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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FOR THE

YEAR 1887-88.



BOMBAY.

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

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In rounding off figures, fractions exceeding one-half have been reckoned as equivalent to one, and those equal to or less than one-half have been left out of consideration.

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PART I.

SUMMARY.

THE year 1887-88 witnessed many changes in the personnel of the Government, one of which, the vacancy caused by the death of the Honourable Sir Maxwell Melvill, was lamented alike by the Government and the public. In the Native States the year was marked by railway enterprise in Káthiáwár and Kolhápur. In Sind the inundation of the Indus was late in occurrence and insufficient in duration. The rainfall was generally below the average in Sind and Gujarát; above it elsewhere. The crops were inferior in these two provinces, and an agricultural depression was noticeable in Broach, but in the Konkan and above the Gháts the harvest was generally good. As a rule the prices of food-grains showed a tendency to remain stationary or to fall, except in Gujarát and above the Gháts, where they rose, principally in the case of bájri and jowári. Of agricultural stock, cattle and carts showed a general and satisfactory increase in the Presidency proper, but the number of sheep and goats declined in many places. The land revenue was collected with comparative ease. The demand for waste land for tillage was greater than in the previous year. Survey and settlement operations were pushed forward with a view to bring them to completion within the limited period of time assigned for the purpose. Six new Horse and Cattle Shows were initiated, mostly in Native States. Forest settlement work was completed in Sind, and approached completion elsewhere. A line of railway, to open up the Kánara teak forests, was under survey. Much interest centred round the Bombay Municipal Bill. Crime on the whole diminished, and the police were fairly successful in coping with it. The prison population was smaller. Litigation and registrations increased. The Tánsa water-works and the sewerage works in the city of Bombay made considerable progress, and the introduction of the new drainage system into the city was not attended by increased mortality. A perverse partiality for obnoxious methods of taxation resulted in the supersession of the Mehmádabad Municipality. The employment of Bombay troops in Burma raised the military expenditure. Additional facilities to the trade of Bombay were provided by the opening of the Victoria Dock. Another great work linking the name of the Queen-Empress with the progress of the trade of the capital city of the Presidency—the Victoria Terminal Station—was also completed during the year. The Karáchi Port Trust successfully commenced its work during the year. Cotton mills continued to increase, and a paper mill was started at Poona. The foreign import trade of Bombay increased largely, but the export trade stagnated. The trade of Karáchi again showed a decline. A large saving was effected in the cost of public works establishments. The expenditure on civil works was considerably smaller than in the previous year owing to the condition of the finances. The defence works in Western India made rapid progress. The progress of the Níra Canal works in the Dekkhan rendered a dry and barren valley fertile. The Southern

Marátha Railway system as originally projected was completed during the year, and extensions of it were in progress. The system of combining post and telegraph offices was extended with satisfactory results, and the advantages offered by the Post Office not only in the transmission of letters, but by the establishment of the insurance, value-payable, money-order and savings-bank systems were more widely availed of. The year, which was the first of the new Provincial Contract, was remarkable for the decline of Provincial and growth of Imperial receipts and expenditure. The land, salt and Mint revenues increased: the duty on salt was enhanced during the year. Economies were effected in the expenditure, not only on the Public Works, but also on the Jails, Registration, Customs, and Salt Departments. The abnormal demand for Barágra salt, due to the failure of the salt-crop of the Sámbhar Lake, finally ceased during the year, but the sales of sea-salt improved. The average consumption of salt per head of population increased everywhere in the Presidency. The Ábkári administration, both in British territory and Native States, underwent important changes, some of which involved new departures from principles hitherto followed. Educational and Medical Local Funds showed a marked tendency to increase. Educational institutions and the pupils attending them showed a considerable increase owing principally to the spread of primary instruction in Native States: every race contributed to the increase of pupils. Schemes of technical education made considerable progress both in the capital city and in Sind. Cholera and small-pox prevailed to a much greater extent than in the preceding year. Much attention was devoted to schemes for the improvement and extension of the institutions for the relief of the suffering in the city of Bombay. The Municipality of Ahmedabad adopted after a prolonged controversy a water-supply scheme recommended by Colonel Ducat. The literature of the year showed a slight decline of activity and vigour. The substitution of country-made for European stationery resulted in a large gain to the public treasury. The maintenance of the Government Central Press was after an exhaustive enquiry found to be a measure conducive to economy.

Personnel of the
Administration.

The administration of the Bombay Presidency was conducted throughout the year ending 31st March 1888 by His Excellency the Right Honourable Lord Reay, LL.D., G.C.I.E. During the absence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., C.B., A.D.C. on three months' leave from 31st May 1887, Major-General A. Carnegie, S.C., was appointed Provincial Commander-in-Chief.

The Honourable Sir Maxwell Melvill, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Third Member of Council of the Presidency of Bombay, was allowed sick leave for 4 months, and in his stead the Honourable Mr. J. R. Naylor was appointed to be a temporary Member of the Council. The Honourable Mr. Naylor took his seat in Council on the 1st of August 1887. A few days afterwards, on the 5th idem, Sir Maxwell Melvill died, and in announcing this mournful event His Excellency the Governor in Council expressed his regret in the following terms:—

“By this melancholy occurrence the public service has sustained an irreparable loss, and the Governor has been deprived of the assistance of a most distinguished and valued colleague and friend. In the various offices which Sir Maxwell Melvill held from his first arrival in this country on November 7, 1855, until June, 1869, when he entered the High Court, and left the Bench in 1884 to take his seat as a Member of Council, he invariably secured from all those with whom he came in contact the most perfect confidence in his judgment, his uprightness and ability. Although delicate health prevented him from

accepting offers to enter upon a wider sphere of action, his conscientious devotion to every detail of his public duties was untiring, and the obligations of the Government of Bombay to this most zealous servant of the Crown demand public acknowledgment. His judicial and temperate character, and his personal influence, led to his selection in June 1868 as a Commissioner to inquire into the failure of the Bank of Bombay; while his subsequent services as a Judge of the High Court of Judicature and a Member of Council, received the gracious recognition of Her Majesty in his nomination as a Companion of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India and subsequently as a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire.

“His unaffected modesty, his tact, his generosity and his unvarying courtesy towards all members of the European and Native community have inspired a widespread sense of loss and of sincere regret at the lamentable event throughout the Presidency. The Governor in Council shares these feelings and gives public expression to them on behalf of himself, as well as of all other members, of the service of which the late Sir Maxwell Melvill was justly considered an ornament during his connection with it for nearly thirty-two years, until the link was severed on Friday last.”

On Sir Maxwell Melvill's death the Honourable Mr. J. B. Richey, C.S.I., already a temporary Member of Council, *vice* the Honourable Mr. (now Sir) J. B. Peile transferred to the Viceregal Council, was appointed to fill the vacancy with effect from the 6th August 1887, and the Honourable Mr. J. R. Naylor was appointed temporary Member of Council *vice* the Honourable Mr. Peile with effect from the same date. The Honourable Mr. Richey having subsequently been permanently appointed by Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, to be Member of Council, it was notified that he assumed the permanent office on the 15th idem.

The Honourable Mr. Naylor conducted the duties of temporary Fourth Member of Council till the 26th October 1887. On the 27th October 1887 the Honourable Mr. Peile resumed charge of his office as Third Member of Council.

The Honourable Mr. Peile having been appointed Member of the Council of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India resigned the Bombay Civil Service with effect from the 12th November 1887, and the Honourable Mr. (now Sir) Raymond West, M.A., F.R.G.S., Hony. LL.D. (Edin.), Hony. LL.D. (Queen's University, Ireland), took his seat as Fourth Member of Council on the afternoon of the 11th idem in pursuance of his appointment by Her Imperial Majesty. The following *Government Gazette Extraordinary* bidding farewell to the Honourable Mr. Peile was issued on the occasion:—

“In bidding farewell to the Honourable James Braithwaite Peile, C.S.I., who resigns the Bombay Civil Service with effect from the 12th instant, His Excellency the Governor in Council desires to place on record his sense of the valuable services rendered to the Empire generally, and the Presidency of Bombay in particular, by the honourable gentleman. Mr. Peile arrived in India in 1856 as one of the first representatives of the then newly established competitive system, and his great ability earned for him rapid promotion. To him are mainly due the measures taken in 1860 and subsequent years for the relief of the Talukdars of Gujarsit, by which many ancient and noble families of that Province have been rescued from poverty and distress. As Director of Public Instruction in 1869-72, and as Municipal Commissioner of Bombay

in the latter year, his remarkable powers of organization and reform found full scope for work which was characterized by thoroughness and conciliatory tact, qualities which were equally evinced during his administration as Political Agent in Káthiáwár in 1873-77. His eminent services as a Member of the Famine Commission in 1878-80 were recognized by the Government of India and Her Majesty the Queen-Empress by conferring on him the Companionship of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. As Secretary and Chief Secretary from 1879 to 1882 and as a Member of the Executive Council of the Government, his varied experience, his close accuracy and his general knowledge have been of the greatest value and assistance in disposing of many most intricate questions of policy and administration. For the last year the Honourable Mr. Peile has occupied the high position of Member of His Excellency the Viceroy's Council, and although he is now resigning the Service and leaving India permanently, the Governor in Council has the satisfaction of knowing that the Empire will still retain his distinguished services in the important appointment which has been conferred on him as Member of the Council of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India."

The Governor's
Tour

H. E. the Governor left Poona at 10 p. m. on Monday the 10th October 1887 by special train and arrived at Sánгли at 8 a. m. on the 11th. His Excellency received Chiefs at 4 p. m., and visited the Chief of Sánгли in Darbár at 5 p. m. After the Darbár His Excellency visited the schools and hospital of the town.

On Wednesday the 12th October His Excellency left Sánгли at 7 a. m., and drove by road to Kolhápúr, where he arrived at 11 a. m. His Excellency received visits from the Mahárája and other Chiefs in the afternoon and returned the visit of the Mahárája in Darbár at 5 p. m. His Excellency afterwards visited the Ránis. On Thursday the 13th His Excellency visited the Technical School and other schools in the town, together with the most notable public buildings. The Ránis visited His Excellency at noon. A parade was to have taken place in the afternoon, but owing to the extreme inclemency of the weather it did not take place.

On Friday the 14th October His Excellency left Kolhápúr at 7 a. m., arriving at Sánгли at 11 a. m.. He received the Chief of Miraj at 3 p. m., and returned the visit at Miraj later in the afternoon. His Excellency left Sánгли by special train at midnight, reaching Wathár at 8 a. m. on the 15th and Mahábaleshvar by 3 p. m. on the same day.

His Excellency left Bombay at 8 p. m. on Tuesday the 13th December 1887 and reached Ahmedabad at 9-15 a. m. on the following day, where he was received by the Commissioner, N. D., the General Officer Commanding the Northern Division, the Secretary to Government, Political Department, the Collector and the Judge of Ahmedabad, as well as by His Highness the Mahárája of Idar, His Highness the Diván of Pálanpur, the Rájá of Lúnáváda, the Naváb of Balásinor, the Rájá of Sunth and other Chiefs of Gujarát. An address of welcome was presented to His Excellency by the Municipal Commissioners of Ahmedabad, after replying to which His Excellency left for his encampment at Sháhábág followed by the Native Chiefs and officers who had received him at the station. In the afternoon of the same day His Excellency received at the Sháhábág the visits of the Chiefs of the Mahi Kántha, Rewa Kántha and Pálanpur who were assembled at Ahmedabad. On Thursday the 15th, at 8 a. m., His Excellency paid return visits to the Chiefs, and in the afternoon held a Levée at the Sháhábág which was largely attended by the Civil and Military Officers and by European and Native residents of Ahmedabad. On the morning of Friday the 16th His

Excellency presided at the prize distribution to the students of the Anjuman-i-Islám School, and also visited the Mahálaxmi Female Training College. At 4 P.M. the same day His Excellency received in public Darbár at his encampment at the Sháhíabág the Chiefs of the Mahi Kántha, Rewa Kántha and Pálanpur Agencies who were invited to Ahmedabad, and with due ceremony delivered to His Highness Mahárája Sir Shri Kesrísinghji Jawánsinghji of P'dar the Grant of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India conferring upon His Highness the dignity of a Knight Commander of the Order and the Honourable Insignia of the Star of India. At the conclusion of the ceremony His Excellency received Nazars from the Chiefs and their attendants, and conferred khillats on the Chiefs, after which His Excellency delivered the following address to the assembled Darbáris :—

" *Your Highnesses and Chiefs of Gujarát*—Nineteen years have passed by since my predecessor Sir Seymour FitzGerald met many of those who are assembled here to-day at the opening of the Broach Exhibition. The object of that Exhibition was to afford a representation of the produce, arts and manufactures of Gujarát, and to exhibit to its people useful mechanical appliances which could be adapted to local industries with profit. It was a fortunate idea which led to the assemblage then of 20 Chiefs of the 1st and 2nd Class to witness an experiment which, although conducted on British soil, was promoted in the interests of Her Majesty's subjects as well as in those of Her Majesty's allies, the protected Native States. The bridge over the Sábarmati was not then completed, and unbroken communication between Bombay and the Capital of India was not even established. The few years which have since elapsed have witnessed extraordinary extensions of Railway communication, and lines now traverse almost all the Native States of Gujarát. The harbour of Bombay, open alike to the trade of Native States and to that of British India, has received the advantage of considerable expenditure. Trade and commerce have developed beyond all expectation, and unbroken peace has enabled you all to reap its full benefits. The markets of Europe and China are open to receive the wheat and cotton which this fertile province produces, and an honourable emulation has sprung up between the British districts and the Native States of British India in order to secure for themselves the largest share in it. The benefits of uniform jurisdiction over the through lines of Indian Railways and of an extension of uniform currency have been shared alike by Native States and British India, and the advantages which one competitor can secure over another for the trade of the world now depend on the facilities and freedom of communication as well as on the character of internal administration.

" *Your Highness the Mahárája of P'dar*—I have been commissioned by His Excellency the Viceroy to convey to you the honourable distinction which Her Majesty the Queen-Empress has been graciously pleased to confer upon you. Your Highness has deserved this proof of the Imperial appreciation of your administrative success. Since you assumed charge of your State, a debt of a lák and a half has been paid off. Yet you have not neglected the growing demands of education and sanitation. You liberally assisted my Government in the execution of the Háthmati Canal and the construction of the Kapadvanj and Modása road. You loyally accepted your share in the salt arrangements. You contributed handsomely towards the Sádra College, and when you had fully considered the arguments, for and against the scheme, you recognized the advantages of free trade by abolishing transit duties even at the temporary sacrifice of revenue.

" It was a great satisfaction to me to learn the prominent part taken in the *Mahi Kántha* by the Chiefs of Katosan, Ilol, and Amhyára in the promotion of free trade, and of the example set by the Chief of Kerol to the other Chiefs of the Sábhar Kántha, and I am glad to express to the rest of the Chiefs of the Mahi Kántha my appreciation of the measures they have taken in the same direction.

