Sappers and Miners	318
Infantry	8,768
Canon Corps	493
Transport Corps (men)	971
Total	18,804

state. Discipline nearly everywhere is of the highest order; the service is popular in the States; there is a keen military enthusiasm and an eager desire to be employed on active service should any opportunity occur. On the whole the material is excellent, though in some States, such as Bhopal, it is hard to find among the State's subjects suitable recruits for military service. It is, however, considered important that the recruits should be confined to the chief's own State, as these corps belong to the chiefs, and are not part of the regular Indian army. The Kashmir troops, who have done good service in the Hunza and Chitral campaigns, are not so well reported on as in former years. Those stationed in the Gilgit command have been split up into too many small detachments to be properly trained. This defect will be remedied by the decision to concentrate the troops at Gilgit, Bunji, and Chilas, and to leave the outlying posts to be held by local levies. The Kashmir Lancers also suffered from an uncertainty whether they were to cease to be an Imperial Corps or were to be reduced. It has been decided to reduce them to a strength of one squadron of 150 men.

The suppression of dacoity in the Native States is a matter of Imperial concern, and often necessitates interference on the part of the paramount Power, particularly in those tracts of Native States' territory where the jurisdiction of the chiefs is much intermingled, and where the dacoits have, therefore, great advantages in organising their crimes with comparative impunity. For the State of Hyderabad and the large Agencies of Central India and Rajputana there has long existed a special department under the Government of India charged with the duty of suppressing thuggee and dacoity. The reorganisation of this department was referred to in last year's Statement. In the course of 1895-96 several new departmental agencies were established, and were able to work harmoniously with the authorities of the States concerned. The number of dacoities reported by the department increased from 389 in 1894 to 448 in 1895; another unfortunate feature was the decrease in convictions from 149 to 74. The increase in numbers may be due in part to more regular reporting of cases. No other cause for the increase is suggested in the report.

The following are the principal figures of the finance of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for the last six years:—

Year.	Gross Land Revenue.	Total Revenue.	Expenditure.				Total Expenditure.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.	Payments to His Highness the Nizam.
			Public Works.	Civil Administration.	Military.	State Railways.			
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	
1890-91	652,474	1,009,595	118,530	324,531	337,606	8,605	859,272	150,323	146,473
1891-92	659,976	1,027,652	110,532	410,757	378,424	9,480	909,202	118,450	130,697
1892-93	625,944	983,448	121,177	416,095	361,597	9,123	907,992	77,456	83,104
1893-94	637,390	1,017,475	109,966	432,531	392,819	8,567	943,883	73,592	65,000
1894-95	643,312	1,011,949	110,696	446,493	397,472	10,381	965,042	46,907	118,205
1895-96	655,903	1,044,825	102,131	453,493	384,796	12,059	932,439	112,386	29,173

It will be seen that in this period expenditure has increased, and the surplus available for payment to the Nizam has considerably declined.

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From this and from other causes the revenues of the Nizam Government have been for the last two years unequal to meeting the expenditure, which exceeds 4 crores annually. No administration report is issued by the Hyderabad State. Some measures of reorganisation, particularly of the High Court, were carried out during the year under review.

Mysore.

The following statistics of the revenue and expenditure of Mysore are taken from the Dewan's Memorandum of Moral and Material Progress and Condition of the State for the year 1895-96 :—

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Rx.		Rx.
Land Revenue - - - - -	975,306	Interest - - - - -	22,520
Mining Leases - - - - -	77,486	Land Revenue - - - - -	160,972
Forests - - - - -	128,672	Forests - - - - -	50,947
Excise - - - - -	330,116	Excise - - - - -	17,043
Assessed Taxes and Sayer - - - - -	60,482	Administration - - - - -	65,838
Stamps and Registration - - - - -	86,816	Palace - - - - -	140,000
Interest on Investments - - - - -	42,401	Law and Justice - - - - -	89,320
Mysore State Railway Earnings - - - - -	64,593	Police - - - - -	77,849
Other Receipts - - - - -	47,654	Education - - - - -	50,610
		Tribute and Assignments - - - - -	263,794
		Military - - - - -	97,652
		Public Works - - - - -	323,215
		Railways { Redemption Fund - - - - -	40,000
		{ Guaranteed Interest - - - - -	78,367
		Railway Construction and Surveys - - - - -	13,519
		Investments - - - - -	11,271
		Other Expenditure - - - - -	149,078
TOTAL - - Rx.	1,931,618	TOTAL - - Rx.	1,651,506

It thus appears that, after allotting four lakhs for redemption of railway debt, investing more than one lakh in Government securities, and spending another lakh on the construction and survey of fresh railway projects, the State concluded the year with a surplus of 18 lakhs. A large proportion of this surplus will in subsequent years be absorbed by the full payment of the State subsidy of 35 lakhs, which is due from the 1st April 1896. During the year the State continued to be under a Regency; its Government was, as heretofore, efficient and satisfactory. The representative assembly met as usual, and was addressed by the Dewan; over 400 subjects are stated to have been brought forward and discussed.

Baroda.

Two reports dealing with the years ending 31st July 1893 and 1894, respectively, have been issued by the Dewan of Baroda since the issue of last year's statement. The statistics given in these reports indicate a satisfactory condition of Government. The efficient working of the police is testified to by the gradual decrease in the number of offences reported to the police, from 7,733 in 1888-89 to 4,401 in 1893-94. The percentage of convictions improved to 70.08 in the latter year. Litigation shows a tendency to increase rather rapidly, and the courts find a difficulty in disposing of the work before them without excessive delay. In 1893-94 it took, on an average, 255 days to decide a suit, if contested; 89 days, if uncontested. These figures, though better than those for the previous year, cannot be considered satisfactory. The number of documents brought for registration grows year by year. In 1889-90 it was 10,601; in 1893-94 it had risen to 14,044. Nearly half of these transactions relate to immovable property. The expenditure on education in Baroda is considerable, and the number of children in the schools of the State compares favourably with similar statistics in other Native States. The

The following figures relating to revenue and expenditure are taken from the INTERNAL STATES reports:—

RECEIPTS.

	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue - - - - -	1,12,38,842	1,10,78,920	1,08,83,087
Tributes - - - - -	10,75,720	8,44,681	7,66,823
Abkari - - - - -	9,06,959	8,52,894	8,06,421
Customs (including Octroi) - - - - -	8,28,912	8,08,587	8,12,671
Opium - - - - -	6,21,769	7,20,160	7,90,208
Stamps - - - - -	4,91,036	6,86,604	5,13,608
Railways - - - - -	2,40,255	2,22,010	5,69,919
Interest - - - - -	7,01,500	7,54,823	7,71,761
All other Receipts - - - - -	13,17,020	14,51,598	12,10,951
TOTAL Receipts - - -	1,74,31,019	1,72,70,177	1,71,25,440

EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Palace - - - - -	20,64,395	21,38,069	22,57,348
Tour Expenses - - - - -	50,661	3,52,784	87,788
Land Revenue Administration - - - - -	22,50,968	24,80,146	25,87,181
Charges on Land Revenue - - - - -	10,72,075	12,02,555	10,68,187
Opium - - - - -	9,359	19,21,000	2,49,842
Police - - - - -	8,33,443	7,27,880	6,98,612
Education - - - - -	6,48,077	7,22,300	8,03,899
Military - - - - -	26,07,611	31,74,918	31,22,934
Public Works - - - - -	25,41,858	22,83,888	22,00,853
All other Expenditure - - - - -	54,62,375	33,36,672	29,17,155
TOTAL Expenditure - - -	1,76,25,822	1,83,40,818	1,60,02,799

Among the receipt items may be noticed 7 to 8 lakhs for interest on investments, and 2½ to 6 lakhs from railways, against which there is practically no expenditure to be set. The military expenditure represents the cost of a force of about 5,000 regulars and 4,000 irregulars, the irregulars, for some reason not explained, costing more than the larger number of regulars. The enormous opium expenditure of 1892-93 was due mainly to adjustments of transactions of past years not previously brought to account.

In 1895-96 the Gaekwar again spent a large portion of the year away from his state. Relations between the Darbar and the holders of giras and wantas and of tenures guaranteed by the British Government, have for some years been unsatisfactory. Little progress seems to have been made in 1895-96 towards the adjustment of the difficulties in question. Discontent continues to some extent in connection with the Alienation Department, one of the principal officials in which was found by a special commission guilty of certain charges of corruption. He was, however, subsequently freed from these charges by the Gaekwar. Charges of corruption and of smuggling were also proved in 1895-96 against certain high officials in the State Opium Department. Various railway projects were taken up by the Gaekwar's Government in 1895-96. Sanction was given for a railway from Vishwamitri to Padra; plans and estimates for a line from Miogam to Sinore were under consideration. Surveys and plans were being made or considered for other lines, such as Vijapur to Kalol, Bakadurpur to Songir, Pattan to Kheralu, Potan to Harij or Ranuj to Harij *via* Chansama, and Chansama to Bechraji. The survey of a railway from Baroda to Godhra was undertaken by the Bombay Baroda Company, which also commenced the construction of the Ahmedabad-Prantij line. In addition the Gaekwar subscribed 34 lakhs towards the construction of the Surat-Nandurbar Railway, part of which passes through Baroda Territory.

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Rajputana.

The following is a Table of the Rajputana States, with their revenues and their expenditure on public works where this is reported, viz. :—

STATE.	Area in Square Miles.	Population in 1891.	Actual or Estimated Revenue for last Two Years.		Public Works Expenditure in 1895-96.
			Last Year.	Previous Year.	
			Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Udaipur (Mewar) -	12,861	1,862,478	(375,000)	375,000	154,725†
Dungarpur -	1,440	165,400	18,233	20,657	} Figures not furnished.
Banswara, &c. -	1,937	212,269	20,978	26,318	
Pratapgarh -	959	87,975	43,044	54,800	
Juipur -	15,349	2,832,276	652,758	641,841	84,843
Kishangarh -	874	125,516	40,987	41,409	} Figures not furnished.
Lawa -	10	3,360	(450)	(450)	
Jodhpur (Marwar) -	37,445	2,521,727	592,361	523,651	71,204†
Jesalmer -	16,039	115,701	18,128	22,253	} Figures not furnished.
Sirohi -	1,066	188,977	28,356	30,405	
Bikaner -	23,090	831,955	284,187	288,495	48,071
Bundi -	2,225	295,675	75,532	74,417	} Figures not furnished.
Tonk -	1,415*	108,934*	109,452	131,951	
Shahpura -	406	63,646	28,269	30,073	
Bharatpur -	1,961	640,303	(270,000)	(270,000)	60,877
Dholpur -	1,156	279,800	(125,000)	125,371	} Figures not furnished.
Karauli -	1,229	156,587	45,844	45,230	
Alwar, &c. -	8,651	767,786	276,117	272,870	42,414
Kotah -	3,803	526,267	256,481	242,435	34,206
Jhalawar -	5,043	343,601	(154,946)	132,658	3,418
TOTAL - - -	130,268	12,220,343	3,476,123	3,350,884	—

* Excluding the Tonk pergunnas in Central India.