" *Your Highness the Diván of Pálanpur*—I take this opportunity of congratulating you on the abolition of all transit duties throughout your territory, and I trust that you will soon complete the sound policy you have inaugurated by a reform of the import and export duties. I regret that His Highness the Naváb of Rádhanpur and other Chiefs of the Pálanpur Agency are not able to be present to receive my acknowledgments of the prudence which they have shown in relieving trade of duties which are estimated at Rs. 44,000 a year

"Rájás and Chiefs of Rewa Kántha—You have well followed the example set by the Rájás of Lúnáváda and Sunth. It would have given me satisfaction to have announced that the Báriya State had adopted similar measures, but I have every confidence that the Rája will be persuaded by the benefits which will result from your adoption of the principles of free trade to extend the same to his own subjects. I believe that in the Rewa Kántha Agency an annual burden of nearly Rs. 19,000 has been removed from the through trade.

"Chiefs of Gujarát—I have no wish to appeal to the terms of your agreements with the British Government, or to any other arguments than those of your own advantage. The abolition of injurious restrictions on trade is a necessary corollary to the Exhibition which many of those present here to-day witnessed in 1868. You then realized the productive capacity of Gujarát. On your behalf, no less than on its own, the British Government has been actively engaged these 19 years in providing facilities by land and sea for transporting at the cheapest cost and with the greatest safety the produce of your States and the rich gifts of nature to distant markets. Your full participation in the benefits of peace, commerce, and improved communication henceforth depends upon your own efforts, and although the removal of transit duties is the first and most necessary reform, still I am convinced that your sense of justice will not suffer you to rest there, but you will gradually take note of the perfect freedom of trade enjoyed in British India and not deny to your own people the advantages possessed by their neighbours across your borders.

"I desire to express to all present here to-day my sense of the loyalty and the hearty devotion with which the Chiefs of Gujarát and the British Municipalities celebrated the Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress in this auspicious year. Her Majesty read with the deepest interest the accounts of your proceedings, and as it is the earnest wish of the Queen-Empress to uphold the dignity and honour of the rulers of Native States, so it is Her Majesty's conviction that the promotion of the welfare of her own subjects by those in authority under her, and that of the subjects of her allies by their own rulers, is the surest foundation on which public order and national prosperity can be based. It has been and will be my special endeavour to establish and cement the same cordial relations of personal friendship with the Chiefs of this part of the Presidency which I have established with those of other Divisions. The advice which it has been my duty to give with reference to free trade and other matters to the responsible rulers of the States included in my political jurisdiction does not deviate from the principles on which I have acted in the sphere of administration more immediately entrusted to me. This assurance I can give you, that nothing affords me greater pleasure than to see a ruler placed in a high position, exercising his powers in improving the condition of his subjects and in developing the resources of his State. The benign influence of sound, economic or administrative principles will assert itself in Native territory as it has done in British territory.

"It gives me much pleasure to meet you here this day, and to have conveyed with my own hand the special mark of favour which Her Majesty has extended to one of your number. The advances which the Native States of Gujarát have made in education and other branches of administration are fully appreciated by Her Majesty's Government, and I am commanded to assure you that the Queen-Empress watches with personal interest the evidence of moral and material improvement which the annual records of your administrations contain."

In the evening of the day on which the Darbár was held His Excellency gave a State banquet followed by an evening party at the Sháhíbhág. His Highness the Mahárájá of Y'dar replied to a complimentary speech made by His Excellency after the banquet, and the Chiefs invited to the Darbár attended the evening party. On the morning of the 17th December His Excellency received at the Sháhíbhág deputations from the Tálukdárs of Gujarát and the Gujarát Vernacular Society, who presented addresses to which His Excellency replied, and the Board of the Gujarát College had a conference with His Excellency; and in the evening His Excellency presided at the prize distribution to the pupils of Municipal schools at Ahmedabad. On Monday the 19th His Excellency visited the Water-works at Dudheshvar, the Gáckwád's Haveli, Court-houses at Ahmedabad, &c.

On the morning of Tuesday the 20th December His Excellency left by special train for Nadiád, where on arrival an address of welcome was presented

to His Excellency by the Municipal Commissioners, to which His Excellency replied. His Excellency also received a deputation of the Nadiád Agricultural Association, and replied to their address, and distributed prizes to the students of the High School and visited the buildings adjoining the Swámi Náráyan Temple at Vadtal.

The Governor proceeded on the morning of the 21st December to Kaira, where an address was presented by the Municipal Commissioners of that place, to which he replied. His Excellency then returned to Nadiád.

His Excellency left Nadiád on the morning of Thursday the 22nd December for Godhra. His Excellency arrived at Godhra at 2-30 P.M., and immediately after proceeded to Lúnáváda. The Rája of Lúnáváda met and received His Excellency at the limits of his capital. On the morning of Friday the 23rd His Excellency visited some places of interest at Lúnáváda and at 1-30 P.M. received the visit of the Rája, which was returned at 6-30 P.M. the same day. In the afternoon His Excellency distributed prizes to the school children, and Her Excellency the Lady Reay, C.I., at the request of the Rája, laid the foundation stone of a new Girls' School. From Lúnáváda His Excellency returned on the morning of the 24th December to Godhra, where an address was presented to His Excellency by the local Municipality and the District Board, to which His Excellency replied. His Excellency left Godhra by special train for Ahmedabad, where he arrived at 6-15 P.M. the same day.

After spending Christmas Day at Ahmedabad His Excellency proceeded to Vadnagar on the morning of the 26th December and thence drove to I'dar, where he was received by His Highness the Mahárája on the road outside I'dar, and the customary exchange of visits took place. His Excellency visited the great points of interest in and near the town. His Highness the Mahárája entertained the Governor at a banquet followed by a display of fireworks at the palace on the evening of the 26th.

From I'dar His Excellency returned to Ahmedabad on Tuesday the 27th December and on the morning of the following day he left Ahmedabad by special train for Dhoráji. On his way His Excellency received and replied to an address from the Viramgám Municipality at the Railway Station. On arrival at Dhoráji at 7-32 P.M. His Excellency was received by His Highness the Thákor Sáheb of Gondal, and an address was presented by the Dhoráji Municipality, to which the Governor replied. On Thursday the 29th His Excellency received the visit of His Highness the Thákor Sáheb at 11-30 A.M., and returned the visit at 12 noon. In the afternoon at 5 P.M., His Excellency at the request of the Thákor Sáheb and the Administrator of Porbandar turned the first sod of the Dhoráji-Porbandar Extension of the Bhávnagar-Gondal Railway, and in the evening attended a banquet given by His Highness the Thákor Sáheb.

At 8-30 A.M. on Friday the 30th December His Excellency left Dhoráji by special train for Jetalsar, where he was received by His Highness the Naváb of Junágad. At the request of His Highness the Naváb, His Excellency turned the first train on to the Jetalsar-Verával Extension of the Bhávnagar-Gondal Railway and proceeded to Choki. At Choki, after breakfast, His Excellency received an address on behalf of His Highness, to which His Excellency replied. His Excellency returned to Dhoráji at 2 P.M., where at the request of His Highness the Thákor Sáheb of Gondal he laid the foundation stone of a Girls' School to be called the Lady Reay Girls' School. His Excellency left Dhoráji by special train at 7 A.M. on the 31st December and arrived in Bombay by mail train on the morning of the 1st January 1888.

On January 4th, 1888, in response to a summons from His Excellency the Viceroy the Governor proceeded to Calcutta, and on arrival there on the

morning of the 7th His Excellency was met at the Howrah Station and escorted to Government House, Calcutta, where he was received by His Excellency the Viceroy with the ceremony prescribed for the occasion. Leaving Calcutta on the night of the 13th and halting at Benares and Lucknow, His Excellency returned to the Presidency on the morning of the 21st January.

His Excellency the Governor left Bombay on Friday the 28th January 1888 by the mail train to proceed to the British-Indian and Portuguese-Indian Frontier for the purpose of meeting His Excellency the Governor General of Portuguese India there, and of linking with him the West of India Portuguese Railway to the Southern Marátha Railway system. Halting at Belgaum, His Excellency received there an address from the Municipality, and on Tuesday the 31st of January he proceeded to Castle-Rock on the British Frontier attended by His Excellency's personal Staff, and accompanied by the officials of the Southern Marátha Railway Company, the Commissioner of the Southern Division, and a large party of Civil and Military Officers from the adjoining districts of Kánara, Dhárwár and Belgaum.

His Excellency the Governor General of Portuguese India, attended by His Excellency's personal Staff, and accompanied by the Political Secretary to the Government of Bombay who had proceeded to Mormugão for the purpose, and by the Agent and officials of the West of India Portuguese Railway and the Civil and Military Officers of Goa, left in a special train at 7-30 A.M. and arrived at the Frontier at the same time that the special train conveying His Excellency the Governor of Bombay arrived.

Their Excellencies having left their respective trains exchanged compliments, while the band played the English and Portuguese National Anthems, and at the invitation of Mr Sawyer, the Chief Engineer, they simultaneously united the lines by means of silver keys which Mr. Craik, the Traffic Manager of the Southern Marátha Railway, presented to them. On behalf of the Government of India and at the desire of His Excellency the Viceroy, the Governor expressed the satisfaction which it gave him to bring to a completion, with the aid of His Excellency the Governor General of Portuguese India, the construction of an international line which afforded the best guarantee for peace, international friendship, and commerce. His Excellency the Governor General reciprocated these sentiments, and they were immediately reported by telegraph to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India and to His Most Faithful Majesty the King of Portugal. Their Excellencies then proceeded to Castle-Rock, where the Southern Marátha Railway Company entertained their illustrious guests and the officers who formed their parties at lunch. After lunch His Excellency the Governor General of Portuguese India took His Excellency the Governor to Mormugão, where a banquet, followed by a Ball, was given to them by the West of India Portuguese Railway Company. After the banquet and the loyal toasts had been given, the Chief Engineer and Agent of the West of India Portuguese Railway responded on behalf of that Company, while in the unavoidable absence of the Chief Engineer and Agent of the Southern Marátha Railway Company Mr. Craik responded on its behalf.

His Excellency the Governor of Bombay left by special train on the 1st of February receiving the honours due to him, and arrived at Chinchli in the Kolhápur State that evening, where he was received by the Political Agent and the Council of Administration. On the following day His Excellency returned the visits of the Chiefs of the Southern Marátha Country which he received on arrival at the Camp, and distributed the prizes at the Horse and Cattle Show in the afternoon. Travelling by special train, which the Southern Marátha

Railway Company courteously placed at his disposal, His Excellency reached Poona at 9 A.M. and left for Bombay, which he reached on the evening of the 3rd of February, 1888.

The Native States of the Bombay Presidency are scattered over its whole area, from Khairpur in the north of Sind to Savanúr in the south of the Southern Marátha Country: some of them are situated on the low-lying westerly plains along the coast, while more occupy the higher ground to the east of the Sahyádrí mountains. They present various phases of civilization, from the almost savage Dáing estates of Khándesh to the enlightened States of Bhávnagar in the north and Kolhápur in the south. Under the influence of British administration in the States whose Chiefs are either minors or incapacitated for rule, great improvements have been introduced. Elsewhere the most potent influence for reform consists in the employment by the Chiefs of native officials trained in the British service, who carry with them to Foreign service the traditions and principles of British administration. Improved communications have enabled the Chiefs to travel, and opened their eyes to the advantages of change. But in very few States is the press or the formation of associations encouraged; and even where under a temporary British administration newspapers have begun their career it is soon interrupted by a reversion to Native rule. In one respect, namely the emancipation of trade from transit duties, there has been a steady advance along the whole line of Native States. Much still remains to be done, but the year under report was one of fair progress, as will be seen from the following paragraphs in which the leading features of the year's administration of the larger States are briefly mentioned. Full details as regards the administration of all the States, small and large, will be found in Part II, Chapter I.

During the early part of the year 1887-88 His Highness the Ráo of Cutch was absent on a visit to England in connection with the celebration of Her Imperial Majesty's Jubilee. His Highness was invested with the Insignia of a Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire by the Queen-Empress. His Highness's brother, Kunvar Shri Kálubha, and the Political Agent, Colonel G. R. Goodfellow, were also invested with the Companionship of the Order of the Indian Empire. The rainfall during the year was less than in the previous year, and was unseasonable. The cotton crop suffered considerably in consequence, and there was a scarcity in the eastern portion of the State. There was no epidemic during the year, and the public health was good. The imports increased, but in the exports there was a decrease on account of smaller exportations of cotton during the year. There was a marked increase in shipping activity. The police work was heavier than in the previous year, crime having increased in consequence of the scarcity; but the increase was successfully coped with. More property was stolen, but more was also recovered, both actually and in proportion to the amount stolen, than in the previous year. The administration of justice was diligently attended to. There was an increase in the number of inmates of the prisons owing to the unfavourable nature of the season. The Central Jail manufactured excellent cotton and woollen fabrics which found a ready market. Good work was done in the hospital and dispensaries, and progress was made in vaccination. The number of schools remained unaltered, but both the number and average attendance of pupils were lower than in the previous year, owing to the withdrawal of children from the lower schools in consequence of the scarcity. In the School of Art the classes for modelling, wood carving, inland work and embroidery did well, but the pottery class failed to make satisfactory progress. His Highness the Ráo liberally patronized education and literature. Of the total length of 500 feet by which

North-Gujarát
States
Cutch,

the Mándvi Breakwater is to be extended, a length of 350 feet was completed. Horse-breeding operations continued to be carried on an extensive scale.

Pálanpur
Superintendency,

The Pálanpur Superintendency comprises 11 States, the most important of which are Pálanpur and Rádhanpur. As in the previous year, the season was, on the whole, unfavourable, and prices consequently rose. The public health was good, except that there was a slight outbreak of cholera in one of the States. The Darbár held at Ahmedabad by His Excellency the Governor was attended by His Highness the Diván of Pálanpur and 15 other Chiefs of the Superintendency. Illness prevented His Highness the Naváb of Rádhanpur from attending the Darbár. The Victoria Jubilee Institutes undertaken in the previous year were opened at Pálanpur and Rádhanpur during the year under report, and the custom of obtaining forced labour was put an end to, to a great extent, in both States. The finances of Pálanpur again showed a deficit. There was a slight increase of crime during the year, attributable to the prevalence of scarcity: but the operations of the police were more successful than in the previous year. Two notorious Miána outlaws were apprehended. The number of civil suits in arrears rose considerably owing to a larger number of suits having been filed in Pálanpur during 1887-88 than in the year previous, in anticipation of a change in the period of limitation. Vaccination made good progress during the year. There was an increase of one in the number of dispensaries and of nearly 3½ thousand patients. Diseases were less rife among cattle than in the previous year. There was a slight increase in the number of students attending schools, but no improvement in the average attendance. 4 new private schools were opened, indicating a desire on the part of parents to give education to their children. The Victoria Tálukdári School contained only 8 boys at the close of the year.

Mahi Kántha
Agency,

The Mahi Kántha Agency comprises 64 States, all of which, save the State of I'dar, are inconsiderable. The presentation, by His Excellency the Governor, of the Insignia of a K. C. S. I. to the Mahárája of I'dar at the Darbár held at Ahmedabad, the opening of the Scott College at Sídra by the Honourable Mr. Richey, C.S.I., and a visit by their Excellencies Lord and Lady Reay to His Highness the Mahárája of I'dar at his capital were among the chief events of the year. Besides the Mahárája, 10 other Mahi Kántha Chiefs attended the Darbár at Ahmedabad. Many of the States in the Agency march with those of Rájputána, and there are many Bhil villages on either side of the border. During the course of the year the Bhils behaved well, and there was no instance of any raid or foray on a large scale. But there were 50 dacoities and 48 robberies against 26 and 40 respectively in the previous year, thus showing an increase of violent crime. The I'dar Police captured the 7 Bhils concerned in the murder of the Thákór of Umria, and the Dánta Police captured the notorious outlaw Nathusingh: but otherwise the results of the operations of the States Police, which are ill-equipped and undisciplined bodies of men, were very unsatisfactory, specially as regards the detection of violent crime. Great improvements were made in the newly organized Agency Police. The last of the saváts (troopers) of His Highness the Gáekwád's Contingent were withdrawn during the year. The protection of the I'dar frontier on the north and the east was entrusted to the I'dar State at the request of His Highness the Mahárája, as a tentative measure. On the whole the rainfall was equal to the average, but the season was not a very healthy one, ague and fever of a bad type being prevalent in almost all parts of the Agency throughout the year. Cholera, also, made its appearance in several States during the months of September and October. Cattle-disease was also prevalent in several States. The out-turn of crops was

estimated at 12 annas in the rupee. There was a great increase in the number of civil suits and the arrears thereof which remained at the end of the year, owing to the introduction of certain limitation rules. The expenditure on public works amounted to Rs. 86,728 exclusive of contributions: Rs. 51,890 were spent on the Scott College, and the I'dar State expended Rs. 23,950, chiefly on roads and a library and clock tower at I'dar. Education made satisfactory and steady progress; there was an increase of 4 in the number of schools and of 380 in that of scholars. The Church Missionary Society represented by the Reverend Mr. Thompson did excellent work in the education of the Bhils, for whom it has already opened 2 schools. The Thákór of Pál, one of the I'dar feudatories, gave a site for one of these schools, to which a dispensary is attached, contributed liberally towards its construction, and accepted the responsibility for the maintenance of the school. The State of I'dar, which has lent an enlightened support to the Society's schemes of Bhil education, contemplates opening another school and dispensary under its supervision.

As already noted, His Excellency the Governor visited Káthiáwár in December 1887 and performed two interesting ceremonies in connection with railway extension in Káthiáwár. The extension of the Bhávnagar-Gondal line from Dhoráji to Porbandar, of which His Excellency turned the first sod, was due to the joint enterprise of the Gondal and Porbandar States: the Jetalsar-Verával extension of the same line, on which His Excellency set the first train in motion, was being constructed entirely at the expense of the Junágad State. The extension of the Morvi railway from Vánkár to Rájkot, sanctioned during the year by the Government of India, afforded a fresh instance of the enlightened enterprise shown by His Highness Sir Wághji, Thákór Sáheb of Morvi, in advancing railway communications. Another enlightened Chief, H. H. Sir Takhtsingji, Thákór Sáheb of Bhávnagar, initiated an important reform during the year by dividing the various departments of his State among four Councillors, each responsible to himself, and inaugurated another by maturing a scheme of local self-government for his capital city. In the State of Porbandar also the year was one of great progress under the administration of Mr. Lely; a stimulus was given to trade by the expenditure of large sums on useful public works, and a marked improvement was effected in the whole machinery of Government. The long standing disputes between, firstly, the Maiyás and the Junágad State, and, secondly, the Jivaidárs of Dumána and the Dhrángadrá State were amicably settled by the commutation of the service liability of the Maiyás and Jivaidárs for a surrender of part of their lands. The turbulent Mánas of the Mália State will, it is hoped, be pacified by the adoption of a scheme for their transfer to the jurisdiction of the Agency, and for the settlement of their debts. The value of the sea-borne trade of the province advanced from 380½ to 386½ lakhs of rupees, the increase being due to increased importations of rice and other grains and especially noticeable at Porbandar and Bhávnagar. The expenditure on public works advanced from 16½ to 18½ lakhs, the chief works in progress or completed during 1887-88 being the Sámaldás College and the dredging of the creek at Bhávnagar, the water-supply works at Bhávnagar and Dhrángadra, the bridge over the river at Jámnagar, and the light-house and bridges at Porbandar. The number of medical institutions for the relief of the suffering increased from 77 to 81, and the number of patients treated therein from 402,893 to 434,526, the institutions being popular everywhere and supplied by the States with medicines on a liberal scale. There was an increase of 40 in the number of educational institutions and of 3,435 in that of pupils. Apart from the detection and punishment of serious crime of the nature of robberies and dacoities, the administration of the police showed an improvement.

While these facts bespeak an enlightened and progressive administration maintained notwithstanding a diminution of from 3 to 4 annas in the rupee in the land revenue of the States owing to the unfavourable nature of the season, it is to be noted that, on the other hand, the public tranquillity, disturbed during the three previous years, was not only not restored, but the area of disorder spread from Junágad to Gondal, Navánagar and elsewhere. There were 118 robberies and 57 dacoities against 117 and 78 respectively in 1886-87; and they resulted in the removal or destruction of property worth Rs. 1,14,365 against Rs. 91,985, the murder of 17 persons against 11, the wounding of 45 against 61, and the carrying off of 29 hostages against 24. While 875 persons were concerned in these outrages, only 217 were captured and 63 convicted. 8 proclaimed out-laws remained at large. The Imperial Mail was robbed on one and stopped on 3 other occasions. In consideration of the very serious state of affairs, Government lent to the Chiefs of the 3 States named above the services of a British officer, Major Humfrey, to organize their police and suppress the formidable disorders which had remained unchecked so long; and the result has been the capture of several dacoits and the destruction of others who endeavoured to evade capture, since the close of the year.

And Rowa
Kántha Agency.

The Rewa Kántha Agency comprises the first class State of Rájpipla, 5 second class States and 55 other States and estates of smaller importance. Among the chief events of the year were the Darbár held at Ahmedabad by His Excellency the Governor and His Excellency's visit to Rája Wakhatsingji of Lunávada at his capital. Four Rewa Kántha Chiefs attended the Darbár. The season was unfavourable, and the prices of food-grains rose in consequence. There was an outbreak of cholera in 23 villages of Rájpipla. The new ábkári system, under which the Chiefs have agreed to remove their liquor shops more than two miles from the frontier, was introduced on 1st January 1888, and the States of Bhadarwa and Umeta and the estate-holders of the Sankheda and Pándu Mewás made over the management of their excise to the British Government. There was an increase in crime, especially in house-breaking with theft. Rájpipla continued under Joint Administration up to 12th October 1887, when the Rájá's share in the administration had to be withdrawn in the interests of good government. The administration of Lunávada and Sunth was carried on with marked ability. Four new schools were opened during the year, and the talukdári school at Vajiria was reported to be doing well.

South Konkan
Group
Sávantvádi.

The Sávantvádi State was administered by the British Government in consequence of the continued unfitness of the Sar Desái for independent rule. Occasionally the Sar Desái made efforts to free himself from demoralizing excesses, but he soon relapsed into his old habits. Among the chief events of the year may be mentioned the ceremony of unveiling the Jubilee bust of the Queen-Empress, which was performed by Mr. Propert, the Commissioner, S. D., in a grand Darbár attended by the Sar Desái, his Sardárs and others. A standing Legislative Committee was formed, consisting of the Political Superintendent, the State Kárbhári and the Judicial Assisítant. Progress was made with the survey of the town of Vádi, but it was not completed. The financial condition of the State was sound. The season was not a favourable one. A large sum was expended on public works. The high character borne by the State in educational matters was maintained. The many beneficial results achieved during the long period of supervision of the State by the retiring Political Agent, Colonel G. R. C. Westropp, reflect great credit on that officer.

Dakhan Group:
Kolhapur.

The administration of the Kolbápur State continued to be vested in a Council of Administration presided over by the Diván His Highness the Máharája, who is 14 years of age, attends the Rajkumár College at Riykot, and

is reported to have made satisfactory progress in his studies during the year. The most important event of the year was the commencement of the Kolhápúr State Railway, the sanction of the Government of India to the construction of which was received in February 1888. The line, which is estimated to cost 22½ lákhs of rupees, will be built entirely at the expense of the Kolhápúr State, and will extend from the town of Kolhápúr to Miraj, a distance of nearly 29 miles. The revenue survey of the State, including its dependencies, has been completed with the exception of a few villages. The finances of the Kolhápúr State proper were in a highly satisfactory condition, the accumulated balances amounting to upwards of 30 lákhs of rupees. The financial condition of the feudatory States was also good. Alienation settlements were nearly completed, and forest demarcation made fair progress. The rainfall was on the whole not very seasonable, and the harvest was fair. There was no rise in the prices of food-grains, but on the contrary a decline in some cases. Crime may on the whole be said to have been stationary; but the amount of property stolen was less than in the previous year, while the percentage of recoveries was considerably greater. The disposals of civil suits and applications for execution of decrees exceeded the institutions during the year, and the arrears were fewer, all of which were satisfactory features of the year's administration. 4 new municipalities were established during the year, and measures were in progress for giving the municipal constitution of Kolhápúr a legal status and for improving the *personnel* of the municipal body. Several important public works, including the new palace for the Mahárája and several new roads, were completed during the year, and others were in progress. The total amount spent by Kolhápúr and its feudatories on public works amounted to 4½ lákhs of rupees. Education showed steady progress. The Jayasingráo Ghátge Technical School founded in memory of the late Regent was opened in March 1887. An agricultural class was also opened in the Rájárám High School. The Municipality of Kolhápúr has set apart funds for the execution of a surface drainage scheme for the town, which it is understood will take some years to complete. A plentiful supply of water has already been provided. The public health was not on the whole satisfactory. 1,278 persons died of cholera, which was traced to an impure water-supply. Steps were taken to remove the cause. The annual increase in the number of persons attending the public dispensaries and the Albert Edward Hospital was well maintained.

Of the other States in the Dekkhan group it need only be mentioned here And other States. that the supervision of 3 of the 5 States known as the Sátára Jágírs was transferred during the year from the Collector of Sátára to the Collectors of Poona and Bijápúr as Political Agents. The change was effected from the 1st of November 1887. The Jágírs of Phaltan and Aundh continued to be attached to the Sátára Agency, that of Bhor was transferred to the supervision of the Collector and Political Agent, Poona, and those of Jath and Daphlápúr were placed in political charge of the Collector of Bijápúr. Notifications declaring the jurisdiction of the Political Agents of Poona and Bijápúr were issued by the Government of India.

The year under review was one of fair prosperity and advancement to the The Southern Marátha States. 8 Southern Marátha States under the supervision of the Political Agent, Kolhápúr, which with the small State of Savanúr in the extreme south of the Presidency form the group of Southern Marátha States. The most important of these 8 States is Sánghli. Taking all the 8 States together the season on the whole was a fair one notwithstanding a more or less unequal distribution of rain, and there was no general rise of prices. The finances of all the States except the 2 Kanandáds, which were in debt, were flourishing: each of the 6 States had balances more or less considerable which were mostly invested. With the excep-

tion of Miraj (Senior) and Mudhol the expenditure in all the States was within the income. A larger sum on the whole than in the previous year was spent on useful public works, the 2 States of Miraj taking a prominent position in this respect having spent over a fifth of their revenue on such works. Education made steady, though not rapid, progress. The number of schools and scholars increased. On an average one in every 40 inhabitants was at school. The amount expended on education was less than 4 per cent. of the total revenue realized by the States. There was little of serious crime. Less property than in the preceding year was stolen, and the percentage of recoveries rose from 29·91 to 52·45, the greatest improvement in this respect being noticeable in the Mudhol State. The Civil and Criminal Courts worked with a fair degree of promptitude, and arrears of civil suits were on the whole reduced. The number of documents registered continued to increase steadily. There were in all 23 Municipalities in these States with a total income of Rs 1,04,872 at their disposal. Cholera prevailed in all the States, especially during the early part of the year, and small-pox made its appearance in the Sāngli, Miraj (Junior) and Kurundvād (Junior) States. In other respects the health of the population was normal. The number of persons vaccinated declined in most of the States. The joint administration established at Sāngli in 1874, when the affairs of the State had fallen into much disorder, continued up to December 1887, when the Chief was re-invested with full powers on certain conditions imposed upon him.

Sind.
Khairpur

His Highness Mir Ali Murād Khān Talpur and his son Faiz Mahomed Khān continued to administer the State of Khairpur, composed mainly of forest and desert, on the east bank of the Indus in the usual patriarchal style. The Mir, though 75 years of age, is still fond of sport, the forests of the State being set aside as His Highness's game preserves. He suffered a great loss in the death of his third and favourite son Mir Khān Mahomed, who was much trusted by His Highness in all matters and was greatly respected by all who came into contact with him. Justice in the Khairpur Courts, presided over by the Mir and his son, was summary, cheap and swift. The financial condition of the State was far from sound: the expenditure exceeds the revenue annually, with the result that a considerable load of debt has accumulated. No remedy is, however, possible during the lifetime of the present ruler. Education was in a very backward state.

Aden and the
Somāli Coast.

Nothing occurred during the year to disturb the friendly feelings subsisting between the Residency and the tribes in the vicinity of Aden. There was a marked decrease of crime as compared with the year previous. The municipal revenues were in a flourishing condition, and the sanitary condition of the Settlement was exceptionally good. The trade of Aden is described further on. The year was one of quiet and steady progress in the administration of the Settlement.

The administration of the Somāli Coast protectorate was carried on with zeal and tact. Friendly relations with the neighbouring tribes were, with one exception, maintained, with the result that there was a great expansion in the trade. The revenue, almost the whole of which is derived from customs dues, also increased very considerably. The zaribas or fortified positions at Berbera, Bulhar and Zaila on the Coast were completed.

The Great Trigonometrical
Survey

Two parties of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India were employed in the Presidency during the year. The Gujarāt Party surveyed topographically 1,086 square miles in the Pālanpur and Mahi Kāntha Agencies, and 290 square miles in the Thāna and Nāsik forests, besides surveying the Cantonment of Deesa with its environs and certain portions of the boundary between Meywar.

and Múrwar. The Southern Marátha Party completed the topographical survey of 93½ square miles near Dhárwar and of 113 square miles of the Kánara forests. The latter work was performed under especially trying circumstances. It has been decided that a party under the supervision of Colonel Pullan should, in future, undertake all forest surveys in the Presidency

1½ millions of acres were measured by the Revenue Survey Department of the Presidency proper against 1½ millions in 1886-87, and 1½ millions were classed against 1½ millions. The Gujarát branch of the Survey was engaged in surveying the Cambay State, in effecting a revision survey of the Ahmedabad district, and in performing miscellaneous measurement work in the Panch Maháls. The two branches, formerly known as the Poona and Násik Survey and the Southern Marátha Country Survey, were amalgamated during the year, and the combined branch was employed in the re-measurement and re-classification of certain talúkas of Khándesh, the Dekkhan and Southern Marátha Country, and in the original measurement and classification of certain portions of the Kánara District, and of villages in the Miraj, Jamkhandi and Kurundvád States. The Ratnágiri (now styled Konkan) Revenue Survey re-measured and re-classified lands in the Thána and Kolába districts, and measured and classified for the first time a portion of the Ratnágiri district and the Native State of Janjira. Original or revision survey settlement was introduced into 401 Government villages of the Ahmednagar, Poona, Sátára, Dhárwar, Bijápúr and Kánara districts, with the result that the revenue demand increased from Rs. 2,57,970 to Rs. 3,30,937, or 28·3 per cent. Original or revised rates were also introduced into 9 inám villages situated in the Kaira, Thána and Ahmednagar districts, with the effect that the demand rose from Rs. 14,513 to Rs. 16,848, or 16·1 per cent. An original settlement introduced into a village in the Native State of Kolhápúr and into two villages in that of Miraj resulted in raising the demand from Rs. 4,193 to Rs. 4,818, or 14·9 per cent. The total expenditure on survey operations in the Presidency proper amounted to 5 lakhs of rupees against 5½ lakhs in 1886-87; but of this sum ⅔ of a lákhs was payable by Native States. The total cost of revision settlement operations up to the close of the year was 39½ lakhs, resulting in an increase in the annual revenue demand to the extent of 39½ lakhs.