† Including expenditure on railways.

The monsoon was deficient, and agriculture consequently depressed. In parts of Marwar, Jesalmer, Bikanir, Ulwar, and Shahpura, over an area of 38,500 square miles, with a population of 1,550,000 persons, scarcity prevailed, and famine relief measures were necessary. Almost 8,000 individuals received relief, and more than 20,000 migrated temporarily from Western Rajputana to more favoured localities in the adjoining States or in the Punjab, Sindh, or Gujerat.

The most important occurrence of the year in Rajputana was the deposition of the Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar on account of persistent misgovernment and proved unfitness for the powers of a ruling chief. At the close of the year under review, no decision had been arrived at as to the future administration of Jhallawar. By the death of Maharaja Sir Jaswant Singh Bahadur, c.c.s.i., of Jodhpur, Rajputana lost one of the old type chiefs of the best kind. Under his rule, Jodhpur had passed from a condition of discontent, confusion, and debt, to one of prosperity, order, and good government. He was a most popular ruler, and at the same time thoroughly loyal to the paramount power. He was succeeded by his son, who was a minor, and the management of the State was left in the hands of Maharaj Dhiraj Sir Pratap Singh, aided by a State Council. The Maharaja of Jeypur during the year 1895-96, received an addition of two guns to his salute in the *Chitral Gazette* in consideration of the services rendered by his Imperial Service Transport Corps in that campaign.

The social reform movement called the Walterkrit Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha continued to flourish in Rajputana, and its rules curtailing the expenditure on marriages and funerals are more generally adhered to.

The financial position of most of the Rajputana States is satisfactory; their revenues have already been given. A few of the States, for instance Dholpur, Tonk, Jesalmer, and Banswara, are in debt, the three former to the extent of 8½, and 6, and 1 lakh, respectively, but these debts are being gradually liquidated. Many of the States have large balances in hand, as for instance

Alwar

Alwar 67 lakhs, Bikanir 34, Blarhpur 24, Kotah 20, and Jhallawar 5 lakhs. INTERNAL STATES. Jaipur and Jodhpur also, no doubt, have large balances in hand, but the amounts are not stated. An enlightened policy in public works, especially railways and irrigation, and in medical and educational matters, is being pursued by many of the States, and particularly by Jodhpur, Jeypur, and Alwar. The working of police and criminal justice in these States is less satisfactory. About 25 lakhs of silver were coined during 1895-96 in the mints of the Rajputana States. The policies in regard both to coinage and to import duties on silver vary in the several states.

The report on the Mayo College was satisfactory; the number of students at the end of the year was 72. In educational matters Jeypur takes the lead.

The Governor General's Agent in Central India states, without hesitation, Central India. that the administration of the Native States in his charge has improved greatly of late years, and that the standard of efficiency, though still lacking in many of the details of good government, is generally higher than it was, and is yearly gaining in strength. The improvement is most marked in the larger States. Much of it is due to the introduction of railways, of which there are now upwards of 1,120 miles open in the Agency. In 1895-96 the general condition was fairly prosperous, but crops had been short; and with the failure of the rains in the following year scarcity set in and deepened into famine, at least in Bundelkhand, Baghelkhand, and parts of Gwalior.

In the course of the year the Rajas of Narsinghar and Sailana died, and the Maharaja of Rewah was invested with full ruling powers, and the young Nawab of Jaora was installed in succession to his father who had died in the previous year. The Maharaja Scindia received the distinction of Grand Commander of the Star of India. The revenues of his State in 1895-96 amounted to Rx. 1,446,863, and showed a surplus over expenditure of 12½ lakhs, thereby adding to the enormous State balance referred to in last year's statement. The railway policy of the State was pushed on. The Guna Bina line was opened, the extension from Guna to Bara was sanctioned, the survey completed, and the earthwork for it commenced as a famine relief work. Twenty-four lakhs were also supplied by the Darbar for the construction by the Bombay Baroda Company of the Nagda Ujjain section of the Ujjain Rutlam line. Certain administrative changes, including the formation of a Board of Revenue, were made in the organisation of the Revenue Department of the State. Dacoity was firmly dealt with; and improvement was recorded in every department of the State. The relations of the Maharaja and the Resident were most cordial.

In Indore the Minister Rao Bahadur K. C. Bedarkar retired, and was succeeded by R. B. Nanah Chand in December 1895. At the same time a Council consisting of the Minister as President and eight members was appointed to decide all important cases. A general scheme for the survey and settlement of the whole State at an estimated cost of 12 lakhs was sanctioned in the year. During this period also the State revenue is said to have increased, and expenditure decreased; trade improved and crime diminished. The Indore Mint coined 12½ lakhs of rupees for State purposes.

In Bhopal even more than in other States of the Agency difficulty was caused by the depreciation of the local currency. After the close of the year the difficulty was dealt with by the decision to adopt the British Indian rupee. An Act has now been passed by the Indian Legislature to give effect to this decision. The British Indian Currency has also been adopted by some of the smaller States of the Agency, and it is hoped that other States will accept a similar solution of their currency difficulties. Bhopal suffered during 1895-96 from a deficiency in the crops and from an epidemic of cholera. The Ujjain-Bhopal Railway was opened for traffic.

The revenue of the Rewah State amounted to Rx. 164,864, and left a surplus over expenditure of Rx. 4,000; the cash balance at the end of the year amounted to Rx. 226,042.

A considerable improvement is reported in the affairs of Sitamau, where the situation was causing anxiety in the previous year.

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INTERNAL STATES. Punjab. The following are the principal Punjab States and their areas, populations in 1891, and approximate revenues in 1895-96 :—

STATE.	Area in Square Miles.	Population in 1891.	Approximate Revenue in 1895-96.
			Rx.
Patiala - - - - -	5,419	1,583,521	619,749
Bahawalpur - - - - -	13,000	650,042	160,000
Jind - - - - -	1,239	284,560	63,213
Nabha - - - - -	928	282,750	70,000
Kapurthala - - - - -	620	252,617	200,000
Mandi - - - - -	1,000	160,923	38,306
Nabha (Sirmur) - - - - -	1,096	124,134	51,200
Maler Kotla - - - - -	167	75,755	36,032
Faridkot - - - - -	643	115,040	85,625
Chamba - - - - -	3,216	124,032	35,200

The history of these States in 1895-96 was uneventful. There were no deaths among the Chiefs, but the Raja of Sirmur fell into ill-health and the administration of the State was accordingly taken over by his son, subject to his direction. A change in the system of control of Sirmur was introduced at the Raja's request. A more effective system of control was also adopted in regard to Mandi and Suket, somewhat isolated States which for some years had caused trouble. No improvement is recorded in regard to the administration of Bahawalpur; in Patiala the financial management shows promise of improvement, but little interest is displayed by the Maharaja in the work of administration. The territories of Jind, Kalsia, Dujana, and Maler Kotla remained during the year under the management of councils or administrators during the minority or mental incapacity of their Chiefs. The Nawab of Pataudi on reaching the age of 21 was invested with full powers, but owing to his reckless waste of the funds of his State, he was before the end of the year temporarily deprived of the control over income and expenditure, which was placed in the hands of his uncle Kasim Ali Khan, acting under the supervision of the Divisional Commissioner. There was some discontent and disorder in certain of the petty Simla Hill States, especially in Kuthar and Kumharsain. In these two States wazirs were accordingly appointed to manage public affairs.

North West Provinces.

The administration of the Rampur State was carried on, as in the previous year, by the Nawab assisted by three members. Sanitation received greater attention; the medical institutions increased in popularity; the criminal and civil business of the courts was more promptly dealt with; and, generally, improvement was recorded in all departments. The report for the year ended September 1895 showed an income of Rx. 317,389 and a surplus of over five lakhs. As the invested and cash balance of the State amounts to Rx. 2,360,000, the State could afford a more liberal policy. The opening of the railway to Rampur, constructed partly by the capital supplied by the Rampur State, is likely to prove very beneficial to the Nawab's subjects. Another public work of importance, completed in the year under review, was the weir over the Behalla Canal which irrigates 118,633 acres. It is in contemplation to carry out a scheme for supplying pure water to the capital. A larger expenditure on public works in the State would be justifiable. A reform of the land revenue system also seems to be desirable. At present the land revenue is farmed, and the farms sold by auction. In the event of a series of bad seasons the system is liable to break down. In the year 1894-95 the farmers were unable to make their stipulated payments, and the deficiency at the end of the year which is expected to be irrecoverable, exceeded Rx. 18,000. There is also a good deal of discontent among the cultivators, but their relations with the farmers are said to have been less strained in the year under review than previously. Unfortunately, the series of bad seasons did not terminate with 1894-95, but culminated in the famine of the two following years.

The Raja of Tehri takes great interest in the administration of the affairs of his State. The finances are in a satisfactory condition as there is a balance of

of 7½ lakhs, of which five are invested. The year's receipts amounted to Rx. 25,000, and left a small surplus over expenditure. It was a matter of satisfaction that the expenditure, both on public works and on forest management, was largely increased. INTERNAL STATES.

In the Hill Tipperah State the administration continued to be in the hands of the Maharaja's two sons. The Maharaja was in bad health, and, since the close of the year under review has died. The management of the State was satisfactory and the debts are said to have been reduced. The year was not favourable and revenue declined. The settlement of the Maharaja's estates in British territory was in progress. Bengal.

As stated in last year's statement, but for the large personal expenditure of the Chief, which entails serious financial embarrassments, the administration of Cooc's Behar might be considered quite satisfactory. The revenue for 1895-96 was Rx. 213,000, which exceeded the ordinary expenditure by Rx. 33,000. The extraordinary demands of the Maharaja turned this excess into a deficit of Rx. 32,000, which was met by a loan from Government of Rx. 35,000. The harvest of 1895-96 was not so good as that of the previous year, and prices were high. A project for extending the State Railway to the capital has been approved.

The 17 Tributary States of Orissa, with a total area of 15,000 square miles, and a population of about 1,700,000, enjoyed in 1895-96 an aggregate income of nearly 15 lakhs, the principal States being Mohurbhang with 5½ lakhs, Dhenkanal with 2 lakhs, and Keonghar with 1½ lakhs. The nine Chota Nagpur States, with an area of 16,600 square miles and a population of 890,000, had a total revenue from all sources of Rx. 24,000. In the Orissa States the crops were fair, and the material condition of the people good. In the Chota Nagpur group there was general deficiency of crops and distress. The Chief of Athgarh died in 1896, and after some delay his brother was recognised as successor. The Raja of Mohurbhang was entrusted with higher criminal powers. The affairs of Keonghar began to settle down, and the aboriginal people who had taken to the hills returned to their homes and to peaceful avocations. It is noticed that a gold mining company obtained a prospecting lease in Bonai during the year under review. Education showed some progress in the Orissa States, but in the Chota Nagpur group there was a falling off. The tract is very backward.