The Sind Revenue Survey Department measured half a million acres of land in the five districts of the province, of which only a very small fraction was jágírf land. Regular classification was not carried on, but the classing establishments were employed in making preparations for the introduction of irrigational settlements. These settlements were introduced into one talúka of the Shikárpúr, two of the Hyderabad and one of the Karáchi district. An account of the settlements was given in the last report. The cost of the Department amounted to 1½ lakhs of rupees. And Sind.

The total number of occupancies into which the land held by rayats direct from Government was divided was approximately 1½ millions. In 3,579 cases only was it necessary to resort to distraint in order to collect the land revenue. The rules regarding the payment of discount on instalments of land revenue paid in advance were re-considered during the year. The large majority of cultivators in Sind are Mahomedans, and in view of the fact that this community entertains strong prejudice against the receipt of interest in any form, the rules were abandoned in that province. In the Presidency proper it was found that one of the rules, under which discount was allowed for payments in advance of instalments due in the same year, involved loss of revenue out of proportion to any beneficial results accruing from it, the more especially because the landholders who had taken advantage of it were not the poorer classes of cultivators Cultivated Lands.

for whose benefit it was mainly meant, but the rich men of the higher castes in the Konkan and superior holders elsewhere. The rule was accordingly withdrawn. It was, however, decided to give in the Presidency proper a further trial to two other rules which permitted the payment in advance of the land revenue due in the next year and in the subsequent year. The total culturable area of Government land in the Presidency proper was approximately about $25\frac{1}{6}$ millions of acres, of which $24\frac{3}{8}$ millions were cultivated during the year and $1\frac{3}{8}$ millions remained waste. Nearly $\frac{3}{10}$ ths of a million of acres of waste lands were taken up during the year for the purpose of cultivation. The area actually under cultivation during the year, as compared with that of the preceding year, showed an increase of nearly $\frac{1}{10}$ ths of a million of acres, the largest part of the increase having occurred in the Central and the smallest in the Northern Division. The compilation of statistics regarding culturable, cultivated and waste Government lands continued to be very imperfect in Sind.

Wards and other
estates under
Government
management

The Tálukdári Settlement Office continued to manage encumbered estates in Gujarát, collecting their revenues, meeting the expenses with which they were chargeable, and paying their debts to Government and private creditors. It continued also to manage minors' and other estates, mostly in the Ahmedabad district, and to do other miscellaneous work. The results of its operations during 1887-88 were, owing to the very unfavourable character of the season, not so good as those of the preceding year, the amount of revenue of the estates under management realized during the year having been smaller, and the remissions and outstanding balances larger than in the previous year. No additional encumbered estates were placed under management during the year, nor were any released from management within that period, but after its close two estates in the Broach district were restored to their owners entirely freed from debt. One of these, belonging to the Thákor of A'mod, is the largest estate in the district, and during the period of 17 years for which it had been under management it was freed from a debt of nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs of rupees. It is observable, however, that owing to a variety of causes—family pride and attendant extravagance, internal dissensions and litigation, the intrigues of *kárbháris* (managers) and the malpractices of creditors of the *súkár* or money-lending class—combined with the enlargement of credit which followed upon the recognition of absolute proprietorship in the soil accorded by Section 20 of Act VI of 1862, many of the Tálukdárs speedily become involved again after they are freed from debt through the operation of the special legislation in their behalf. Several cases have occurred in which debts equivalent to from 4 to 12 years' revenue have already been contracted by Tálukdárs whose estates have been recently released. In Sind, the charge of encumbered estates was transferred during the year to the district officers, the office of Manager of Encumbered Estates in that province having been abolished in the interests of economy; and the work of liberating the estates from debt was carried on by those officers. The other estates under Government management were mostly inconsiderable.

Legislation

During the year 1887-88 6 Acts were passed, and 5 Bills were still pending at its close. Of the Acts the most important were Act No. II of 1887, which will secure the protection of pilgrims proceeding from Bombay and Karáchi to Jeddah, who are mostly poor and ignorant, against unscrupulous pilgrim-brokers; Act No. III of 1887, a measure which was long in contemplation to make the provisions of the law relating to Steam Boilers and Prime Movers applicable to all boilers and prime movers, to place the working of the law on a satisfactory financial basis, and to effect other reforms therein; and Act No. VII of 1887, the chief aim of which is to prevent the alienation of the cash

allowances known as Toda-girás, in view of the political dangers which might arise from their recipients, the Girásias, a turbulent class of people, being in the course of time dispossessed of them. The most important of the Bills which have not already been noticed in previous reports was Bill No. 4 of 1887, a measure intended to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Municipal Government of the City of Bombay, which attracted much public attention and underwent radical changes in the Legislative Council after very full and lengthened discussion.

The total strength of the police forces employed throughout the Presidency, inclusive of Sind and Aden, in 1887 was 22,013 officers and men against 21,905 in the previous year, and their cost was Rs. 41,08,307 against Rs. 40,69,880 in 1886. Difficulty was again experienced in obtaining suitable recruits on the existing rates of pay for the two most important of these forces, *viz.* the Mofussil and the Bombay City Police. Taking subordinate officers and men together, 33·16 per cent. of the Mofussil Police possessed sufficient education to be able to read and write an intelligible report of a crime: but the percentages for the different districts of the Mofussil varied greatly—from 62·54 in Ahmedabad to 7·5 in Thar and Párkar. In the Bombay City Police only 24·5 per cent. of the officers and men taken together could read and write. The arms in use in the Mofussil Police are of many different patterns and sizes, and some are obsolete: many cannot be relied on to shoot with any degree of accuracy at 100 yards.

Exclusive of Aden, for which full details are not available, 62,276 cognizable and 63,729 non-cognizable cases were reported during the year against 63,657 and 62,314 cases respectively in the previous year. In connection with the former class of cases, 70,016 persons were arrested or appeared on other process before the Courts, against 76,457 in the previous year; and 50,633 persons were convicted against 57,262. In connection with the latter class, 112,115 persons appeared before the Courts against 113,964 in 1886; and 23,549 were convicted against 24,267. At Aden 439 persons were apprehended in connection with cognizable cases against 530 in the previous year; and 388 were convicted against 472. Thus, on the whole, there was during the year a decrease in the returns of crime as regards cases, offenders and convictions, especially in the class of crime with which the police are chiefly concerned, *viz.* cognizable crime. In Sind there was a decrease of cognizable crime in the Shikárpur district only, where offences against the State and cases of kidnapping showed a marked decrease. There was, however, a marked increase in cases of house-breaking in Karáchi and Thar and Párkar, and the Sind Police were unfortunately very unsuccessful in obtaining convictions in such cases, owing to the want of education in the men and to the facility afforded by the railway to Panjábis of bad character in the commission of crime with little or no chance detection. There was also an increase in true cases of cattle-theft throughout the province, except in the Shikárpur district, where the establishment of punitive posts would seem to have prevented an increase of that class of crime. On the whole, there was a very satisfactory progress in the efficiency of the police in the Shikárpur district, and an unsatisfactory retrogression in the Upper Sind Frontier and Thar and Párkar districts. In the Northern Division there was a slight increase in the number of cognizable cases, attributable to the unfavourableness of the season owing to the severe frost experienced in the early part of the year and the long break during the monsoon. Robberies increased, chiefly in the Ahmedabad and Thána districts, but they were not followed by a proportionate increase in the convictions. The number of dacoities in the Division was slightly lower, but 11 of them occurred in the

district of Thána alone against 9 in the previous year, and convictions were obtained in 4 cases only out of a total of 21. The Thána Police were the least successful of the police forces of the Division. In the Central Division there was a large decrease of cognizable crime, especially noticeable in the districts of Ahmednagar and Poona, but not of serious crime, for there was a marked increase in the number of dacoities, chiefly in Poona, and of robberies in the Khándesh and Sátára districts. It is satisfactory, however, to note that there was a proportionate increase in the convictions, and that Ráma Murya, the Koli leader who committed the dacoities in both the Poona and Thána districts, was captured and convicted during the year. On the whole, however, the results of the operations of the police of the Central Division showed no improvement. In the Southern Division cognizable crime decreased everywhere except in Kánara and Kolába. Murders, dacoities and robberies diminished. Petty dacoities were, however, as frequent in Dhárwár and Kánara as in the two previous years, but they were at last traced to a lawless class of men from the Madras Presidency, and will, it is hoped, soon be put an end to. The result of police operations in Dhárwár was very poor. In the City of Bombay cognizable crime diminished on the whole, but an increase in true cases of house-breaking was observable. A murder at Parel by a Pathán, which created a great sensation, tested the detective abilities of the police with results which reflected great credit upon that body. On the whole the police of the capital city of the Presidency has maintained its reputation for detective ability. Of the three great railway systems of the Presidency, cognizable crime diminished on two—the G. I. P. and B. B. & C. I. Railways, and increased on the S. M. Railway, owing partly to an increase in the length of the line under administration and partly to the fact that the police force employed on it consisted to a considerable extent of new and untrained men. Except in Sind and Aden, and on the G. I. P. and S. M. Railways, where there were comparatively trifling increases, thefts everywhere declined. Property of the value of Rs. 13,26,797 was stolen, and the recoveries amounted to Rs. 6,11,415, or 46 per cent. against 54 per cent. in 1886. Except in the Central Division and on the G. I. P. and S. M. Railways, the percentage of recoveries was everywhere higher than 50: it was highest (88·84) in Aden, and very considerable on the B. B. & C. I. Railway (71) and the City of Bombay (61). Throughout the Mofussil it was noticeable that the smaller the value of the property stolen, the greater were the chances of detection. The gang of house-breakers and thieves which committed thefts in the town of Bijápur in past years was at last traced during the year under report to a gang of Bowries from the Native State of Bhopál in Central India.

With regard to non-cognizable crime, with which the police are concerned to a very small extent only, it is noticeable that the percentage of persons convicted to those appearing before the Courts in cases under the Penal Code was in the City of Bombay four times as high as in the Mofussil, thus indicating that the Presidency Magistrates exercised a wise discretion in the issue of process on complaints.

vagrants.

108 vagrants were admitted to the Bombay Government Work-house during 1887, and 19 remained over from 1886. Of these 127 men, 43 were discharged to employment, 7 were sent to out-stations with a prospect of obtaining employment, 6 were deported, 32 deserted, 24 remained in the work-house, and the rest were either in hospital or made over to the Jail, Police or Military authorities, or provided for by their friends or through other means. The cost of the work-house was Rs. 5,856.

1,168 human beings were destroyed by snakes during 1887 and 72 by wild animals. The total mortality, though less than in 1886, was higher than the average of the three years 1883 to 1885 and of the three years at the commencement of the now expiring decade. Even making allowances for the greater accuracy of the returns now furnished, hardly as much progress as might have been expected appears to have taken place in the protection of human life. More than half the persons destroyed by wild animals were killed by tigers, panthers and wolves. The destruction of life by the two former kinds of animals was especially large in one taluka of Khândesh, and the fact has received the attention of the Commissioner, C. D.; while the apparent increase in the number of wolves in various parts of the Presidency, especially Sind, has engaged the attention of Government. 2,041 head of cattle were destroyed during the year against 2,311 in the year previous, but the latter figure is unduly swollen by the erroneous inclusion of such animals as sheep, goats and camels. Most of the cattle were destroyed by wild animals: a very small proportion by snakes. Over 3 lakhs of snakes, or nearly half a lakh more than last year, and 931 wild animals were destroyed at a cost to Government of Rs. 11,658.

Destruction of
wild animals and
snakes

The operations carried on by the Chemical Analyser to Government in 1887 were on a more extensive scale than in any other of the last five years, owing to the introduction, during the year, of the new Tariff Act, which rendered the testing of all imported potable spirits necessary. The number of medico-legal cases reported upon was 282, of which 159 were cases of suspected poisoning of human beings and 84 of suspected cattle-poisoning. In 84 of the former and 50 of the latter kind of cases, poison was detected, arsenic being the substance most commonly found in both kinds of cases. In regard to the cases of poisoning of human beings it is observable that opium was, as before, the most fatal of the poisonous substances used, and that in 2 cases the children of police constables extracted from their fathers' bags and used for poisoning themselves or others the strychnia intended for the destruction of dogs. Cattle-poisoning continues to be common in the Ahmednagar, Poona and Sholapur districts. Of 207 samples of potable water examined, 134 were good, and of the rest those sent from Broach, Surat and Násik were uniformly bad. Samples of various kinds of articles were analysed for the Commissariat, Customs and Excise Departments. Experiments were made with a view to obtain a highly concentrated fortified lime-juice for Commissariat purposes. Copper was found in samples of country liquor received from Khândesh and Kánara.

Chemical
analysis.

There was a decrease of 4,909 in the number of offences reported to the Magistracy during 1887 as compared with the number for the previous year, and of 5,345 in the number of cases returned as true. The number of cases brought to trial during 1886 exceeded the number for the year under report by 5,312, and 1,303 more accused persons were concerned in them. There was a considerable increase in the number of cases of hurt and a decrease of upwards of 6,500 in the number of offences under special and local laws. There was no very appreciable variation in the number of offences of other classes.

Criminal Justice.

The percentage of persons acquitted and discharged rose slightly during the year. The number of appellants during the year under report was 6,925 as compared with 6,658 in 1886. The largest number of appeals to the High Court came from the Ahmedabad District, which includes the Collectorates of Ahmedabad, Kara and the Panch Mahals. 970 cases were reviewed by the inferior Courts, but 80.41 per cent. of those cases resulted in no interference. The number of reviews by the High Court increased by 36, and the number of reviews by the Sadar Court in Sind increased by 33. On the whole the working of the Criminal Courts during the year under report was satisfactory.

Prisons.