A few years ago most of the feudatory States under the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces were under the direct management of Government, but their administration having been once organised and ordered under Government control, the policy has been adopted of reducing Government interference to a minimum, and of trusting to the greater responsibility of the Chiefs to improve the prosperity of their States. The trust has not been misplaced. During 1895-96 all the States were practically free from Government interference, except Bastar, Sarangarh, and Kawardha, of which the Chiefs are minors, and, to a less extent Rairakhol, of which the Chief is old and infirm. An unfortunate incident of the year was the suicide of the Maharaja of Patna, after he had killed his wife. The act was attributed to insanity. It is noticed that shortly before the act some previously existing misunderstandings between the Maharaja and Political Agent had been removed, and their relations were more than usually cordial. The nearest male relative was Lal Dalganjan Singh, whose succession to the Chiefship was accordingly recognised. Bad seasons and agricultural depressions, which affected the British districts of the Central Provinces, affected also, though in a less degree, the feudatory States. Bamra, Bastar, and Kawardha were the only States which had satisfactory harvests. Still, on the whole, the condition of the people is described as one of exceptional prosperity. The finances of all the States are sound, none of them being in debt. Their revenues, which aggregate about Rx. 200,000 for the 15 States, were collected without difficulty. There were no complaints of misgovernment or injustice. Education made a considerable advance. The number of pupils at school increased, and the arrangements for the inspection and supervision of schools were strengthened. Vaccination was more extensively adopted, and attendance at the State dispensaries increased. Central Provinces.

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INTERNAL STATES. Great activity was shown in the matter of public works. Indeed, the progress in road-making has been so great that the States are now better off in this respect than the adjoining British districts.

Madras. The two important States of this presidency are Travancore and Cochin, the reports of which are drawn up for the Malayalam year, August 1894—August 1895. The following are the figures for the trade and revenue of the two States for the two last years:—

	Trade.		Revenue.		Balance at end of Year.	
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1894-95.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Travancore - - -	2,240,361	2,723,536	863,802	880,867	839,700	895,451
Cochin - - -	293,490	407,399	197,781	209,618	415,833	437,176

It will be noticed that all the figures in this Statement show an improvement for the year. In Travancore the season was not altogether favourable. More than usually large remissions of land revenue had to be granted. The three largest heads of revenue, viz., land revenue (19½ lakhs in 1893-94), salt (19¼ lakhs), and tobacco (10 lakhs), showed considerable reductions, but almost all other heads were more productive. There was a considerable advance in education in both Travancore and Cochin, the figures being 2,816 schools with 131,294 pupils in the former, and 992 schools with 30,696 pupils in the latter. Expenditure on public works in Travancore amounted to 16 lakhs. In Cochin the expenditure of a portion of the large State balance on railway projects is in contemplation.

The other Madras States of Pudukotta, Baoganapalli, and Sandur enjoyed favourable seasons. In each there was a considerable surplus of receipts over expenditure, and progress was recorded in matters of education and sanitation. In the three political agencies of Godavari, Vizagapatam, and Gangam the season was favourable to agriculture, prices were normal, and health satisfactory; and there were no disturbances on the part of the hill tribes. Education showed satisfactory progress.

Bombay. The Bombay Government exercises control over some 350 Native States, many of which possess but few attributes of sovereignty. Their total area exceeds 64,600 square miles; their population in 1891 was 8,085,433, and their revenues in 1895-96 aggregated Rx. 3,730,000. Notwithstanding that the season was generally unfavourable in all the Gujerat States, crime was, on the whole, less prevalent, and the steady improvement of the moral and material condition of the people suffered no check. For a time a gang of outlaws in Junagadh committed a series of outrages, but their career was cut short by the joint efforts of the Junagadh and Baroda police. A serious religious riot occurred in Porbandar, a Muhammadan procession being attacked by a mob of Hindu fishermen. Three Muhammadans were killed. In connection with the riot 31 Hindus and one Muhammadan were sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment. In the Kathiawar province the year was marked by the death of two leading chiefs, the Jam Saheb of Navanagar, who was succeeded by a minor heir, and the Maharaja of Bhavnagar, who was succeeded by his eldest son. The Nawab of Radhanpur also died at the end of 1895, and was succeeded by his elder son, during whose minority a British administrator was appointed to manage the affairs of the State. The administration of the new Mir of Khairpur appears to be very satisfactory. The system of cash payment of revenue was partially introduced, and great progress was made in educational and medical matters. In Kathiawar there was a very large increase of seaborne trade, without any detriment to the railway traffic. At the Cutch ports there

was a decline in exports, and an improvement in imports. The following are the figures:—

INTERNAL STATES.

	Imports.		Exports.		TOTAL.	
	1894-95.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Cutch Ports - - -	666,329	681,162	350,638	329,031	1,016,967	1,010,193
Kathiawar Ports - -	2,411,307	2,663,008	2,056,537	2,435,513	4,467,844	5,098,611
TOTAL - - -	3,077,636	3,344,260	2,407,175	2,764,544	5,484,811	6,108,804

The financial condition of the more important States may be judged from the following table, in which there are many blanks under the head of expenditure, owing to want of information:—

STATE.	Revenue in 1895-96.	Expenditure in 1895-96.	Expenditure on Public Works.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Cutch - - - - -	234,851	144,315	12,349
Palanpur - - - - -	63,091	68,314	2,532
Radhanpur - - - - -	61,751	61,574	6,216
Idar - - - - -	64,653	63,025	4,797
Junagad - - - - -	280,000	-	27,737
Navanagar - - - - -	289,916	214,706	11,639
Bhavnagar - - - - -	390,700	-	57,759
Porbandar - - - - -	65,000	-	17,865
Dhrangadhra - - - - -	60,000	-	8,285
Morvi - - - - -	116,472	-	27,511
Gondal - - - - -	112,500	-	18,261
Cambay - - - - -	65,380	47,981	3,772
Rajpipla - - - - -	103,637	121,730	4,400
Janjira - - - - -	49,378	43,542	6,439
Savantvadi - - - - -	43,694	41,222	3,584
Kolhapur - - - - -	330,092	331,920	32,538
Sangli - - - - -	114,140	108,089	10,972
Khairpur - - - - -	99,875	72,757	16,288

In Palanpur the old "Siccai" currency was abandoned in favour of British Indian currency, which was also adopted largely in the Rewa Kautha agency during the year under review. In the Mahikantha agency a settlement has been arrived at of long-standing claims of Idar on the Gudhwada talukdars and of certain other disputes between States. The inquiry into the rival claims of Morvi and Cutch, which have long embittered the relations of those two States, is being continued: but no settlement appears to be yet in prospect. The railways of Kathiawar continued to be worked successfully; the net earnings of the Bhavnagar-Gondal-Junagad-Porbandar Railway amounted to 4.67 per cent. on the total capital outlay of 176 lakhs; the Jetalsar-Rajkot gave 5.15 per cent. on a capital of 15 lakhs, and the Morvi Railway over 8 per cent. on 23½ lakhs.

TRANSMARINE DEPENDENCIES AND INTERESTS.

TRANSMARINE
DEPENDENCIES
AND INTERESTS.
Aden and Somali
Coast.

The progress of trade at Aden and at Zaila on the Somali Coast is deserving of special notice, as illustrated by the following figures, which take no account of Government stores and treasure.

ADEN TRADE.

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Imports:			
By Sea - - - - -	3,490,881	3,778,320	3,934,012
By Land - - - - -	318,103	363,275	303,989
Treasure - - - - -	642,024	610,560	744,836
Total - - - - -	4,451,008	4,752,161	5,072,837
Exports:			
By Sea - - - - -	2,037,700	3,058,094	3,414,020
By Land - - - - -	168,045	186,358	187,548
Treasure - - - - -	581,537	680,710	792,225
Total - - - - -	3,687,372	3,928,092	4,394,603
GRAND TOTAL - - - - -	8,138,380	8,680,223	9,467,530

SOMALI COAST TRADE.

	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Berbera and Bulhar:			
Imports - - - - -	227,741	215,134	267,104
Exports - - - - -	236,536	209,374	208,481
Zaila:			
Imports - - - - -	132,367	280,631	365,644
Exports - - - - -	154,023	284,887	415,337
Total - - - - -	751,267	989,526	1,246,566

With regard to the Somali Coast, it must be remembered that the country behind Berbera and Bulhar suffered severely during these years from drought. The distress had practically ceased by the end of 1895-96.

The chief event on the Coast during the year was an expedition against the Rer Hared clan of the Jibril Abokr section of the Habr' Awal tribe. This clan had habitually plundered caravans, and ignored all demands for restitution. The expedition was completely successful. All the plunder was recovered, and the Rer Hared acknowledged the justice of the measures taken. The moral effect on the neighbouring tribes was conspicuous, and many disputes were brought to the mediation of the political officers for settlement. Of the other tribes on the Coast, the Dolbahanta gave most trouble; but the closing of the ports against certain sections of the tribe brought them to reason, and they satisfied all demands for restitution on account of past plundering.

The relations of the Aden Residency with the tribes in its neighbourhood were satisfactory. A treaty was signed by the Haushabi Sultan, countersigned by the Abdali Sultan, placing the Haushabi Sultanate under British protection.

The administration of the settlement was satisfactory.

The

The year was marked by a larger outlay on sanitary and other public works. The hospital accommodation was being improved. The general health of Aden was better in 1895-96 than in the previous year.

TRANSMARINE
DEPENDENCIES
AND INTERESTS.

The extent of commercial movements on the Oman and Persian Gulf littoral is indicated by the following figures, the greater portion of which represent British or British Indian trade :—

Oman and Persian
Gulf.

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Muscat :	₹	₹
Exports - - - - -	1,628,580	1,419,460
Imports - - - - -	2,079,600	2,288,760
Total - - -	3,708,180	3,708,210
Bushire :	Rx.	Rx.
Exports - - - - -	1,011,303	951,898
Imports - - - - -	1,835,111	1,830,449
Total - - -	2,846,414	2,782,397
Shiraz :		
Exports - - - - -	721,000	639,819
Imports - - - - -	1,949,738	1,550,778
Total - - -	2,670,738	2,190,597
Lingah :		
Exports - - - - -	1,020,595	920,430
Imports - - - - -	1,178,152	1,050,830
Total - - -	2,198,747	1,977,260
Bunder Abbas :		
Exports - - - - -	487,147	584,856
Imports - - - - -	981,877	860,857
Total - - -	1,469,024	1,445,713
Bahrein :		
Exports - - - - -	770,393	700,665
Imports - - - - -	777,069	696,618
Total - - -	1,547,362	1,407,283
Arab Coast :		
Exports - - - - -	672,650	877,650
Imports - - - - -	485,620	547,000
Total - - -	1,158,270	1,424,650
Mohammerah and Karun :	£.	£.
Exports - - - - -	88,292	98,193
Imports - - - - -	131,969	138,006
Total - - -	220,261	226,199

TRANSMARINE
DEPENDENCIES
AND INTERESTS

It will be seen that there was a considerable falling-off in the trade at several of these centres. The troubles at Muscat, referred to in last year's statement, passed away; but considerable discontent and difficulty was caused by the imposition of a special tax for the purpose of providing means to indemnify British subjects who had suffered loss in the revolt of 1894-95. Trouble also occurred at Dhofar, where the Sultan's Wali was killed, and his authority for the time set at naught.

The welfare and progress of Bahrein was threatened by Sheikh Jassin of El Bidaa, and a section of the Ali-bin-Ali tribe. After due warning, the boats of this tribe which were threatening a descent on Bahrein from Zobara on the mainland, were attacked and destroyed by the British squadron in the Persian Gulf. The revolting tribe subsequently returned to its allegiance in Bahrein.

Trade on the Persian coast was interfered with by turbulence and tribal disorders, by insecurity of the trade roads in Fars, by an embargo on the export of corn, and by the unfriendly attitude of the authorities, particularly in Persian Arabistan.

Slave Trade.

There are many indications of an increased activity in this nefarious trade. Boats from Sur, low down on the Muscat coast, are largely the means of procuring slaves from Africa; and they often seek immunity from search by British vessels, by flying the French flag.

Piracies occurred off Bahrein and at the mouth of the Shat-el-Arab.

ARMY.

ARMY.

The sanctioned establishment for 1895-96 was as follows:—

British Troops	- - - - -	73,109
Miscellaneous Officers	- - - - -	916
Native Troops (including European Officers)	- - - - -	145,683
Total	- - - - -	219,708
Corresponding Total for 1894-95	- - - - -	219,778

The actual strength of the Army on the 1st April 1896 was as follows:—

PUNJAB COMMAND.			
<i>British.</i>			
Cavalry (3 regiments)	- - - - -	1,974	
Artillery (22 batteries and companies)	- - - - -	3,207	
Infantry (14 battalions)	- - - - -	14,228	
			19,409
<i>Native.</i>			
Cavalry (15 regiments)	- - - - -	9,322	
Artillery (5 batteries)	- - - - -	1,078	
Infantry (40 battalions)	- - - - -	36,523	
			46,923
			66,332
Carried forward	- - - - -		66,332

		Brought forward - - -	66,332	ARMY.
BENGAL COMMAND.				
<i>British.</i>				
Cavalry (3 regiments) - - - -	1,953			
Artillery (27 batteries and companies) -	4,098			
Engineers - - - - -	48			
Infantry (17 battalions) - - - -	17,607			
		23,706		
<i>Native.</i>				
Cavalry (9 regiments) - - - -	5,690			
Artillery (2 batteries) - - - -	498			
Sappers and Miners (8 companies) - -	1,409			
Infantry (24 battalions) - - - -	22,558			
		30,155		
MADRAS COMMAND.				
<i>British.</i>				
Cavalry (2 regiments) - - - -	1,295			
Artillery (15 batteries and companies) -	2,322			
Engineers - - - - -	55			
Infantry (10 battalions) - - - -	10,329			
		14,001		
<i>Native.</i>				
Cavalry (3 regiments) - - - -	1,890			
Sappers and Miners (9 companies) - -	1,502			
Infantry (32 regiments) - - - -	26,261			
		29,653		
BOMBAY COMMAND.				
<i>British.</i>				
Cavalry (1 regiment) - - - -	645			
Artillery (24 batteries and companies) -	3,724			
Engineers - - - - -	54			
Infantry (11 battalions) - - - -	11,011			
		15,434		
<i>Native.</i>				
Cavalry (7½ regiments) - - - -	4,419			
Artillery (2 batteries) - - - -	458			
Sappers and Miners (5 companies) - -	831			
Infantry (26 regiments) - - - -	21,128			
		26,836		
			42,270	
Troops not under the Orders of the Commander-in-Chief in India, including Hyderabad Contingent* - - - -	-	-	13,968	
TOTAL - -			220,085	

The

* The Hyderabad Contingent is not included in the "Sanctioned Establishment" shown above.

106 STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

R.M.Y.

The total of the Native Army Reserves in India on 1st April 1896 was 15,402.

The net expenditure on the Army in 1895-96 was—

In India	- - - - -	Rx.	17,274,624
In England	- - - - -	£.	4,060,487
Exchange	- - - - -	Rx.	3,085,035
Total	- - -	Rx.	24,420,146
Total in 1894-95	- - -	Rx.	23,085,894

The number of Volunteers in the whole of India on 1st April 1896 was as under :—

Command.	Enrolled Strength.	Efficient.
Punjab - - - -	1,969	1,379
Bengal - - - -	12,006	11,177
Madras - - - -	9,305	8,579
Bombay - - - -	5,996	5,817
	29,276	26,952

On the 1st of April 1895 the number of enrolled Volunteers was 29,039, of whom 25,895 were efficient. The number of Volunteers enrolled in the Reserve at the end of 1895-96 was 1,264.

The year 1895 will always be memorable on account of the new system of army organization which was introduced on the 1st April 1895. Up to that time there were three separate armies in India, the Bengal army under the direct command of the Commander in Chief in India, and the Madras and Bombay armies under the Commanders in Chief of Madras and Bombay. The Commander in Chief in India also exercised a general control over the Madras and Bombay armies, but limited chiefly to the British troops in those commands. The Governments of Madras and Bombay had administrative control over their armies, subject to the general control of the Government of India, which also exercised a direct control over the Bengal army. That Government had, in fact, a dual function. It acted as a local government in regard to the Bengal army, and had at the same time supreme authority over the whole of the forces in India.

This system of divided control had long been found productive of inconvenience, especially in time of war, and after a correspondence extending over 12 years it was finally decided in 1893 that the system of maintaining separate presidential armies should be abolished, and that the whole army of India should come under the direct command and control of the Commander in Chief in India and the Government of India. For some years prior to 1893, the way had gradually been prepared for this change by the amalgamation of the several army departments under one head, responsible solely to the supreme Government. The Military Accounts Department had already many years earlier been amalgamated, and more recently the Ordnance, Commissariat, and Remount Departments were re-organized in the same way, the Clothing Department became Imperial, and the Military Works Department was extended to the whole of India. The Medical Department was the only one which had remained under the control of the local governments.

This great change required the authority of Parliament, and it was not till the close of 1893 that this was obtained. The Madras and Bombay Armies Act received the assent of the Crown on the 5th December 1893, but much time

time was necessary to work out the necessary details, and the new organization did not come into force till the 1st April 1895. The Act abolished the offices of the Provincial Commanders in Chief; it provided that the powers which had been exercised by them should be transferred to such officers as the Commander in Chief in India, with the approval of the Governor General in Council, might appoint; that the powers of the Commander in Chief in India should extend to the whole of India; that the military control which had been vested in the Governments of Madras and Bombay should cease, and be exercised by the Governor General in Council, and that the officers commanding the troops in those Presidencies should no longer be members of the Provincial Councils.

The army of India was divided into four great commands, each under a Lieutenant General, the whole being under the Commander in Chief in India. The Punjab Command includes the whole of the Punjab, with the Punjab Frontier Force, which, however, continues to retain its separate and local organization. The Bengal Command includes the territories under the Civil Governments of Bengal, Assam, the North-West Provinces and Oudh, and part of the Central Provinces. The Madras Command includes the whole of the Madras Presidency, Burma, and the Belgaum District. The Bombay Command includes the Bombay Presidency, Baluchistan, and parts of Rajputana, Central India, and the Central Provinces. The Hyderabad Contingent and other local corps remain under the Government of India.

The manner in which this important change of administration was carried into effect can best be shown by reference to the General Order issued in 1894, extracts of which are accordingly reproduced here.

ORGANIZATION.

No. 981, dated Simla, 26th October 1894.—In pursuance of the Madras and Bombay Armies Act, 1893 (56 & 57 Vict. c. 62), under which the military control hitherto exercised by the Governors in Council of the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay will cease, the Governor General in Council hereby announces the changes in the administration and organization of the Army of India, which will be carried out with effect from the 1st April 1895.

2. The Bengal Army will, for purposes of administration, be organized in two portions—the Bengal Command and the Punjab Command.

3. The Army of India will consist of the following Commands:

Punjab.		Madras.
Bengal.		Bombay.

These Commands will be under Lieutenant Generals, who will be styled the Lieutenant Generals Commanding the Forces, Punjab, Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, respectively, and will all be under the direct command of the Commander in Chief in India and the control of the Government of India.

4. Each Lieutenant General Commanding will be invested with the powers detailed in Special India Army Circular, of this date, and will be assisted by the Army and Departmental Staff specified in paragraph 9. The business now transacted by the Military Departments of the Governments of Madras and Bombay will be transacted by the Military Department of the Government of India, whenever, under the regulations in Special India Army Circular of this date, it cannot be disposed of by the Lieutenant General Commanding, or by the Commander in Chief in India.

ARMY.

COMMANDS.

5. In accordance with these arrangements, the district commands as now sanctioned with existing staffs will be distributed as follows:

PUNJAB COMMAND.

Head-Quarters.*

1st Class Districts.	2nd Class Districts.
Lahore. Punjab Frontier Force. Rawal Pindi.	Peshawar. Sirhind.

BENGAL COMMAND.

Head-Quarters.*

1st Class Districts.	2nd Class Districts.
Meerut. Oudh.	Allahabad. Assam. Bundelkhand. Narbudda. Presidency. Rohilkhand.

MADRAS COMMAND.

Head-Quarters, Ootacamund.

1st Class Districts.	2nd Class Districts.
Burma. Secunderabad.	Bangalore. Belgaum. Madras. Mandalay. Rangoon. Southern.

BOMBAY COMMAND.

Head-Quarters, Poona.

1st Class Districts.	2nd Class Districts.
Mhow. Poona. Quetta.	Aden. Bombay. Deesa. Nagpore. Sindh.

TROOPS.

6. The composition of the several forces will be as follows:—

BRITISH TROOPS.

The regiments, batteries, battalions, and companies stationed within the command.

* Will be notified hereafter.

NATIVE TROOPS.

Punjab Command.

Cavalry.—Fifteen regiments, viz., the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th Bengal Cavalry; the four regiments of the Punjab Frontier Force, and the cavalry of the Corps of Guides.

Artillery.—Five batteries of the Punjab Frontier Force.