In pursuance of the policy noticed in last year's report the District Jails at Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Sátára, Belgaum and Godhra were converted in 1887 into Subordinate Jails. A saving of Rs. 20,000 per annum is anticipated from the change. The steady decrease in the daily average of convicts in jail noticeable since the famine of 1876-77 has continued, the daily average for 1887 having been 5,516 against 6,532 in 1886. This was due partly to the smaller number of admissions during the year (13,670 against 14,435 in 1886), but was also influenced by the very large number, 2,465, of releases at Her Imperial Majesty's Jubilee on the 17th February 1887. Considering the nationalities, religions and occupations of the convicts admitted during the last three years, a steady decline is noticeable, in the case of agriculturists, in the percentage of new admissions to free population; a similar decrease is also observable in the case of Hindus and Sikhs; while a steady increase is manifest in the case of persons engaged in commerce and trade. Of the convicts newly admitted, 77·1 per cent. were sentenced to imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, and only 11 per cent. to imprisonment exceeding one year or transportation: the great bulk (12,140) were wholly illiterate; 201 were juvenile prisoners; and 2,007 or 14·7 per cent. of the whole had been convicted before. There has been of late years an almost continuous rise in the percentage of reconvicted criminals to total convicts. In addition to convicts the jails received during the year 23,655 under-trial prisoners; the average daily number of such prisoners being 576 against 612 in 1886. 17 prisoners escaped during the year against 37 last year, and 7 of them were re-captured. The number of convicts who escaped from the Nára Gang was, as usual, considerable, the reason being that police sepoy's look upon service in the Gang as a banishment, and are consequently lax in the discharge of their duties. The number of jail offences fell from 3,762 to 3,034; and corporal punishments were resorted to in 71 cases only. The number of convicts released under the mark rules was only 527 during the year against 918 in 1886, owing not to any illiberal working of the rules, but to the large number of Jubilee releases. 2,011 of the convicts in the jails were employed on manufactures and 945 on extramural labour, with the result that Rs. 1,16,584 were realized as a set off against the gross expenditure of Rs. 4,50,018 on the jails. The gross cost to the State per prisoner—convict or under-trial—was Rs. 73-13-11 against Rs. 72-3-10 in 1886, and the net cost Rs. 54-12-0 against Rs. 52-8-0, the increases being due to the fact that the fixed establishment charges could not be reduced, although the number of convicts fell off greatly. The prison health and mortality returns for the year were exceptionally favourable; but there was an outbreak of cholera in the Kaira Jail owing to the careless use of water from a well into which a cholera patient had thrown himself. The rate of mortality among the Sind prisoners was very much reduced except at Shikárpur, where perhaps a thoroughly satisfactory rate cannot be obtained save by the abolition of the jail. The number of prisoners admitted into the Civil Jails was 3,097—nearly 300 more than in the preceding year, and of convicts admitted into Juvenile Prisons 32. The opening of a new Reformatory at Yeraoda will, it is hoped, place the confinement and treatment of juvenile offenders on a thoroughly satisfactory basis.

Civil Justice

4,141 more civil suits were filed during the year than in 1886. In 61·7 per cent. of the suits the value of the claim did not exceed Rs. 50. The number of suits disposed of by all the Courts during the year increased by 8,258, resulting in a diminution of the arrears by 448. The average duration of contested suits increased in the High, Small Cause and Jágírdárs' and Inámlárs' Courts, but decreased in the District, Subordinate Judges', Cantonment Magistrates' and Mámlatdárs' Courts, and on the whole a further improvement was noticeable in the direction of diminution of delay. The number of appeals disposed of was

5,043 against 4,765 in 1886, showing an increase of 278. The arrears of appeals in all Courts increased, however, by 261, the total number for disposal having increased by 539 in the year under report. It is too soon yet to judge whether the transfer of decrees for execution to the Collector under the Civil Procedure Code, Section 320, is or is not effecting the purpose for which it is designed.

There was a decrease of $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the number of suits instituted under the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act in 1887, as compared with the number in the previous year; and as the period of limitation for registered bonds, executed since the Act came into force, is 12 years it may, in the opinion of the Special Judge under the Act, be presumed that the next 3 or 4 years will show comparatively stationary, if not declining, figures. The fall occurred almost entirely in suits instituted under Chapter II of the Act, and among them it was confined to purely agriculturist cases, suits against non-agriculturists showing a slight increase. The very rapid decline in the number of redemption suits which had been going on since 1883 appears, however, to have been arrested, as the number of such suits in 1887 showed only a slight diminution. An approximate idea of the relief afforded by the provisions intended for the benefit of indebted agriculturists may in the opinion of the Special Judge be formed from the fact that during the 8 years during which the Act has been in force mortgage debts amounting to nearly 30 lakhs of rupees have been settled by the Courts and the Conciliators under the Act for about 21 lakhs of rupees. The fact that an increasing disposition has been observable since 1883 to apply by consent the provisions of Chapter II of the Act to suits of values between Rs. 100 and 500, is in the opinion of that officer indicative of a growing appreciation of the machinery of revision constituted by the Act. The result of the process of 'going behind the bond' which the Act legalises operated it is said during the year merely in the reduction of the excessive amount of interest claimed from agriculturists—a fact which would seem to show that there is little foundation for the complaint that the process presses hard on the money-lenders. The average duration of suits under Chapter II of the Act was less by nearly a month than in 1886: the cost of litigation increased 1 per cent., the increase falling mainly under the head of court-fees. The number of applications for execution of decrees again showed an increase: but the increase has taken place only in regard to decrees against agriculturists, for in regard to decrees against non-agriculturists a decrease is observable. The percentages of decrees executed fully or in part were slightly lower than in 1886. The number of Village Munsifs decreased from 95 to 90: and there was a slight decrease in the amount of work performed. The number of Conciliators was 228 against 236 in the previous year and the system of conciliation was extended to the Mulshi Petha of the Poona District. The number of applications to Conciliators fell off in nearly the same proportion as the number of suits instituted. Conciliation failed in 43 per cent. of the cases against 47 per cent. in the previous year. Four-fifths only of these failures against eight-ninths in 1886 were due to failure of parties to attend—an improvement ascribed by the Special Judge to the recent amendment of Section 40 of the Act. The 'refund system' was in operation in those talukás in which there were no Conciliators. Statistics collected by the Special Judge show that during the years 1886 and 1887 there was in the districts of Poona, Satára, Ahmednagar and Sholápur an appreciable reduction in the amount of capital borrowed by agriculturists, and he infers from this that they are proportionately less dependant on extraneous resources than before. The whole question of the value of the Act was placed under enquiry about the middle of 1888, with a view to ascertain the general, financial and judicial effect of its working, and whether it would be desirable to extend its operation either wholly or par-

Dekkhan Agri-
culturists' Relief
Act.

tially to districts other than the four (Poona, Sâtára, Ahmednagar and Sholápur) in which it has hitherto been in force.

Registration

The number of registrations under the Indian Registration Act III of 1877, which has been steadily increasing since 1882-83, showed a still further increase of 22,376 during 1887-88 over the previous year, due in a great measure to the change in the law effected by Act XXIII of 1886 whereby certain classes of deeds formerly registerable by Village Registrars can now only be registered by Sub-Registrars. The aggregate value of the property affected by the instruments registered was nearly 7 crores, being nearly half a crore in excess of the figure for the previous year, and the average value per transaction was Rs. 521 against Rs. 584 in 1886-87. The average registration fee was Rs. 1-12-0. There was an increase of Rs. 67,972 in the receipts of the Department, corresponding to the increase in the number of registrations and due to the same cause, except that a reversion to the old copying rate and a slight enhancement of fees in the *ad-valorem* scale also contributed to the increase in the receipts. The expenditure was less by Rs. 6,424, but this figure does not show the whole of the effect of the amalgamation of the appointments of Inspectors General of Registration and Prisons and the reductions of registration establishments carried out in July 1887 in accordance with the recommendations of the Finance Committee, inasmuch as a part of the saving was balanced by the increased commissions which had to be paid on the increased fee receipts of the Department. The net income of the Department was Rs. 1,48,575, or, adding that derived from the registration of joint stock companies, Rs. 1,55,890, against a total net income of Rs. 84,855 in 1886-87.

Joint Stock Companies

16 new companies, or 10 less than in the previous year, and 4 new societies were registered during 1887-88. 16 companies were under liquidation, and 9, including one newly registered, were dissolved. There were at the end of the year 205 companies with a capital of nearly 12½ crores of rupees nominal and 9½ crores paid up, or about half a crore more under each head than in the previous year.

Registration under the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act.

The Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act continued to be in force in the districts of Ahmednagar, Poona, Sâtára and Sholápur. There was a fall of 6,629 in the number of registrations, attributed to the alteration in the law which contributed largely to the increase in the number of registrations under Act III of 1877. A decrease was observable in the deeds of sale, mortgage, lease, &c., of immoveable, and an increase in similar instruments relating to moveable property: a decrease on the whole in the districts of Poona, Sâtára and Sholápur, and an increase in that of Ahmednagar. A corresponding decrease of Rs. 23,23,637 is observable in the aggregate value of the property affected by the documents registered, and of Rs. 17,586 in the fee receipts. The expenditure also decreased by Rs. 5,336, owing partly to the amalgamation of some of the village registration circles, and partly to the fact that the payments of commission to the village registrars on the fee receipts were necessarily smaller. The result was a deficit of Rs. 26,628 against Rs. 1,030 in 1886-87.

Bombay Municipality.

The address of congratulation presented by Captain (now Sir Henry) Morland on behalf of the Corporation of the City of Bombay to Her Imperial Majesty at the celebration of the Jubilee evoked a reply evincing the keen interest which Her Majesty takes in the moral and material progress of that great city—a progress which was fully maintained during the year under report. The great pains which the Corporation bestowed on the discussion of the Bombay Municipal Bill No. 4 of 1887 were in themselves a proof of the desire of that body to maintain the progress.

The total municipal revenue for 1887-88 was over $51\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, being more than 7 lakhs above the budget estimate, and more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in excess of the revenue of the preceding year: the total expenditure was over 58 lakhs, but still nearly $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs less than the estimate, although nearly $16\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs more than the expenditure of the previous year. The closing balance amounted to over 14 lakhs of rupees as compared with an opening balance of over $20\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The water-rate again yielded over a lakh more than in the previous year; the miscellaneous revenue showed an increase of nearly $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs due to the sale of frontages on the Ripon Road; and the revenue from property (consolidated, water and halalkhor) rates increased by over $\frac{3}{4}$ of a lakh notwithstanding the reduction of the chief of them, *viz.* the consolidated rate, from $8\frac{3}{4}$ to 8 per cent. Over a lakh more than in the previous year was expended on ordinary public works, and a similar amount on education, while nearly $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs more were spent in repaying loans or paying interest on them. The municipal debt amounted to nearly 204 lakhs at the end of the year, against nearly $167\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs at the end of the previous year.

820 new buildings were erected, 365 existing buildings enlarged, and 395 buildings demolished during the year. 49,313 properties were registered in the municipal assessment book at the end of the year, valued at nearly 228 lakhs of rupees, against 48,470 valued at about 216 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs at the end of the previous year. The rise in valuation was due to the rise in rents, correction of under-assessments and erection of new and enlargement of existing buildings.

The main features of the Tansa water-supply project were fully described in the report for 1885-86, and the progress made in the following year in the report for that year. The work of constructing the duct line, including tunnels, made in progress during the year, although not as great as was expected: better progress is expected in future as the result of various changes of organization made by the contractors. Much of the excavation work for the duct was executed, the masonry work was in progress in different places, but only a small proportion—1,750 feet—of the tunnelling work was finished. Most of the cylinders required for the bridges over which the water is to be carried across the Bassein Creek were delivered at the works, and the construction of the bridges was in progress. Satisfactory progress was made with another important part of the project: excavations for the foundations of the dam were made along the whole length of the line and 15,41,021 cubic feet of masonry work completed in addition to the 5,92,662 cubic feet of masonry laid in the preceding year. 20,000 tons of water-pipes were delivered at the works during the year.

The Vohár and Tulsi lakes overflowed early during the monsoon; and measures were adopted towards the end of the year with a view to prevent a leakage of nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons a day from the waste weir and one of the dams of the former lake. New mains exceeding 12 miles in length were laid down in different parts of the city to meet the wants of a growing population. An increased staff of inspectors enabled the Municipality to detect and prevent a waste of $1\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons of water daily in addition to the waste of over $\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons a day prevented in 1886. A grant of nearly $11\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees was made for the Queen's Road and Girgaum pipe sewers and house connections for sullage water, and much progress was made with the sewerage works in other parts of the city. A small-pox hospital was more than half constructed, and the Ollivant Bridge in Nesbit Lane finished at a cost of over $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees. The work of enlarging one of the markets at an estimated cost of about $3\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees for the land alone was undertaken during the year.

As in the previous year, the rate of mortality was lowest among Europeans and highest among Mahomedans and low-caste Hindus, and the crowded and badly drained 2nd Nágpada district was the most unhealthy section of the whole city. The introduction of the new drainage system has not been followed by increased mortality: on the contrary a reduction in the mortality was observable in most of the sections in which main sewer lines had been recently laid. The Beehive incinerator for the disposal of garbage was tried with unsatisfactory results.

The Fire Brigade establishment was severed from the Police and passed over to the Municipality at the commencement of the year. 70 fires destroyed property valued at about $10\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, including 2 mills. Besides contributing $\frac{1}{4}$ of a lakh to the support of 62 primary schools with a total of 6,457 scholars (boys and girls), the Municipality paid Rs 80,000 to meet the initial outlay on the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, and smaller sums as annual contributions to the School for Deaf-Mutes and the Bombay Veterinary and Technical Colleges.

District Municipalities.

The total number of district municipalities was 153 against 155 in 1886-87, a decrease of 3 in Sind having been partially counterbalanced by an increase of 1 in the Southern Division. The total number of municipal commissioners was 2,195, of whom 892, or more than one-third, were elected. The total income exclusive of balances amounted to $37\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs of rupees, or $2\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs more than in the previous year. The increase occurred in Sind, and was due chiefly to a new loan of 3 lakhs having been raised by the Karáchi Municipality for expenditure on works of public utility. The incidence of municipal taxation per head of population was highest in the Central Division, *viz.* Re. 1-13-3, and lowest in the comparatively poor municipalities of the Southern Division, where it amounted on an average to Re. 0-13-10. The realizations from octroi duties were everywhere less owing to the elimination of objectionable items of taxation, the reduction of the minimum limit of refunds, the spread among tradesmen of a knowledge of refund rules, or depression of trade. The substitution of direct for indirect taxation resulted in a dead-lock at Mehmabad, which compelled Government to supersede the Municipality under the provisions of Section 43 of the Bombay District Municipal Act No. II of 1884. The example had a good effect on other municipalities. The expenditure amounted to $34\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, or $\frac{1}{10}$ of a lakh more than in 1886-87. The increase occurred in Sind, and was principally due to a large expenditure on works for the promotion of public health, and on education and public works, in the Karáchi and Hyderabad districts. There were large closing balances to the credit of the Karáchi and Ahmedabad Municipalities, and of several municipalities in the Central and Southern Divisions, which it was intended to spend on water-supply and other projects. Much interest in their work was shown by the municipal commissioners in Sind where the municipalities did their work satisfactorily. In the Northern Division a large number of commissioners failed to attend $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total number of municipal meetings, and it would appear that in Ahmedabad at least business men were deterred from attending meetings by the waste of time which occurred at them. In the Central Division the meetings of most of the municipalities were well attended. In the Southern Division much interest was shown and good work done, as a rule, in the Belgaum, Bijápur and Kánara districts, but personal jealousies and want of harmony were noticeable in the municipalities of Hubli, Belgaum and Rájápur, while the municipal commissioners of Ratnágiri exhibited a great want of interest in municipal administration and it was always difficult to obtain a quorum of them at any meeting.

The strength of the Bombay Army at the close of the year was 38,892 Military. fighting men against 37,408 at the end of 1886-87. The cost of all branches of the service amounted during the year to 259½ lakhs of rupees, or 13½ lakhs more than in the previous year, one of the chief causes of the increase being the additional expense incurred on account of Bombay troops serving in Burma. The new annual practice for Horse and Field Artillery, brigaded together, took place at Kirkee in February 1888, and siege operations were carried out at New Jhānsi (Kirkee) and Dhanowri in the previous month by three batteries of Garrison Artillery and the Sappers and Miners with very good results. Two small Camps of Exercise for British troops were held during the year with great benefit to the regiments engaged in the operations: one at Rupāheli, in the Mhow Division, for cavalry manœuvres, and the other at Nasirabad for tactical instruction. The Government of India's scheme of Regimental Institutes for British troops, which are to contain a refreshment and recreation department in supersession of canteens; was gradually introduced as funds became available. Gymnastic instruction was systematically given at 11 stations, and the voluntary attendance at all the gymnasia was most satisfactory. Two classes of garrison instruction for officers were formed during the year with satisfactory results. Gabion and fascine making were taught to 265 non-commissioned officers and men of British and Native regiments, and 6 classes of British non-commissioned officers were instructed in field sketching and reconnaissance. A school of musketry was held at Devlāli during the rains of 1887, and canvas targets were, as an experimental measure, introduced into 2 regiments. The 15th Annual Presidency Rifle Meeting was held at Poona in October 1887, and His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, who distributed the prizes to the successful competitors, was pleased to express great satisfaction with everything connected with the meeting. Excellent progress was made with the education of the troops. 78 per cent. of the British and 32 per cent. of the Native non-commissioned officers and men possessed certificates of education. The Veterinary Department was undermanned, no new officers having joined during the year to supply vacancies. Chronic eczema, reported last year to be prevalent at every station, was gradually disappearing owing to improved stable management. Besides the military works and fortifications noticed further on, a scheme for supplying the station of Mhow with water from the Gambier valley was in course of execution at a large outlay, batteries were under construction or reconstruction at Manora (Karāchi), and satisfactory progress was made with the work of improving the defences of Aden. The monthly training classes first formed in 1835 for the purpose of diffusing a knowledge of transport regulations throughout all ranks were maintained, as also was the school for training British soldiers in telegraphy established at Poona in the same year. The 1st Bombay Lancers and the 5th, 7th, 23rd, 25th and 27th Bombay Infantry were during the year employed in Burma. Lock-hospitals were maintained at 12 stations. Much topographical work was done during the year.

The work of the Bombay Shipping Office during 1887-88 was not as brisk as in the preceding year. There was a decrease in the number of seamen shipped and discharged, both European and Native, owing to the dullness in the shipping trade and the diversion to other ports of steamers consequent on the low freights which prevailed in Bombay. An increase is, however, observable in the number of Native seamen who took service under foreign flags, owing to the employment—with complete satisfaction to the masters and owners—of entirely Native crews on some of the Rubbatino steamers

Marine
Bombay Shipping Office,

In the magnitude of its operations the Bombay Port Trust closely vies with the Bombay Municipality. During 1887-88 its ordinary revenue was a little

Bombay Port Trust

over 40 lakhs of rupees or over $\frac{2}{3}$ of a lakh more than the estimate and about $\frac{1}{2}$ of a lakh more than the revenue of the previous year, notwithstanding that reductions in the dock, *bandar* (wharf) and other rates were made during the year so as to relieve the trade to the estimated extent of nearly 3 lakhs. This favourable result was due partly to an increase in the rents levied by the Trustees on some of their yards and godowns and partly to a variety of other causes. The ordinary expenditure, inclusive of the sum of 1 lakh which the Trustees are bound to set aside every year towards reduction of capital debt or construction of new works, was 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, or nearly 3 lakhs less than the estimate and about $\frac{1}{10}$ of a lakh more than the expenditure of 1886-87. The result was that there was a surplus revenue of nearly 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs which the Trustees propose to add to their accumulated balances amounting to nearly 6 lakhs with the view of ultimately applying the former amount towards the construction near the Prince's Dock of a Graving Dock estimated to cost 12 lakhs. Taking into consideration a portion only of the ordinary income and expenditure—that which relates to the most important of the properties vested in the Trustees, the Prince's Dock—the result is no less satisfactory. Notwithstanding a serious falling off in the percentage of the vessels and tonnage entering the harbour which came into the Dock, the net revenue derived from the Dock was sufficient to yield an interest at the rate of 48 per cent on the amount of 86 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs expended upon it. The capital expenditure of the Trust amounted for the year under report, to a little more than 32 lakhs of rupees, of which 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ were borrowed from Government. Nearly 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs were spent on the Victoria Dock, which was opened by Lady Reay shortly before the close of the year. Up to the end of the year the expenditure on the Dock, including hydraulic machinery, dredger, &c., amounted to 72 lakhs. Among the important works commenced during the year were the filling up of the shallow and rocky-bottomed Apollo Basin, useless for traffic, which when reclaimed will afford some of the finest building sites in Bombay; the construction of warehouses on the Elphinstone Estate in rear of the Victoria Dock for the convenience of the trade, and the erection of offices for the Dock and Bandar Traffic Establishments. An important concession was, under certain restrictions, granted by the Trustees during the year to Mr Bowack to construct one or more graving docks in the harbour off Butcher's Island.

Karachi Port Trust.

The Karachi Port Trust came into existence with the beginning of the year 1887-88, and supplanted the former Harbour Board. The total receipts credited to the current revenue account amounted to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees, or 1 $\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs less than in the previous year, owing to a marked depression of trade especially in the exports of wheat and other grains. The corresponding expenditure amounted to 2 $\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs, so that notwithstanding the depression of trade there was a revenue surplus of 1 $\frac{7}{10}$ lakhs the greater portion of which was expended partly on capital works and partly in the liquidation of debentures. Mainly with the assistance of loans and grants received from Government, considerable progress was made in dredging operations and in the execution of several other large works on capital account. The first division of the Erskine Wharf to accommodate two ships and the Napier Mole Boat Wharf were opened to traffic.

Aden and Perim.

The number of vessels of all descriptions which visited Aden during the year shows only a slight increase, while the number of those which visited Perim increased considerably, as the latter station appears to be coming into greater resort as a coaling station.

Agriculture.

The Department of Land Records and Agriculture continued its work on the lines indicated in the last report. A Statistical Atlas of facts relating to agriculture, for use in famine administration, was prepared as required by the

Famine Code. Contrary to the experience of the preceding year, the cultivation of exotic cotton at the Bhadgaon Farm yielded better results than that of the indigenous variety. It is questionable whether the utter unsuitability of the exotic variety to Khándesh is as clearly established as was at first believed. The Louis Weedon or alternate fallow system of cultivating wheat yielded far better results at the Farm than either the continuous or rotation systems. The popular belief that machine-thrashed grain loses its germinating powers was demonstrated at the Farm to be utterly unfounded, by means of excellent crops grown from machine-thrashed seed. Several useful agricultural experiments were made at the Hyderabad Farm in Sind, and at the Nadiád Farm, which latter is a private institution. The Farm at Poona attached to the College of Science was transferred to the Agricultural Department. The experiments hitherto made with foreign wheats render it questionable whether the attempts to grow them serve any useful purpose, as the Indian varieties supply ample material for improvement. An agitation regarding the retraction and adulteration of wheat was carried on with some success, the Bombay and Liverpool Chambers of Commerce having adopted resolutions which do act as some encouragement to the cleaning of wheat for export. The resolutions, however, apply to soft white wheats, while the Bombay wheats exported are principally red. The imports of the Southern Marátha Country wheat into Bombay, both direct by rail and by sea *via* Mormugão, again increased, owing to the development of the railway system in that part of the Presidency. The wheat supplied to the United Kingdom from India was only 11.5 per cent. of the total supply from all countries against 17.6 per cent in the preceding year. The crop of exotic cotton in the Southern Marátha Country everywhere suffered from blight or excess of rain, but the growth from the newly imported seed referred to in the last report, suffered less than that from the old seed. The yield of the West Indian varieties of tobacco cultivated by the Hon'ble Mr. Becharás Vehándás at Nadiád was so inferior that he has been obliged to curtail very much the area under cultivation. Arrowroot cultivation succeeded at Bhadgaon and Dápli, but not at Poona. Gratifying success attended certain experiments with the Manila tamarind. Rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease among cattle were especially reported from Sholápur, Poona and Bombay, but cattle-disease was more or less prevalent in eleven other districts of the Presidency.

The sum advanced to cultivators for the purchase of seed and cattle and for the permanent improvement of their holdings amounted to $\frac{7}{10}$ ths of a lách of rupees against $\frac{9}{10}$ ths of a lách in 1886-87. Out of this sum Rs 4,970 were advanced to Bhil cultivators without any interest, and for the rest interest was charged at the rate of 1 anna in the rupee, or $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum. In Sind every district, and in the Presidency proper the districts of Khándesh, Sholápur and Belgaum, continued to take extensive advantage of the loans offered by Government, but in no district was advantage taken to the same extent as in Belgaum, where special pains were taken to popularise the system under which they are granted. Nearly half the sum lent during the year was advanced in Belgaum alone.

A regular census of agricultural stock is taken in the Presidency proper, but not in Sind. The enumeration is, however, but seldom tested, and the figures even as regards the Presidency proper can only be viewed as approximations. It would appear that owing to scantiness of rainfall and scarcity of fodder the number of cattle declined during 1887-88 in the Thar and Párkar district of Sind. In the Presidency proper the number of cattle increased everywhere except in Broach, where the year was one of agricultural depression; the Panch Maháls, where want of fodder was complained of; and Surat, Thána and

Ratnágiri, where cattle-disease prevailed. In sheep and goats a decrease was noticeable in 11 out of the 18 districts, *viz.* Ahmedabad, the Panch Maháls, Kaira, Surat, Khándesh, Násik, Ahmednagar, Bijápúr, Belgaum, Kánara and Kolába. Carts increased everywhere in the Presidency proper with the single exception of Broach; in Sátára and Dhárwár the increase was ascribed to the opening of the Southern Marátha Railway. Horses and ponies form but a small portion of the agricultural wealth of the country, and the fluctuations in their numbers scarcely call for remark. On the whole there is sufficient evidence to show that the agricultural stock of the Presidency proper increased satisfactorily during the year, thus testifying to increase of agricultural prosperity.

Horse and Mule-breeding.

The results of horse and mule-breeding operations in 1887-88 were more satisfactory than in the previous year. The number of mares covered was greater, and the percentage of produce foaled to mares covered was also greater. Horse-breeding continued to develop in the Dekkhan, Sind and Cutch, and remained steady in Gujarát and Beluchistán, but there was very little work for the Government stallions in Káthiáwár, where the Chiefs showed an inclination to maintain their own stallions. The total expenditure on the Horse and Mule-breeding Department of the Presidency amounted to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a lách of rupees.

Horse, Cattle and Agricultural Shows.

Horse, cattle and agricultural shows were more numerous (14 against 8, including the Bhúj Show) and successful in 1887-88 than in the preceding year. Shows were for the first time held at the recommendation of the General Superintendent, Horse-breeding Operations, at Jacobabad in Sind, and at Dhrángadra, Wadhván, Vánkáner, Songad and Junágad in Káthiáwár all of them, with the exception perhaps of the one at Junágad for which there is no information, were very successful. The show at Shikárpur was fairly successful, notwithstanding the attractions of the show at Jacobabad, only 25 miles distant, held for the first time within 3 weeks after the Shikárpur Show. The mares exhibited at Shikárpur were especially reported as "first-rate and fit for breeding a very superior class of animals." The show at Hyderabad was a failure, not even one class being well represented. The Bhúj Show was not half as successful as in the previous year, when His Excellency the Governor's visit to the town had attracted many Jághírdár exhibitors to the city. The Rájkot Show was a marked success. The Ahmedabad Show, too, was on the whole successful, although the contingents of horses from the neighbouring Native States, which used in former years to swell the exhibits, were during the year under report almost unrepresented owing to the large number of shows held in Káthiáwár. It is to be regretted that it was not found convenient to purchase any of the superior animals exhibited at the show for remount purposes. The show at Ahmednagar was attended with more than usual success, but it afforded evidence of a decrease in the stock of ponies. The Poona Show was almost as successful as that of the previous year: two new classes were opened for the first time for ponies and pony mares suitable for transport purposes, in which prizes were given by the liberality of His Excellency the Governor. His Excellency also gave a prize at the Kolhápúr and Southern Marátha Country Show held at Chinchli in February 1888, and himself distributed the prizes to the successful exhibitors. The interest which His Excellency took in the show acted as a direct incentive to the Chiefs and notabilities of Kolhápúr, and contributed to make it very successful. A very useful feature of the show was the distribution among the exhibitors of vernacular translations of useful treatises on cattle-diseases, horse-shoeing and other subjects.

Observatories.

There were 23 observatories under the control of the Meteorological Reporter for Western India against 22 in the previous year, the observations at Zanzibar having been resumed after a lapse of nearly three years. 4 of these observatories belonged to the 2nd class, but they were reduced to the 3rd

class—the same status as the rest—at the end of March 1888. The storm-warning service was carried on as in previous years. An interesting paper was written and lecture delivered by the Reporter on the storms in the Arabian Sea, and improved practical rules were laid down for avoiding cyclones in that region. The Colába Observatory under the supervision of its Director, Mr. Charles Chambers, F.R.S., continued to do work useful alike to the public in general and the scientist in particular. The “Bombay Magnetical and Meteorological Observations, 1886, with six appendices” were published during the year. The appendices contained learned dissertations on terrestrial magnetism and the instruments for measuring its force.

The inundation of the Indus, on which the cultivation in Sind mainly depends, Season. was not so favourable as in the preceding year. The floods were late in arrival and insufficient in duration. The rainfall in the province was above the average in Shikárpur, and below it in the Upper Sind Frontier, Hyderabad, Karáchi, and Thar and Párkar districts. It was seasonable in the first two districts: in the other districts it resulted in a contraction of cultivation. In the five Gujarát districts of the Northern Division the fall was below the average except in Kaira. In Broach the fall was so small and unseasonable that it led to a general agricultural depression. In the six districts of the Central Division (the Dekkhan) the rainfall was above the average, except in Ahmednagar and Násik: in Khándesh it was very heavy. In Násik and Sholápur the fall was very appreciably unseasonable, and in Ahmednagar very unequally distributed over the district. The above-Ghát districts of the Southern Division exhibited a fall below the average in Bijápur, nearly equal to it in Belgaum, and above it in Dhárwár. In the first two districts it was very unseasonable. In the Konkan districts of the Southern and Northern Divisions (Kánara, Ratnágiri, Kolába and Thána) the rainfall was generally above the average and more or less seasonable.

In Shikárpur the early crops were saved by exceptionally large falls of Crops. dew and the late crops by a seasonable fall of rain. In Hyderabad the contraction of cultivation referred to above was to some extent compensated for by an unusually large yield of cotton and rice. In Karáchi the early crops dependent on rainfall were generally a failure, but the late crops were saved by a timely fall of rain. In the Thar and Párkar district the season was prosperous and cultivation extended in the Nára valley, which is irrigated by the Nára canal system. The desert parts of the district which are dependent on rainfall for their cultivation suffered from the deficiency of the fall. In Gujarát the crops were on the whole inferior in Broach, Ahmedabad, Kaira and Surat, and very favourable in the Panch Maháls. In Broach there would have been great difficulty in realizing the revenue, but for a fair crop of wheat. In the Dekkhan, the yield of the crops was on the whole more or less favourable. A fine harvest of wheat, gram and linseed was reaped in Khándesh. In the above-Ghát districts of the Southern Division the harvest was not so favourable as in the Dekkhan. Blight appeared in Bijápur and Belgaum. In the Konkan the yield of the crops was more or less good everywhere.