Infantry.—Thirty-seven regiments (40 battalions), viz., the 14th, 15th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 40th, and 45th Bengal Infantry; the nine infantry regiments of the Punjab Frontier Force, the Guides Infantry, and the 1st, 4th, and 5th regiments of Gurkhas.

Bengal Command.

Cavalry.—Nine regiments, viz., the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 14th regiments of Bengal Cavalry.

Artillery.—Two Bengal Mountain Batteries.

Sappers.—Corps of Bengal Sappers and Miners.

Infantry.—Twenty-two regiments (24 battalions), viz., the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 39th, 42nd, 43rd, and 44th Bengal Infantry, and the 2nd and 3rd Gurkhas.

Madras Command.

Cavalry.—Three regiments.

Sappers.—Corps of Queen's Own Sappers and Miners, company of Burma Sappers.

Infantry.—Thirty-two regiments.

Bombay Command.

Cavalry.—Seven regiments.

Artillery.—Two mountain batteries.

Sappers.—Corps of Bombay Sappers and Miners.

Infantry.—Twenty-six regiments.

LOCAL CORPS.

7. No change is made in the position of the Hyderabad Contingent or other corps under the Government of India.

* * * * *

DISPOSAL of Business now performed by the Military Departments of the Governments of Madras and Bombay.

19. Questions which have hitherto been referred by the commanders-in-chief of the Madras and Bombay armies to the Military Departments of the Governments of those presidencies will, in future, be decided locally or referred, where necessary, through the commander-in-chief in India, to the Government of India. Business relating to estates of deceased commissioned and warrant officers, hitherto transacted by the military secretaries to the governments of Madras and Bombay, will in future be conducted by the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.

RELATIONS of the Staff at the Headquarters of the Army in India to Lieutenant-generals and Administrative Departments under the Government of India.

20. The adjutant-general in India will issue to the Army in India all orders of the commander-in-chief relating to the *personnel*, duties, training, discipline, equipment, and general efficiency of the troops. The quartermaster-general in India will continue to issue circulars and executive orders on matters customarily dealt with in his department. All decisions and instructions of

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the Government of India and of the commander-in-chief will be communicated to lieutenant-generals commanding by the chief officer of the department concerned.

21. In all departmental matters affecting a department exclusively, which may necessitate reference to the commander-in-chief, the head of the department concerned will submit the matter to the commander-in-chief personally, or by minute paper or office note, and he will communicate the instructions received to the head of the department with the command concerned, who will, under the orders of the lieutenant-general, give effect to the same. Papers on which the commander-in-chief may have passed decisions will be communicated to the adjutant-general, quartermaster-general, or principal medical officer to be noted. All questions involving military as apart from departmental matters should be discussed with the adjutant-general, quarter-master general, or principal medical officer, as the case may be, in order that military considerations or those affecting general military policy may be fully weighed before submission to the commander-in-chief.

* * * * *

23. There will be a controller of military accounts with each command who will be the financial adviser of the lieutenant-general commanding, as well as of the Government of India in the Military Department. The controller will not be under the orders of the lieutenant-general as regards his departmental duties, but only in matters of military discipline.

24. All matters of primary importance, or which affect the army at large or more than one command, changes in regulations, in organisation, or those in which a principle is involved, will be submitted by lieutenant-generals to the commander-in-chief in India. Other matters (which will be defined in the subsidiary orders of the commander-in-chief) of particular application or of purely local concern, but which may require to be submitted to the Government of India, will be dealt with by lieutenant-generals in direct communication with the Government of India.

The procedure here indicated will be adopted in Madras and Bombay as regards original references, which do not concern individual officers, from the 1st March 1895.

25. The deputy adjutant-general will be the channel through which all orders of the lieutenant-general will be issued to the forces under his command. Departmental questions affecting troops in the command should be discussed with the deputy adjutant-general before submission to the lieutenant-general commanding. On all purely departmental matters on which local heads of departments have taken their orders direct from the lieutenant-general, they will issue them to their departments. On questions relating to the troops and departments generally, orders will be issued through the deputy adjutant-general.

26. All departmental matters of purely local concern affecting the troops in the command, that the lieutenant-general commanding cannot himself dispose of will, subject to the reservations in paragraph 24 above, be dealt with by the local head of the department, under the orders of the lieutenant-general, in direct communication with the head of the department with the Government of India, who will, if necessary, refer the question to the Government of India.

27. The heads of departments with the lieutenant-general commanding will, under regulations detailed in Special India Army Circular of this date, communicate with the heads of their departments with the Government of India, or with the commander-in-chief in India, as the case may require.

Officers in charge of departments of military administration with each command, except controllers of military accounts, will act in regard to their executive duties in subordination to the lieutenant-general commanding.

* * * * *

E. H. H. Collen,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Another measure of considerable importance which was sanctioned during the year 1895-96 was the increase of pay to the dismounted branches of the native army. ARMY.

In 1890 the pay of the native cavalry was increased, at a cost of nearly nine lakhs of rupees annually, with the result that the popularity of that service has been enhanced, and there is now no difficulty in procuring a sufficient supply of recruits of the best classes. The Government of India arrived at the conclusion that a similar increase for the infantry could no longer be postponed. The pay of a private had remained at seven rupees monthly since the year 1781; while, although all ranks had benefited by various concessions given from time to time, these advantages had also been shared by the native cavalry, and it was certain that since the pay of the latter had been raised, the men of the native infantry, sappers and miners, and mountain batteries, were eagerly looking forward to receive a similar advantage.

It was accordingly decided that the pay of all non-commissioned ranks in the native artillery (including native drivers of British batteries), the sappers and miners, and the native infantry, should be increased by two rupees per mensem; and that the annual half-mounting allowance of five rupees should be granted from date of enlistment instead of from the date of completing 18 months' service. The increase had effect from 1st July 1895, and the cost was estimated at 29,44,000 rupees a year.

During the year considerable expenditure was sanctioned for the more complete mobilisation of the field army of India. Up to this time the necessary equipment, stores and mules, had been provided for only two divisions, and had still to be provided for two more divisions, for the fifth brigade of cavalry, and for the reserve artillery. While the recent operations of the Chitral force had demonstrated clearly the great advantages of the mobilisation system initiated by Lord Dufferin's Government, they had also brought to light the difficulties that occur in obtaining carriage at short notice, and the consequent delays in the equipment of the troops and in the formation of depôts of stores. It was, therefore, considered a wise and prudent precaution to increase the complement of army transport. Apart from the political and military advantages of prompt action in case of need, not only is the efficiency of the army greatly increased thereby, but the waste and loss consequent on hasty purchases of stores and carriage at the commencement of operations will be avoided. The Secretary of State accordingly sanctioned the provisions of the stores and equipment for the full force, the purchase of 3,250 camels (including 1,000 available from the Chitral force), and of sufficient mules to complete three divisions. Sanction was also given to the purchase of a reserve of 1,000 mature horses, which had been sanctioned by Lord Cross in 1892, but the provision of which had hitherto been postponed by want of funds.

It was decided during the year that all future enlistments in the 1st, 4th, and 5th Gurkha Regiments should be liable to transfer in time of war to any one of the six battalions of these regiments, and that a similar liability should exist for recruits enlisting in the four battalions of the 2nd and 3rd Gurkha Regiments. Up to this time the liability to transfer in time of war was limited to the two battalions of each regiment.

MILITARY OPERATIONS.

As stated in the previous number of this statement the investment of the fort of Chitral commenced on the 4th March 1895 and lasted for 46 days, a period of arduous work and great privation. The fort was commanded on almost every side, and the enemy were for the most part well armed, had unlimited supplies of ammunition, and showed some skill in conducting their operations. Chitral.

The most prominent incidents of the siege were the firing of the gun-tower on the 7th April, and the sortie of the 17th of that month.

Early on the morning of the 7th the enemy opened a heavy fire, under cover of which they placed faggots and logs of wood in a pile against the corner of the gun-tower. The pile having been fired, the tower was soon well alight, and blazing up in a strong wind which was, unfortunately, blowing at the time. Fortunately, though with great difficulty, the fire was ultimately got under. Surgeon-Major G. S. Robertson, c.s.i., the British Agent, Gilgit, was severely wounded while in the tower superintending the extinction of the fire.

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On the 12th April the enemy began making a great noise at night, playing tom-toms and pipes. It was suspected that their object might be to drown the noise made by the making of a mine, and on the morning of the 17th the sound of knocking was distinctly heard in the lower storey of the gun tower. There was no time to countermine, and, accordingly, Captain Townshend told off for a sortie Lieutenant H. K. Harley and 40 men of the 14th Sikhs, and two officers and 60 men of the 4th Kashmir Rifles.

The sortie, which was supported by a lively fire from the parapets, was completely successful, the mine was destroyed and about 60 of the enemy killed, of whom 35 were bayoneted at the mouth of the mine as they came out of it, and two were killed in it by its explosion. Our casualties were eight killed and 13 wounded.

This was the last effort of the besiegers. Lieutenant Colonel Kelly was rapidly approaching from Gilgit, and the news of Sir R. Low's successful operations had reached them. Sher Afzal fled at midnight on the 18th April, and early in the morning of the 19th it was found that the enemy had entirely disappeared.

Our total casualties throughout the siege (including the reconnaissance of the 3rd March) amounted to 104 out of 406—one British officer (Captain Baird) killed and two wounded and of natives of all ranks 41 killed and 60 wounded.

On the 1st April 1895 Lieutenant Colonel J. G. Kelly, with the Gilgit force, first essayed to cross the Shandur Pass (12,230 feet high), but was unsuccessful, owing to the artillery mules and transport ponies being unable to make their way through the snow. This necessitated the abandonment of mule and pony carriage, and the services of men had to be utilised to carry the guns over the pass. The task was a most formidable one. Owing to recent falls the snow was three or four feet deep, and all tracks were obliterated, and the severity of the weather was such that 63 cases of snow-blindness, and 43 of frostbite, occurred. By the 9th April, however, the whole force was over the pass.

On that day Lieutenant Colonel Kelly (with 280 men and two guns) first met the enemy and defeated a gathering of about 500 strong—who had taken up a strong position at Chakawat (Derband)—having only four men wounded. On the same day he also raised the siege of Mastuj, which had been invested for 18 days.

On the 13th April, at Nisa Gol, Lieutenant Colonel Kelly, this time with his full force of 622 men and two guns, again encountered the enemy, numbering about 1,500. They were in an exceedingly strong position, from which, however, they were driven after two hours' fighting, losing (according to native reports) about 60 killed and 100 wounded. Our casualties were seven killed and 13 wounded.

After this no further opposition was met with, but the physical difficulties to be overcome were still very great. They were successfully surmounted, and the force arrived at Chitral on the 20th April.