With the facilities for trade now enjoyed by every province of the Presidency Prices of food-grains and pulses. the local prices of food-grains and pulses often depend at least as much, if not more, upon the demand for export or upon the ability of neighbouring tracts to meet local deficiencies as upon the quality of the local harvest or the quantity of the stocks of preceding years left undisposed of. In the Upper Sind Frontier district the prices fell during 1887-88 as compared with the previous year: the demand for jowári for export was smaller than before. In Shikárpur, too, the prices were lower, except in the case of rice, owing to a demand for export

combined with the inadequacy of the inundation. In Hyderabad and Karáchi prices were stationary, except that dál (pulse) was slightly dearer in the former, and wheat and rice slightly cheaper in the latter, owing to the influence alike of the season and trade. In the Thar and Párkar district the prices rose for a similar reason. In Gujarát, bájri and jowári were generally dearer : otherwise the prices showed a tendency to fall. In the Dekkhan, bájri and jowári were cheaper in Sátára ; but in Khándesh, Násik, Ahmednagar, Poona and Sholápur these grains were, as a rule, dearer than in the preceding year, owing more perhaps, in the case of jowári at least, to the influence of trade than any other reason. It was observed in Ahmednagar that the exports of jowári had increased owing to the growth of a practice among Bhátia and other merchants of Bombay and Poona to visit the district and purchase grain direct from the rayats. The prices of wheat, rice and dál were stationary in Násik and lower everywhere else in the Dekkhan districts, except that wheat was dearer in Sholápur, rice dearer in Sátára and stationary in price in Sholápur, and dál dearer in Khándesh and Sátára. In the above-Ghát districts of the Southern Division the prices generally rose, except that in Bijápur rice and dál and in Dhárwár dál and jowári were cheaper. The influence of the Southern Marátha Railway in enhancing the price of wheat and in lowering that of grains required for local consumption by the increased facilities which it afforded for export and import was felt in these districts. In the Konkan, rice, the chief grain grown, was generally cheaper.

Wages

Wages during 1887-88 were more or less stationary. The influx of cheap Panjábi workmen lowered the price of skilled labour in the Upper Sind Frontier district, but on the whole wages continued to be higher in Sind than in the Presidency proper. Increased demand for labour, chiefly in connection with railways, raised the price of unskilled labour in Karáchi, of skilled labour in Sátára and Dhárwár, and of both kinds of labour in Belgaum. On the other hand, the cessation of abnormal activity in the building trade in the city of Surat reduced the price of unskilled labour there to its normal level, the completion of Government buildings in Ahmednagar led to a fall in the price of both skilled and unskilled labour in that district, and the diminution of the demand by the Southern Marátha Railway Company for unskilled labour and the increase in its supply from other districts resulted in a diminution of its price in Dhárwár. The Tánsa water-works did not afford much employment to local labourers, who were found not to be steady enough, belonging as they presumably did to such wild tribes as the Thákurs and Kátkaris. The advent of the railway raised the rates of hire of carts and pack bullocks in Sátára, and of carts in Dhárwár ; but it had the contrary effect in Belgaum, where the through cart traffic was diverted to the railway. The rate of hire for pack bullocks in Belgaum remained the same notwithstanding that they too were to a considerable extent supplanted by the railway, owing probably to sufficient employment having been found for them in other directions. In Bijápur and Ratnáguri, cart hire was lower than in the preceding year, presumably because of increased facilities for steam communication by rail or water.

Forests

The area under forest at the close of 1887-88 was 8,195 square miles in the Northern, 5,228½ in the Southern, and 89½ in the Sind Circle, giving a total of 14,318 square miles as compared with 14,246½ at the end of the previous year. The increase would have been more apparent had it not been for the correction of an error in the area of the Northern Circle which was found on accurate measurement to be 221½ square miles less in extent than it had been supposed to be. Allowing for this correction it will be seen that the area was increased by 203 square miles during the year under report. Inquiries into private rights were in progress with a view to the addition of 583½ square miles more to the forests of

the Northern Circle. The work of making such inquiries, or as it is technically called forest settlement work, had up to the end of the year been completed in the Northern Circle in 62 out of 86 forest talukás, was in progress in 13 more, and had not been commenced in 11; in the Southern Circle it had been finished in 5 out of the 6 forest Divisions—in 3 during the year and in 2 in the year previous, and in the sixth it was in progress during the year; in the Sind Circle it was completed during the year except in one taluka where it will be carried out at the time of the revenue survey and settlement. The Working Plans Office in the Northern Circle was chiefly engaged in forming compartments for timber operations in the forests of North Thána. Topographical surveys of the forests of the Northern and Southern Circles were in progress. The survey of a projected line of railway from Nágargali on the Southern Marátha Railway to Potoli, a distance of 21 miles, was undertaken with a view to open up an important portion of the Kánara teak forests. 1,059 cases of forest offences were prosecuted and convictions obtained in 691 of them: the great majority of the cases having occurred as usual in the Northern Circle. 7,241 petty forest offences were compounded under Section 67 of the Forest Act. 162,209 animals, against 138,838 in the previous year and 115,356 in 1885-86, were impounded in the Northern Circle for trespassing in the forest plantations and closed forests. Nearly a sixth part of the forest area of the Northern Circle was traversed by fire; in the Southern Circle forest fires were as prevalent as ever; but in the Sind Circle they were few and unimportant. The Conservator, Southern Circle, attributes the fires to the inhabitants of forest villages, and considers that an enhancement of the grazing fee payable by them during the season following a fire in their villages might deter incendiarism. Broad-cast sowing in the Northern and plantations in both the Northern and Southern Circles were made on an extensive scale as in former years, with fair results. The value of the timber granted free of charge to agriculturists and others, chiefly in the Southern Circle, amounted to Rs. 26,954 against Rs. 27,135 in the previous year. The yield of the forests and the financial results of the operations carried on in them were on the whole satisfactory. The receipts amounted to nearly the same amount as in the previous year, 30½ lakhs of rupees; the expenditure was 19½ lakhs against 19 lakhs in 1886-87; and the surplus 11 lakhs against 11½ in that year. The grazing fees in the Northern Circle have during the last five years steadily increased from about 2 to 2½ lakhs. The demand for fuel on the Southern Marátha Railway has more than doubled in Belgaum. The conditions of the annual sales of timber at Kodibág were found to be too stringent, and the time fixed for them, the middle of March, inconvenient for the purchasers; and owing partly to these causes and partly to a combination among traders the sales failed in the year under report. The demands of the Southern Marátha Railway Company on the Kánara Saw Mills having diminished in consequence of the Company having set up its own saw machinery, the surplus receipts of the Mills decreased to one-third of the amount for 1886-87, and it is a question whether the mills can any longer be worked at a profit.

The total number of factories to which Act XV of 1881 applied at the beginning of 1887-88 was 112 against 110 at the commencement of the previous year. The duties of Inspector under the Act were in Bombay entrusted towards the commencement of the year to the Assistant Collector of Bombay, the District Magistrates being instructed to perform the functions of an Inspector in the Mofussil. The only mill in Bombay which continued avowedly to employ children was the Anglo-Indian.

Manufactures and
Industries

The new Steam Boiler Inspection Act (Bombay Act No. III of 1887) came into operation from the 31st October 1887, and from that date the inspection

of engines was discontinued. The expenditure of the Steam Boiler Inspection Department in 1887-88 again exceeded the receipts.

The number of cotton mills in the city of Bombay and its suburbs worked by steam power increased during 1887 from 50 to 55, while that of Mofussil mills remained stationary at 20. The number of spindles increased by 80,423, and there was a still larger increase in the production, but there was no congestion of stocks, as the markets in China and Japan continued to absorb increasing quantities of Bombay-made yarns. Competition among maritime companies served to keep down freights to China at reasonable rates. Sufficient information was elicited by the establishment of the agency at Aden, referred to in the last report, to show that a considerable trade could be carried on with ports on the Red Sea and the Somali coast by a well-equipped private firm of sufficient capacity and means. The financial position of the Bombay Mill-Owners' Association continued to improve.

Of other industries, those of agriculture, salt-manufacture and distillation of liquor have been dealt with or incidentally referred to in other parts of this summary. There is but little to record about any other industries. The introduction of bone-crushing machinery is expected to augment the largely expanding export trade in bones carried on at Kharshi. The Ray Paper Mill at Mundhwa near Poona was opened during the year by His Excellency the Governor after whom it has been named. It afforded employment to a large number of persons, and produced over 120 tons of paper valued at more than half a lakh of rupees. On the other hand, the Indian Paper Mill at Khadakvasla, driven by the water-supply of Lake Bife in the vicinity of Poona, ceased to work. Cotton gins and presses have continued to increase in Khándesh to such an extent that it is doubtful whether there will be sufficient employment for them all. A cotton press was established during the year at Bágalkot in the Bijápúr district. The Gokák Water Power and Manufacturing Company's Mill at the Gokák Falls commenced working in October 1887. The glass and soap manufactures of Karm suffered from competition with superior articles of European manufacture. The well-known Ahmednagar silver-ware industry was confined to 8 or 9 artisans only. The hand-loom weaving industry in the Ahmednagar district has of late years diminished greatly; and the "Nagar Carpets" known for the superiority of their designs and general excellence are no longer procurable. The oil factory at Bársi, which was being constructed in the previous year, is reported to have "stopped work."

The year was one of greater commercial activity in Bombay than 1886-87. The entire private trade of the port, foreign and coasting, was valued at 9,104½ lakhs of rupees, or 61½ lakhs—7.67 per cent.—more than in the previous year. 457½ lakhs of the increase occurred in the foreign and the remaining 191½ lakhs in the coasting trade, which is subsidiary to the foreign. The foreign trade was valued at 7,295¼ lakhs, and almost the whole of the increase in it occurred in the imports. Increased activity in railway and mill construction, the opening of greater lengths of railway, the progress of the Tánza water works, the abundance of the silk production in China and the clove crop in Zanzibar led to increased imports of railway plant and rolling stock, machinery and mill-work, iron and coal from the United Kingdom, of raw silk and silk piece-goods from China and of spices from Zanzibar, and much more than compensated for the large decrease in the value of the imports of cotton piece-goods from the United Kingdom which followed upon the glutting of the market in the previous year. The small increase in the foreign export trade was the result of great fluctuations, and was ascribable to the re-export of foreign merchandise, chiefly piece-goods and cloves. As regards Indian produce, the increased exports of

raw and manufactured cotton failed to counterbalance the diminished exports of opium, grain and pulse consequent upon a short crop of wheat. The exports to two of the countries to which raw and manufactured cotton were chiefly shipped—the United Kingdom and Japan—exhibited a large increase: those to Italy, to which wheat was one of the articles principally supplied, a large decrease; and in those to China the increased exports of manufactured cotton did not half suffice to compensate for the diminished shipments of opium. The movements of private treasure to and from foreign countries showed an increase of 269½ lakhs in the imports and 11½ lakhs in the exports, and the imports exceeded the exports by 1,103½ lakhs.

The private trade of Karachi, which had decreased by 100 lakhs in the previous year, again declined during the year under report, to the extent of 33½ lakhs. The decrease occurred in the foreign import and export and in the coasting import trades to the extent of 19=30 and 25½ lakhs respectively: in the coasting export trade there was an increase to the extent of 41½ lakhs. The chief circumstance which influenced the foreign trade was the indifferent wheat harvest in Sind and the Panjáb, which led to a diminished demand from abroad for cotton piece-goods, and reduced the exports of wheat. Among the causes which to a considerable extent counteracted this influence may be mentioned an increase in the imports of sugar from the Mauritius due to a steady demand for that article from the Panjáb; increased shipments of wool consequent upon the facilities enjoyed by Karachi for a direct trade with Europe; and larger exports of til or gingely seed ascribable to good crops and favourable prices. The value of the trade with the United Kingdom, which represents more than a third of the value (886½ lakhs during the year under report) of the entire trade of the port of Karachi, fell by 36½ lakhs, and the trade with Belgium also decreased largely. The trade with France was stationary, while that with the Mauritius increased.

The private trade of Aden rose by 47 lakhs in 1885-86, by 20½ lakhs in 1886-87, and by 42½ lakhs in the year under report, when it was valued at 517 lakhs. The increase occurred in all the three classes into which the trade is divided—Foreign, Indian and Inland—but the principal advance was in the Indian trade, especially that with the Bombay Presidency. On the whole taking imports and exports together, the trade with the East Coast of Africa, the United Kingdom, France and Abyssinia increased considerably, while that with Arabia and the United States of America decreased. The import and export trade in coffee diminished, while that in cotton piece-goods, gums and resins, and hides and skins increased. Coal was imported more largely; and the number of steamers which entered and cleared the port increased.

During the year an exhaustive enquiry was made into the subject of the cost of the establishments employed in the Public Works Department in both branches (Public Works and Irrigation). Proposals were made and carried partially into effect with a view to economy of expenditure under this head. In certain of the districts in Gujarát and the Dekkhan, where hitherto separate establishments had been maintained for irrigation and public works duties respectively, the establishments were amalgamated and placed under one officer. The scale of upper subordinate establishment was revised, and large reductions were effected in temporary establishments of all classes. These measures when fully carried into effect are likely to produce a large saving in annual expenditure and liability for pensions. Their partial introduction dates from October 1887, and was thus in force for less than six months of the year. The outlay on establishments under all heads was 19¼ lakhs as compared with 20¼ lakhs in the previous year, showing a saving of

1½ lakhs. Other branches of the administration in this department were scrutinized: admission to the subordinate accounts establishment was placed on a more regular and satisfactory footing, and an important change in the system of audit of public works accounts was introduced experimentally, the object being to secure greater efficiency and promptitude and to dispense, as far as possible, with correspondence.

It was decided during the year to stop further alienations of the valuable building sites belonging to Government in the island of Bombay. Hitherto these sites have been usually sold on 999 years' leases, or practically in fee simple, but it is considered that the conditions now prevailing are such as justify the expectation that purchasers will be found for sites on lease for a term of years without material modification of the building conditions. The intention of the Government is, of course, unchanged in respect of those building conditions necessary to preserve the beauty of the new town.

An influential and representative Committee was appointed, at the close of the previous year, for the purpose of drawing up a comprehensive scheme dealing systematically with the future extension of the city of Bombay in the interest both of the health and comfort of its resident population and of its increasing industries in mills and factories. The Committee collected a large amount of evidence on points connected with the enquiry, and in October 1887 submitted an able and most interesting report. Their recommendations are still engaging the attention of Government.