Orders for the mobilisation of the Chitral Relief Force were issued on the 14th March 1895. Major General Sir R. C. Low, K.C.B., was appointed to command, and the force was organised in three brigades—1st, 2nd, and 3rd, under Brigadier Generals A. A. A. Kinloch, C.B., H. G. Waterfield, and W. F. Gatacre, D.S.O., respectively—and the line of communications, which was placed under Brigadier General A. G. Hammond, V.C., C.B., D.S.O. Subsequently the troops employed on the line of communications were formed into a 4th brigade, and the enlarged line of communications placed under the command of Major General E. Stedman, C.B.

Every possible means was taken to make known to the people beyond the border that our quarrel was not with them, but with Umra Khan and those who had supported him in committing aggression upon Chitral and defying the authority of the Government of India; but, notwithstanding these efforts, by the 1st April, when the 1st and 2nd brigades crossed the frontier, large bodies of tribesmen had occupied the three passes into Swat, viz., the Malakand, the Shahkot, and the Morah passes.

Sir

Sir R. Low originally disposed his forces so as to attack the Malakand and Shahkot passes simultaneously on the 3rd April, but afterwards altered his intention with the object of deceiving the enemy, in which he was quite successful. Making a feint towards the Shahkot pass, he attacked the Malakand on the morning of the 3rd with the 1st and 2nd brigades. The enemy (from 10,000 to 12,000 strong) defended the pass with great obstinacy, but were gradually driven from position to position, and eventually fled when the head of the attacking columns reached the top of the pass. They subsequently admitted having had over 300 men killed. Our casualties were 11 men killed, and 10 officers and 40 men wounded.

Next day, on the descent into the Swat Valley near Khar, the 1st brigade was attacked by the enemy, who were eventually repulsed with an estimated loss of 500 men. In this action the Guides Cavalry made two brilliant charges, before which the enemy, in largely superior numbers, scattered and fled to the hills. We had two men killed, and two officers and 16 men wounded.

During the 5th and 6th April the 2nd brigade marched down the pass and encamped opposite the crossing of the Swat river. On the 7th the enemy (about 4,500 strong) disputed the passage of the river, which was, however, effected with a loss of three men killed (two drowned) and 10 wounded. The enemy's loss could not be estimated, but the 11th Bengal Lancers in the pursuit killed at least 100 of them.

By the 10th April the 2nd and 3rd brigades and head-quarters had crossed the Swat river, the 1st brigade being left to guard the Swat Valley and the communications. On the 12th the infantry of the Corps of Guides were sent across the Panjkora river in order to construct a defensive post on the right bank, and to punish certain villages from which men had been persistently firing on the transport. On the morning of the 13th, when some 2,000 yards from the river, they were attacked by two large bodies of the enemy, each about 2,000 strong; covered by fire from the other bank, they retired slowly and in perfect formation to the river, losing, however, their commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel F. D. Battye, who was killed by a gunshot towards the conclusion of the movement. Firing continued till late that night, and was resumed next morning at daylight, when Captain A. L. Peebles, Devonshire Regiment, in charge of the Maxim guns, was mortally wounded. Soon afterwards the enemy withdrew. Our loss during the two days was two officers killed and one wounded, and three men killed and 15 wounded.

On the 17th April, at Mamugai, the enemy were encountered for the last time. They opposed the advance of the 3rd brigade, but made no stand, and our loss was slight, only eight men wounded.

Next day Sir R. Low learnt that Umra Khan had fled to seek an asylum with the Amir of Kabul. Brigadier General Gatacre was then directed to push on to Chitral with part of his brigade (the 2nd), over the Janbatar and Lowarai passes. His advance, though over a most difficult and dangerous country, was unopposed, and he arrived at Chitral on the 26th and 27th without any loss.

The total casualties of the Chitral Relief Force were 21 killed (including two officers) and 106 wounded (including 15 officers).

At the conclusion of the various operations the Government of India issued General Orders alluding in high terms to the brilliant defence of Chitral, and to the valuable services and admirable conduct of Sir R. C. Low and Colonel Kelly and the troops under their command, including troops of the Kashmir State and a small body of levies of Cher Kila, Hunza, Nagar, and Sai. In these terms the Secretary of State in Council expressed his cordial concurrence. Sir R. C. Low was created a G.C.B., Lieutenant Colonel Kelly a C.B. and Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, and Captain Townshend a C.B. and Brevet Major; and other officers who had distinguished themselves were suitably rewarded. Gratuities were granted to the troops.

The Government of India, considering that the operations deserved some more distinctive recognition than the issue of a clasp or clasps to the India Medal of 1854, recommended that the opportunity should be taken to inaugurate a new India Medal with a distinctive ribbon, and to grant it first

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to the troops which took part in these operations, with two clasps inscribed "Defence of Chitral, 1895," and "Relief of Chitral, 1895," the former to be issued to the garrison of Chitral, and the latter to the other troops engaged. Her Majesty was pleased to approve of this proposal, and a medal, styled the "India Medal, 1895," was accordingly designed and struck, and distributed to the troops with clasps, as proposed, though not in the year under review. Her Majesty also approved of the words "Defence of Chitral" and "Chitral" being inscribed on the colours and appointments of the various regiments engaged.

A P P E N D I X.

FINANCE.

TABLES showing the NET REVENUE and EXPENDITURE in the several Provinces of INDIA, and in ENGLAND.

Bengal.	BENGAL.							
	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
NET REVENUE:								
Land Revenue - - - -	3,025,426	840,264	—	3,865,690	2,954,236	923,490	—	3,877,716
Forest - - - - -	39,724	39,723	—	79,447	45,923	45,923	—	91,846
Opium - - - - -	3,773,104	—	—	3,773,104	3,249,256	—	—	3,249,256
Salt - - - - -	2,424,263	11,122	—	2,438,385	2,447,362	17,841	—	2,465,203
Stamps - - - - -	413,622	1,210,864	—	1,654,186	415,464	1,216,388	—	1,661,852
Excise - - - - -	941,305	313,769	—	1,255,074	1,002,916	334,306	—	1,337,221
Provincial Rates - - -	—	429,750	448,001	877,750	—	426,442	445,575	872,017
Customs - - - - -	1,059,461	7,308	—	1,066,769	1,579,342	9,028	—	1,688,370
Assessed Taxes - - -	233,861	226,288	—	460,149	239,558	231,833	—	471,391
Registration - - - -	67,662	67,663	—	135,325	66,914	66,915	—	133,829
Other Heads - - - -	—463	78,366	15,072	92,975	389	74,146	10,987	85,521
TOTAL - - - -	11,977,965	3,258,126	463,073	15,699,164	12,101,349	3,376,311	456,562	15,934,222
NET EXPENDITURE:								
Interest - - - - -	—115,161	—3,432	—1,099	—119,692	—154,733	—2,181	—1,667	—158,581
Collection of Revenue -	256,401	569,235	35,964	860,600	279,088	601,409	33,739	914,236
Railways - - - - -	—591,800	—433,187	—	—1,024,987	—564,632	—435,244	—	—999,876
Irrigation - - - - -	—	289,206	—570	288,636	—	302,188	—1,161	301,027
General Administration -	29,635	172,050	30,335	232,020	30,664	174,968	30,683	236,315
Law and Justice - - -	—	919,299	—	919,299	—	938,536	—	938,536
Police - - - - -	—	566,767	—42,339	524,228	—	585,017	—42,726	541,291
Education - - - - -	—	206,697	107,311	314,008	—	203,948	116,763	320,711
Medical - - - - -	—	160,793	12,450	173,243	—	161,008	16,972	178,580
Territorial and Political Pensions - - - - -	111,247	—	—	111,247	110,363	—	—	110,363
Civil Superannuation -	—6,544	170,484	471	164,411	—7,172	177,156	654	170,638
Stationery and Printing -	176,030	99,278	5,110	280,418	193,601	96,367	5,066	293,934
Civil Works - - - - -	19,469	225,237	404,847	649,553	44,266	275,774	432,477	752,517
Other Heads - - - - -	23,311	22,061	38,908	89,310	28,603	21,415	34,901	84,919
Provincial and Local Balances	—	169,795	—6,273	165,523	—	119,808	—41,597	108,211
TOTAL - - - -	—93,352	3,134,284	586,915	3,627,847	—40,052	3,249,769	583,104	3,792,821
Surplus - - - - -	12,071,317	123,842	—123,842	12,071,317	12,141,401	126,542	—126,542	12,141,401

FINANCE.

NORTH-WEST PROVINCES AND OUDH.

North-West
Provinces
and Oudh.

	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.*	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE:	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue - - -	4,538,516	1,185,790	3,037	5,727,342	4,637,568	1,350,192	2,671	5,990,431
Forest - - - - -	82,832	82,833	—	165,665	79,927	79,927	—	159,854
Opium - - - - -	47,987	—	—	47,987	52,876	—	—	52,876
Stamps - - - - -	174,958	524,873	—	699,831	180,657	541,972	—	722,629
Excise - - - - -	428,950	143,132	—	572,082	410,343	137,212	—	547,555
Provincial Rates - - -	—	172,814	761,861	934,675	—	174,463	789,446	963,909
Assessed Taxes - - -	124,970	118,403	—	243,373	126,370	119,833	—	246,203
Other Heads - - - - -	85,489	35,296	11,849	132,634	14,586	97,352	11,614	63,552
TOTAL - - - - -	5,483,701	2,263,141	776,747	8,523,589	5,502,327	2,440,951	803,731	8,747,009
NET EXPENDITURE:								
Interest - - - - -	72,487	9,743	-1,787	80,443	71,212	-6,357	-2,198	65,660
Collection of Revenue - -	66,317	507,187	335,772	909,276	66,308	509,032	342,639	918,039
Railways - - - - -	-553,483	4,000	—	-549,483	-637,274	—	—	-637,274
Irrigation - - - - -	-114,411	-19,318	—	-133,729	-111,339	139,463	—	28,124
General Administration -	22,978	134,047	7,515	164,540	25,236	141,380	7,961	174,627
Law and Justice - - -	—	572,407	—	572,407	—	591,537	—	591,537
Police - - - - -	—	403,054	262,804	665,858	—	402,786	264,696	667,482
Education - - - - -	—	43,018	124,721	167,739	—	42,439	120,895	163,334
Medical - - - - -	—	73,535	38,850	112,385	—	71,391	40,403	111,794
Territorial and Political Pensions.	104,696	—	—	104,696	97,933	—	—	97,933
Civil Superannuation - -	-12,075	190,637	1,626	180,188	-12,233	194,531	1,762	184,060
Stationery and Printing -	-927	56,827	148	56,048	-1,223	68,066	1,079	67,922
Civil Works - - - - -	14,459	224,625	227,258	466,342	14,974	207,652	215,936	433,562
Other Heads - - - - -	46,050	8,447	21,223	75,720	45,638	23,857	21,287	90,832
Provincial and Local Balances	—	-165,987	-20,464	-186,451	—	-139,798	-15,820	-155,618
TOTAL - - - - -	-653,911	2,042,222	997,666	2,385,977	-437,668	2,245,982	993,700	2,807,014
Surplus - - - - -	6,137,612	220,919	-220,919	6,137,612	5,939,995	194,969	-194,969	5,939,995

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

FINANCE.

Punjab.

PUNJAB.

	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE:	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue	1,408,898	951,332	4,017	2,364,242	1,409,598	966,367	4,170	2,380,135
Forest	51,574	51,575	—	103,149	50,721	50,721	—	101,442
Stamps	99,340	298,020	—	397,360	105,557	316,671	—	422,228
Excise	153,504	51,236	—	204,740	159,953	53,524	—	213,477
Provincial Rates	—	60,602	364,906	425,507	—	60,295	364,967	425,262
Assessed Taxes	79,225	64,094	—	143,319	80,132	64,847	—	144,979
Other Heads	51,637	23,121	—697	74,061	53,376	24,281	741	78,398
TOTAL	1,844,178	1,499,980	368,225	3,712,378	1,859,387	1,536,706	369,878	3,765,921
NET EXPENDITURE:								
Military Works	63,185	—	—	63,185	74,866	—	—	74,866
Collection of Revenue	49,858	807,447	129,768	487,073	48,305	813,162	133,728	495,285
Railways	1,339,993	—	—	1,339,993	1,600,943	—	—	1,600,943
Irrigation	297,407	5,655	2,068	293,820	390,911	5,053	2,212	398,176
General Administration	18,325	106,693	13,306	138,324	18,581	107,471	13,992	139,144
Law and Justice	—	844,819	—74	344,745	—	356,584	—63	356,499
Police	—	323,739	3,629	319,910	—	324,107	3,940	320,167
Education	—	73,506	55,209	128,714	—	72,091	56,211	128,302
Medical	—	59,520	32,610	92,130	—	59,204	31,963	91,167
Political	158,323	—	—	158,323	194,817	—	—	194,817
Territorial and Political Pen- sions.	32,728	—	—	32,728	31,137	—	—	31,137
Civil Superannuation	6,201	91,620	414	85,833	5,848	93,493	349	87,994
Stationery and Printing	2,023	39,034	2,292	39,303	2,470	39,478	2,766	39,774
Civil Works	31,001	216,596	74,122	321,719	35,619	222,391	81,348	339,358
Other Heads	39,823	15,181	4,868	59,872	51,935	17,823	6,339	76,097
Provincial and Local Balances	—	24,811	2,589	22,222	—	7,156	6,570	13,720
TOTAL	1,252,331	1,558,998	309,207	615,824	1,544,822	1,593,595	312,989	361,762
Surplus	3,096,554	59,018	59,018	3,096,554	3,404,159	56,839	56,889	3,404,159

BURMA.

Burma.

	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE :	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue - - -	1,799,102	650,256	1,933	2,451,291	1,447,638	1,030,212	458	2,478,308
Forest - - - - -	379,798	163,602	—	543,400	398,775	170,633	—	569,458
Salt - - - - -	117,689	—	—	117,689	153,423	—	—	153,423
Stamps - - - - -	66,497	100,351	—	166,848	67,452	100,250	—	167,702
Excise - - - - -	295,360	77,457	—	372,817	304,324	79,550	—	383,874
Provincial Rates - - -	—	—	107,135	107,135	—	—	112,623	112,623
Customs - - - - -	776,441	2,925	—	779,366	915,534	1,925	—	917,459
Assessed Taxes - - -	50,321	33,737	—	84,058	48,449	32,561	—	81,010
Other Heads - - - -	51,915	2,870	24,431	79,216	63,757	2,268	29,004	95,024
TOTAL - - -	3,537,123	1,031,198	133,499	4,701,820	3,399,352	1,417,444	142,085	4,958,881
NET EXPENDITURE :								
Military Works - - -	106,397	—	—	106,397	94,971	—	—	94,971
Collection of Revenue - -	357,913	333,116	5,165	696,194	353,648	341,241	5,515	700,404
Railways - - - - -	44,278	30,337	—	13,941	41,519	92,325	—	30,806
Irrigation - - - - -	54,352	52,381	1,922	104,811	48,414	23,393	1,117	72,924
General Administration -	42,890	74,412	2,453	119,755	45,580	72,775	2,488	120,843
Law and Justice - - -	93,264	172,811	—	266,075	91,865	183,830	—	275,695
Police - - - - -	590,188	293,400	2,067	881,521	578,622	295,317	3,756	870,183
Marine - - - - -	39,506	774	4,574	43,306	41,334	10,027	4,847	56,208
Education - - - - -	11,789	36,821	13,303	61,913	13,981	40,834	14,709	69,524
Medical - - - - -	17,391	23,555	5,076	46,022	16,857	23,736	7,014	47,607
Political - - - - -	38,573	—	—	38,573	44,074	—	—	44,074
Stationery and Printing -	196	51,231	—	51,035	296	50,499	—	50,795
Civil Works - - - - -	248,933	266,417	102,498	617,848	291,379	211,191	97,901	600,471
Other Heads - - - - -	26,306	38,226	11,011	75,543	32,245	39,311	11,948	83,504
Provincial and Local Balances	—	372,319	14,334	286,653	—	226,505	8,588	217,917
TOTAL - - -	1,671,584	1,038,940	125,757	2,836,281	1,694,785	1,426,834	133,195	3,254,314
Surplus - - -	1,865,539	7,742	7,742	1,865,539	1,704,567	8,390	8,890	1,704,567

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

FINANCE.

Central
Provinces.

CENTRAL PROVINCES.

	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE :	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue	313,411	341,218	—	654,629	306,061	463,441	—	769,502
Forest	50,349	50,850	—	100,699	49,638	49,639	—	99,277
Stamps	42,356	127,067	—	169,423	42,407	127,218	—	169,625
Excise	191,865	69,341	—	261,206	183,199	61,587	—	244,786
Provincial Rates	—	20,932	78,940	94,872	—	25,609	89,133	114,742
Assessed Taxes	24,978	23,697	—	48,675	24,727	23,660	—	48,387
Other Heads	48,823	8,164	2,392	58,879	55,825	7,632	1,230	64,687
TOTAL	671,282	640,769	76,332	1,388,383	661,857	748,786	90,363	1,501,006
NET EXPENDITURE :								
Collection of Revenue	56,651	170,757	49,249	276,657	55,717	171,662	49,899	277,278
Railways	335,632	—	—	335,632	336,463	—	—	336,463
General Administration	7,390	50,926	3,056	61,372	7,521	48,863	3,115	59,499
Law and Justice	—	101,332	—	101,332	—	112,728	—	112,728
Police	—	139,407	11,344	128,063	—	142,999	10,691	132,308
Education	—	32,526	27,380	59,906	—	29,800	27,182	56,982
Medical	—	30,572	6,734	37,306	—	29,301	6,775	36,076
Territorial and Political Pen- sions	25,893	—	—	25,893	25,547	—	—	25,547
Civil Works	696	153,156	23,760	177,611	2,043	129,322	33,032	164,397
Other Heads	2,170	59,861	1,925	63,956	1,396	55,330	1,144	57,870
Provincial and Local Balances	—	105,108	17,088	122,196	—	19,653	10,965	8,688
TOTAL	242,833	633,429	83,672	471,268	244,239	739,658	99,491	594,910
Surplus	914,115	7,340	7,340	914,115	906,096	9,128	9,128	906,096

Assam.

ASSAM.

	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE :	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue	206,708	392,167	—	598,875	167,315	427,638	—	594,953
Opium	39,925	—	—	39,925	44,986	—	—	44,986
Stamps	20,336	61,004	—	81,340	21,976	65,926	—	87,902
Excise	202,108	67,369	—	269,477	208,188	69,397	—	277,585
Provincial Rates	—	—	63,586	63,586	—	—	64,437	64,437
Other Heads	45,471	36,292	2,122	79,641	43,172	43,164	1,172	85,164
TOTAL	514,548	557,132	61,464	1,133,144	485,637	606,125	63,265	1,155,027
NET EXPENDITURE :								
Collection of Revenue	16,547	122,183	278	139,008	17,256	119,348	269	136,863
General Administration	5,250	28,342	276	33,868	5,283	30,086	283	35,652
Law and Justice	—	53,090	—	53,090	—	50,229	—	50,229
Police	—	117,764	5,376	112,388	—	122,704	6,321	116,383
Education	—	14,537	18,017	32,584	—	15,033	20,124	35,157
Medical	—	20,198	9,546	29,744	—	22,658	9,755	32,413
Civil Works	64,487	129,822	66,648	260,957	42,220	140,021	66,136	248,379
Other Heads	15,031	51,217	522	66,770	7,022	54,490	284	61,796
Provincial and Local Balances	—	87,422	18,924	8,498	—	30,507	6,208	24,299
TOTAL	101,315	509,731	108,865	719,911	71,781	685,076	84,314	741,171
Surplus	413,233	47,401	47,401	413,233	413,856	21,049	21,049	413,856

INDIA, GENERAL, *i.e.*, the Departments and Districts not administered directly by the Lieutenant Governors and Chief Commissioners of the Provinces previously enumerated.

	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE:	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue - - - -	147,212	—	39	147,251	141,132	—	55	141,187
Tributes from Native states -	220,353	—	—	220,353	210,262	—	—	210,262
Salt - - - - -	1,608,297	—	—	1,608,297	1,601,292	—	—	1,601,292
Stamps - - - - -	55,762	—	—	55,762	53,873	—	—	53,873
Excise - - - - -	102,066	—	800	102,866	108,938	—	655	109,593
Assessed Taxes - - - -	154,492	—	—	154,492	147,848	—	—	147,848
Exchange on Remittance Transactions.	227,675	—	—	227,675	178,306	—	—	178,306
Other Heads - - - - -	66,162	—	8,965	75,117	56,786	—	8,149	64,935
TOTAL - - - -	2,572,009	—	9,804	2,581,813	2,498,437	—	8,859	2,507,296
NET EXPENDITURE:								
Interest - - - - -	—281,731	—	—30	—281,761	—1,152,517	—	—32	—1,152,549
Army - - - - -	9,116,645	—	—	9,116,645	10,701,663	—	—	10,701,663
Military Works - - - -	697,775	—	—	697,775	889,608	—	—	889,608
Special Defence Works - -	67,322	—	—	67,322	21,716	—	—	21,716
Collection of Revenue - -	136,526	—	3,246	139,772	125,583	—	3,093	128,676
Post Office - - - - -	—328,079	—	73	—328,006	—368,480	—	73	—368,407
Telegraph - - - - -	—326,197	—	—	—326,197	—355,860	—	—	—355,860
Railways - - - - -	—4,026,617	—	—	—4,026,617	—4,151,273	—	—	—4,151,273
Irrigation - - - - -	665,216	—	—	665,216	679,695	—	—	679,695
General Administration -	476,937	—	193	477,130	469,498	—	218	469,716
Law and Justice - - - -	118,152	—	—16	118,136	109,499	—	—21	109,478
Police - - - - -	58,940	—	194	59,134	55,788	—	414	56,202
Marine - - - - -	126,281	—	—	126,281	114,154	—	—	114,154
Political - - - - -	514,010	—	24	514,034	590,021	—	24	590,045
Secretariat and other Minor Departments.	219,865	—	103	219,968	234,025	—	147	234,172
Stationery and Printing -	—140,119	—	14	—140,105	—173,197	—	19	—173,178
Civil Works - - - - -	103,268	—	2,939	106,207	132,743	—	2,472	135,215
Other Heads - - - - -	48,800	—	2,905	51,705	53,953	—	2,901	56,854
Total Balances - - - -	—	—	159	159	—	—	—439	—449
TOTAL - - - -	7,276,994	—	9,804	7,286,798	7,976,514	—	8,859	7,985,373
Surplus - - - - -	—4,704,985	—	—	—4,704,985	—5,478,077	—	—	—5,478,077

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

FINANCE.

Madras.

MADRAS.

	1894-95,				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE:	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue - - -	3,158,015	1,631,976	200,976	4,990,967	3,001,554	1,682,185	264,762	4,948,491
Forest - - - - -	91,523	91,522	—	183,045	104,634	104,635	—	209,269
Tributes from Native States -	344,680	—	—	344,680	342,591	—	—	342,591
Salt - - - - -	1,730,283	15,818	—	1,746,103	1,930,150	16,059	—	1,946,209
Stamps - - - - -	193,750	581,251	—	775,001	196,995	590,987	—	787,982
Excise - - - - -	1,023,720	341,361	—	1,365,081	1,077,642	359,335	—	1,436,977
Provincial Rates - - -	—	—	723,448	723,448	—	—	795,445	795,445
Customs - - - - -	348,070	5,693	—	353,763	378,434	8,282	—	386,716
Assessed Taxes - - -	129,314	108,886	—	238,200	133,601	113,089	—	246,690
Registration - - - -	60,658	60,657	—	121,315	60,887	60,888	—	121,775
Miscellaneous - - - -	—360	4,564	32,917	37,021	—329	3,119	31,792	34,582
TOTAL - - -	7,079,555	2,841,728	957,841	10,878,624	7,226,159	2,938,579	1,091,980	11,256,727
NET EXPENDITURE:								
Army - - - - -	3,280,625	—	—	3,280,625	3,297,116	—	—	3,297,116
Collection of Revenue - -	815,383	747,356	448,091	1,510,830	343,900	763,493	460,073	1,567,466
Railways - - - - -	431,005	8,819	—	439,824	472,696	9,372	—	482,068
Irrigation - - - - -	459,541	315,212	1,048	443,281	466,836	338,876	2,742	459,218
General Administration -	29,267	102,510	31,531	163,308	29,224	102,669	32,611	164,504
Law and Justice - - -	—	451,014	—	451,014	—	447,902	—	447,902
Police - - - - -	—	392,313	—	392,313	—	410,331	—	410,331
Education - - - - -	—	145,726	91,278	237,004	—	147,589	94,126	241,715
Medical - - - - -	—	118,596	134,571	253,167	—	116,660	139,488	256,148
Territorial and Political Pen- sions.	71,276	—	—	71,276	65,459	—	—	65,459
Civil Superannuation - -	6,942	140,586	748	134,392	8,852	143,909	1,098	136,155
Stationery and Printing -	28,165	77,546	—	105,711	34,118	81,509	—	115,627
Construction of Protective Works.	587,840	—	—	587,840	552,515	—	—	552,515
Civil Works - - - - -	2,239	235,415	303,948	640,702	3,553	819,109	328,031	650,793
Other Heads - - - - -	17,362	55,394	12,295	60,461	22,642	31,857	2,903	50,596
Provincial and Local Balances	—	92,328	61,098	28,230	—	44,118	87,652	81,770
TOTAL - - -	3,434,669	2,865,147	933,922	7,233,738	3,386,243	2,938,650	1,091,918	7,416,811
Surplus - - - - -	3,644,846	23,419	23,419	3,644,886	3,839,916	71	71	3,839,916

BOMBAY.

Bombay.

	1894-95.				1895-96.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	TOTAL.
NET REVENUE :	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Land Revenue - - -	1,872,723	1,624,651	15,501	3,512,875	2,063,620	1,814,916	15,021	3,893,557
Forest - - - - -	187,198	187,199	—	374,397	176,298	176,298	—	352,596
Tributes from Native States -	125,601	—17,646	—	107,955	133,452	—16,160	—	117,292
Opium - - - - -	1,802,937	—4,592	—	1,798,345	1,657,093	—4,577	—	1,652,516
Salt - - - - -	2,380,085	1,371	—	2,381,456	2,299,024	2,342	—	2,301,366
Stamps - - - - -	112,108	426,325	—	538,433	150,574	451,720	—	602,294
Excise - - - - -	780,648	260,216	—	1,040,864	826,392	275,463	—	1,101,855
Provincial Rates - - -	—	—	297,413	297,413	—	—	337,333	337,333
Customs - - - - -	1,551,658	7,218	—	1,558,906	1,884,707	8,889	—	1,893,596
Assessed Taxes - - -	215,697	178,293	—	393,990	222,116	182,551	—	404,667
Registration - - - -	31,389	31,388	—	62,777	32,567	32,567	—	65,134
Other Heads - - - -	18,203	—8,082	—5,215	4,956	38,636	—13,378	—5,264	19,976
TOTAL - - -	9,108,277	2,686,391	307,639	12,102,367	9,484,481	2,910,631	347,120	12,742,232
NET EXPENDITURE :								
Interest - - - - -	—98,717	—6,490	—99	—105,306	—91,696	—6,050	76	—97,670
Army - - - - -	2,933,933	—	—	2,933,933	3,275,845	—	—	3,275,845
Collection of Revenue - -	384,552	795,741	34,121	1,214,414	392,045	779,611	38,290	1,209,946
Railways - - - - -	—173,656	—3,922	—	—177,578	—237,236	—4,858	—	—242,096
Irrigation - - - - -	124,253	—766	—	123,487	130,757	—150	—	130,607
General Administration -	45,215	145,862	4,822	195,899	44,714	144,311	4,764	193,789
Law and Justice - - -	—	467,557	—	467,557	—	471,590	—	471,590
Police - - - - -	—	517,749	—19,950	497,809	—	526,302	—19,366	506,936
Education - - - - -	—	136,012	141,398	277,410	—	144,227	139,400	283,627
Ecclesiastical - - - -	35,238	—	—	35,238	40,989	—	—	40,989
Medical - - - - -	—	141,276	15,642	156,918	—	143,020	17,322	160,342
Political - - - - -	62,950	34,825	—	97,775	63,583	37,019	—	100,602
Territorial and Political Pensions,	71,316	—	—	71,316	64,800	—	—	64,800
Civil Superannuation - -	—5,715	150,383	331	144,999	—6,482	154,325	365	148,208
Stationery and Printing -	34,366	70,677	1,361	106,404	30,540	70,316	607	101,463
Civil Works - - - - -	5,985	244,332	216,663	466,980	21,648	252,658	227,951	502,257
Other Heads - - - - -	30,668	30,958	4,349	65,975	27,715	22,300	5,704	55,719
Provincial and Local Balances	—	—102,472	—26,280	—128,752	—	100,690	7,327	108,017
TOTAL - - -	3,450,368	2,621,722	372,388	6,444,478	3,757,220	2,836,311	422,440	7,014,971
Surplus - - -	5,657,889	64,669	—64,669	5,657,889	5,727,261	76,320	—75,320	5,727,261

FINANCE.

NET EXPENDITURE in *England*, with the EXCHANGE thereon.

NET EXPENDITURE.	1894-95.			1895-96.		
	Sterling.	Exchange.	TOTAL.	Sterling.	Exchange.	TOTAL.
	£.	Rx.	Rx.	£.	Rx.	Rx.
Interest - - - - -	2,698,231	2,170,910	4,778,244	2,609,326	1,982,487	4,591,813
Army: Effective - - - - -	1,924,072	1,600,797	3,524,869	1,753,817	1,322,497	3,076,314
" Non-effective - - - - -	2,292,499	1,907,323	4,199,822	2,306,670	1,752,538	4,059,208
Military Works - - - - -	24,972	20,776	45,748	30,947	23,513	54,460
Special Defence Works - - - - -	82,176	68,369	150,545	45,252	34,381	79,633
Collection of Revenue (Stamps, &c.) - - - - -	47,930	39,877	87,807	45,644	34,679	80,323
Post Office - - - - -	103,788	86,350	190,138	106,666	81,042	187,708
Telegraph - - - - -	84,852	70,596	155,448	95,338	72,435	167,773
Railways - - - - -	5,738,768	4,774,565	10,513,333	5,747,552	4,366,814	10,114,366
General Administration - - - - -	273,303	227,384	500,687	213,955	185,350	429,305
Marine - - - - -	185,212	154,093	339,305	236,599	179,761	416,360
Political - - - - -	21,564	17,941	39,505	47,693	36,236	83,929
Scientific and other minor Departments - - - - -	42,874	35,671	78,545	25,842	19,634	45,476
Civil Furlough Allowances - - - - -	220,651	183,578	404,229	223,537	169,837	393,374
Superannuation - - - - -	1,634,800	1,410,047	3,104,847	1,720,793	1,307,407	3,028,200
Stationery and Printing - - - - -	48,536	40,381	88,917	45,443	34,526	79,969
Civil Works - - - - -	56,928	47,280	104,108	61,651	46,841	108,492
Other Heads - - - - -	52,923	44,030	96,953	33,228	25,245	58,473
TOTAL - - -	15,503,982	12,899,068	28,403,050	15,379,953	11,685,223	27,065,176

SUMMARY.

PROVINCES, &c.	1894-95.		1895-96.	
	Surplus.	Deficit.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
BENGAL - - - - -	12,071,317		12,141,401	
NORTH-WEST PROVINCES and OUDH - - - - -	6,137,612		5,939,995	
PUNJAB - - - - -	3,096,554		3,404,169	
BUKMA - - - - -	1,865,539		1,704,567	
CENTRAL PROVINCES - - - - -	914,116		906,086	
ASSAM - - - - -	413,233		413,856	
INDIA GENERAL - - - - -	—	4,704,985	—	5,478,077
MADRAS - - - - -	3,644,886		3,839,916	
BOMBAY - - - - -	5,657,889		5,727,261	
ENGLAND and EXCHANGE - - - - -	—	28,403,050	—	27,065,176
TOTAL - - -	695,110		1,533,998	