The expenditure of the Public Works Department on civil works was nearly 54 lakhs in 1887-88 against 61½ in the previous year. 2½ lakhs were spent from Imperial Funds on buildings, of which the most important was the extension of the Central Telegraph Office at Bombay completed during the year at a total cost of nearly 1½ lakhs. 20½ lakhs were spent on buildings from Provincial and Local Funds and contributions. Among the more important works in progress were the construction of the State and Alienation Record Office at Poona and the erection of the Police Magistrates' Courts and the Wilson College in Bombay. The new building originally intended for the Government Central Press was almost completed, and will in future be known as the Elphinstone College and General Record-room—the old Elphinstone College premises having been handed over to the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, and the building known as the Hydraulic Press, which was made over to Government by the munificence of Sir Dinsháh Mánekji Petat, Kt., in exchange for the old Elphinstone College, having been utilized for the purposes of the Central Press. Various other buildings for administrative, judicial, jail, police, educational and medical purposes were in progress, completed or repaired. 27½ lakhs were spent on communications, chiefly roads and bridges. The construction of the system of railway feeder roads, to connect important local centres with the Railway, was continued in the Belgaum, Dhárwár, Bijápúr and Sátára districts, through which the Southern Marátha Railway passes. A railway feeder road was also in progress and another completed in the Ahmednagar district through which the Dhund and Manmád Railway passes. Other important roads were in progress or completed in the Násik, Thána, Ahmedabad, Kaira, and Panch Maháls districts. Numerous minor roads were constructed or in course of construction, and road repairs were under execution, as usual. The bridge over the Indráyani at Indori in the Poona district, a large and important work, was completed at a cost of over ½ of a lakh. Another on the Dhádhar, on the road from Broach to Jambusar, which is estimated to cost 1½ lakhs, was commenced. Nearly 3 lakhs were spent on miscellaneous public improvements. The Junnar and Talegaon water-supply

works were completed during the year, and their charge made over to the municipalities concerned. Surveys were made or in progress for water-supply projects for the towns of Dhulia, Bârsi, Panvel and Dhârwar, and plans and estimates were prepared as regards those for Yeola, Yamkanmardi and Nipâni. A survey was also in progress for extending the Kas water to the station and Sadar Bazâr of Sâtâra. The offer of the Southern Marâtha Railway Company to contribute $2\frac{1}{2}$ lākhs towards the construction of the proposed Hubli water-supply works was still under the consideration of the local municipality. The work of clearing and levelling the ground in the Arkilla and elsewhere in the town of Bijâpur was continued.

Some of the military works in progress during 1887-88 have been mentioned before. The expenditure incurred by the Public Works Department on military works, including contributions, amounted to more than $9\frac{1}{2}$ lākhs of rupees. Fair progress was made with the barracks for European troops at Colâba, Bombay, on which a little over a lākhi was spent. The Station Hospital at Ahmedabad mentioned in the last report was completed. Progress was made with a fortified post at the south-east corner of the Cantonment of Ahmedabad. The approaches to the hill fort at Sâtâra were improved, and the construction of several military buildings in it commenced. A great many other works, more or less important, for the accommodation of troops and other collateral purposes were executed. A special Superintending Engineer was placed in charge of the defence works of Western India, under the immediate supervision of the Inspector General of Military Works. The entire expenditure on special Defences amounted to $15\frac{1}{2}$ lākhs of rupees, of which 4 lākhs were recovered from the Home Government for a moiety of expenditure on the Aden Defences in 1886-87 and 1887-88. The expenditure at Aden was $4\frac{3}{4}$ lākhs, at Bombay $1\frac{1}{4}$ lākhs and at Karâchi $3\frac{3}{4}$ lākhs, and the works made rapid progress, more especially those at Karâchi.

The outlay incurred on irrigation works throughout the Presidency Irrigation. amounted to $26\frac{1}{2}$ lākhs of rupees, of which $7\frac{1}{2}$ lākhs were spent on capital account. The principal works in progress were, as in the previous year, the Desert Canal, Unharwah and Begâri Canal in the Frontier districts of Upper Sind, the Eastern Nâra works in the Thar and Pârkar districts of Lower Sind, and the Nira Canal and Mhasvad Tank in the Dekkhan. The Nira Canal, the expenditure on which is charged to the head Famine Relief and Insurance, made considerable progress: the large masonry dam at Bhatghar, forming the storage reservoir, was raised sufficiently to store 31 feet of water: the canal was practically completed as far as the 72nd mile, up to which the water has passed, and 63 miles of it were in operation during the greater part of the year. To any one acquainted with the Nira Valley the increase of prosperity is most evident: stone houses with tiled roofs are taking the place of wattle and daub sheds, excellent water is available for man and beast where all was formerly dry and barren, and grass good for grazing has sprung up along the sides of water-courses formerly dry. The development of this fertile country is, however, hampered by the absence of roads.

The area irrigated by the new works in the Dekkhan and Gujarât, for which capital accounts are kept, was 46,187 acres, or 3,559 acres (8 per cent.) more than in the previous year. The assessed revenue on works of this class shows an increase of 15 per cent. Taking all the works in the Dekkhan and Gujarât on the Public Works list together, the area irrigated was 190,113 acres yielding a total irrigation revenue of Rs. 8,66,898. The working expenses were Rs. 4,22,474 and net revenue Rs. 4,44,424. There was an increase in area irrigated of 5,629 acres and in total revenue of Rs. 15,689, while the working expenses show a

decrease of Rs. 64,544 and the net revenue an increase of Rs 80,233. The revision of establishments already referred to had an important effect on the finances of these works, which were thereby relieved of charges aggregating Rs. 79,284,—the total, as compared with the previous year, being reduced from Rs. 3,52,765 to Rs. 2,73,481, or by 22 per cent.

In Sind the inundation of the Indus was not so favourable as in the previous year. A higher maximum height was reached, but the average height was much less, and the duration was shorter. Besides the capital account works already referred to, considerable expenditure was incurred on river embankments to protect the country from floods leaving the Indus. The works throughout Sind were maintained in repair, and the question of the grant for canal clearances, on which the revenue (subject to fluctuation in the level of the inundation) so much depends, was placed on a satisfactory footing.

Railways.

The length of the various lines of railway under the control of the Government of Bombay open during the year 1887-88 was 4,968 miles or 288 miles more than in the previous year. This was due to the opening of the Koregaon—Miraj, Miraj--Belgaum, Deuli--Castle-Rock and Castle-Rock--Portuguese Frontier sections (168 miles) of the Southern Marátha Railway, and the transfer to that railway of the Bellary-Guntakul section (30 miles) from the Madras Railway and the Guntakul-Nandyál section (90 miles) of the Bellary-Kistna Railway. The remainder of the Bellary-Kistna line, from Nandyál to Bezvada, 188 miles, was also transferred to the Southern Marátha Railway, and was under construction. The official ceremony of connecting the Southern Marátha and the West of India Portuguese Guaranteed Railways was, as already stated, performed by their Excellencies the Governor of Bombay and the Governor General of Portuguese India on the 31st January 1888, and the Southern Marátha Railway system as originally projected was thus completed. In addition to the 188 miles of the Bellary-Kistna Railway, 157 miles of the Mysore State Railway, transferred in the previous year to the Southern Marátha Country Railway, were also under construction. Sanction was accorded to the construction at the expense of the Kolhápur State of the Kolhápur State Railway, 29 miles in length, at an estimated cost of 22½ lakhs of rupees. In Káthiáwar rails were laid up to the 24th mile on the Jetalsar-Verával section of the railways of that province; the construction of the Dhoráji-Porbandar section (67 miles) was commenced; and that of an extension from Vánkáner to Rájkot, 25 miles, was about to be undertaken. The total length of line under construction during the year was 515 against 327 miles in 1886-87, and that under survey 455 against 560 miles. The only line of which the survey was approved by the Government of India during the year was the one intended to open up the Kánara forests, already referred to. A set of rules was adopted under which the several lines of railway in Káthiáwar, excepting the Morvi Railway, would be conducted under one general system of management under the designation of the Bhávnagar-Gondal-Junágad-Porbandar Railway.

On the G. I. P. Railway the work of doubling the line was in progress on the Jabalpur and Nágpur lines. The Victoria Terminal Station and Administrative Offices in Bombay, a triumph of architectural skill, were completed; and the Nesbit Lane Overbridge, built by the Railway Company at the expense of the Bombay Municipality, was also finished. On the B. B. & C. I. Railway the work of doubling the line was in progress; the unautomatic vacuum brake was brought into use on all local and through passenger trains with successful results. The new building for the Railway School at Mount Abu, constructed at a cost of 1½ lakhs of rupees, was formally opened during the year.

The subscribed capital of the G. I. P., B. B. & C. I., and S. M. Railways amounted at the end of the year 1887 to nearly 38½ millions sterling, and the capital outlay on the Dhond and Manmád, Khámgaon, Amráoti, Bhopál, Rajputána-Málwa, Rewári-Ferozpor, Holkar, Cawnpur-Achnera, Mysore, Bhávnagar-Gondal, and Morvi Railways to nearly 16½ crores of rupees. The net earnings of the first 3 railways amounted to 293½ lákhs of rupees, and those of the remaining 11 to 90½ lákhs. The guaranteed interest paid or payable by the State to the companies bearing the names of the first 3 railways was 200½ lákhs. The net earnings of the G. I. P. and B. B. & C. I. Railways were sufficient not only to recoup to Government the amount of guaranteed interest paid, but to leave them a gain of 40½ and 25½ lákhs respectively. The total amount of guaranteed interest paid and payable to the S. M. Railway Company up to the end of the year amounted to 95 lákhs, of which only 16 lákhs have been recouped to Government. The total sum received by the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company on account of guaranteed interest and surplus net earnings was 6·15 per cent. of the Company's interest-bearing capital. The profits of the Dhond and Manmád Railway were 2·08 per cent on the capital outlay ; those of the Khámgaon and Amráoti Railways 3·47 and 8·07 per cent. respectively ; those of the Bhopál Railway 0·31 per cent ; and those of the Rajputána-Málwa Railway, inclusive of the Holkar, Rewári-Ferozpor, and Cawnpur-Achnera Railways, 6·31 per cent. The percentage of expenses to earnings was 46 on the G. I. P., 41·89 on the B. B. & C. I., 35·97 on the S. M. and 72·31 on the Mysore Railway. Compared with the net earnings of 1886, those of 1887 showed an increase of 2½ lákhs of rupees in the case of the G. I. P. Railway, owing chiefly to an increase in the number of third class passengers, and larger receipts from the conveyance of railway material. They similarly exhibited a small increase in the case of the Bhopál Railway, due to increased traffic in wheat and linseed, and an advance of 5½ lákhs in the case of the S. M. Railway, owing to the length of line open and the mean mileage worked being nearly twice as great as in 1886. On the other hand the net earnings on the B. B. & C. I. and Rajputána-Málwa Railways exhibited a decrease of 8½ and 8½ lákhs respectively, owing principally to the failure of crops in the northern districts and the consequent diminution of the traffic in wheat and other grain, cotton, seeds, &c. The net earnings of the Dhond and Manmád, Khámgaon, Amráoti and Mysore Railways also showed a decline.

During 1887-88 the mail contract with the P. & O Company was renewed. Post Office
Increased postal facilities were given to the public in the shape of 35 more post offices and 162 more letter-boxes. The system of combining post and telegraph offices was extended with satisfactory results. The total number of combined offices was 47 at the end of the year. The number of letters, &c., issued for delivery was 51½ millions, showing an increase of nearly 3 millions over the number for the preceding year. The practice of insuring articles sent through the Post Office is growing in favour, as shown by the increase of 21 lákhs of rupees in the value insured during the year against 13 lákhs in the year previous. The popularity of the value-payable parcel system continues to grow : the value of the parcels received during the year was 2½ lákhs greater than in 1886-87. The value of inland money-orders issued increased by 7 lákhs of rupees, including an increase of 1½ lákhs in the value of telegraphic money orders. The number of accounts in the Post Office Savings Banks increased by 10,140 and the deposits by nearly 23½ lákhs of rupees. There were 5 highway robberies of mails, in one of which insured parcels were lost, for which Rs 11,221 had to be paid as compensation. The integrity of postal employécs, judged by the small

number of offences committed by them, was even more commendable than in the previous year.

The operations of the district post show a remarkable increase in the number of paid packets, attributable mainly to the growing taste of the public for reading. Not only are newspapers frequently received for delivery at villages, but almost every village of average importance has one or two residents who subscribe to periodicals.

Finance:
General results
for all Depart-
ments and Ser-
vices

The year 1887-88 was the first of the new Provincial contract. The aggregate receipts of the Presidency in all Departments and under all heads of account—Imperial, Provincial and Local—amounted in 1887-88 to 1,259 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs of rupees against 1,241 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in the previous year. The increase of 17 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs was principally the result of an increase of 24 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in the receipts of civil departments credited to Imperial revenues, which, however, was partially counterbalanced by a diminution to the extent of 10 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in the receipts in the same departments credited to Provincial revenues. The aggregate expenditure amounted to 853 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against 858 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in 1886-87, thus exhibiting a diminution of 5 lakhs. The decrease was due chiefly to a reduction in the amount of expenditure on civil departments debited to Provincial services to the extent of 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and of that on civil works debited to the same services to the extent of 6 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs; the only important diminution (6 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs) in Imperial expenditure occurred in the amount spent on military works, but, on the other hand, the expenditure on civil departments debited to the Imperial services was greater to the extent of 10 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs, and the expenditure of the Military Department exceeded that of the previous year by 13 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs, owing chiefly to the employment of Bombay troops in Burma. The surplus of the year amounted to 405 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs, or more than that of the previous year by 22 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs, and it will be seen that it was principally the result of an increase of Imperial receipts and a diminution of Provincial expenditure owing to causes explained below.

results as regards
Imperial heads of
account,

The Civil Imperial receipts amounted to 767 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against 743 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in the previous year. The increase of 24 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs was due principally to a growth of the land, salt, and Mint revenues, but it was also to a very considerable extent the result of larger shares of land and excise revenues having been reserved under the new contract for Imperial purposes. Much of the increase arising from the causes just mentioned was counterbalanced by a fall in the opium revenue, and by the fact that smaller shares of stamp and income-tax revenues were devoted to Imperial uses. The civil Imperial expenditure amounted to 81 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against 71 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in 1886-87. The increase of 10 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs is attributable to the expenditure on the salt and customs services having under the new contract been made wholly Imperial. The net result was that the civil Imperial receipts exceeded the corresponding expenditure by 685 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against 671 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in the previous year. Adding to the civil Imperial receipts and expenditure the Imperial receipts and expenditure on the Public Works, Telegraph, Military and Postal Departments, the total Imperial receipts of the Presidency amounted to 830 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against 803 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in the previous year, and the expenditure to 426 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against 408 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs, thus exhibiting a surplus of 404 lakhs against 295 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in 1886-87.

And as regards
Provincial heads

The total Provincial civil receipts of the year amounted to 371 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against 382 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs in 1886-87. The decrease of 10 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs was the result chiefly of smaller shares of land and excise revenues having under the new contract been assigned for provincial uses, the effect of which was only partially counterbalanced by the assignment of a larger share of stamp and income-tax revenue. The Provincial civil expenditure amounted to 311 $\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs against

358 $\frac{7}{10}$ lakhs in the previous year. The decrease of 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs was mainly due to the imperialization of the expenditure on the salt and customs services, and to a smaller extent to the decrease of the expenditure on the Land Revenue, Educational and Miscellaneous services. Adding to the Provincial civil receipts and expenditure the Provincial receipts and expenditure under other heads, the chief of which is Public Works, the total Provincial receipts of the year amounted to 379 $\frac{4}{10}$ lakhs against 390 $\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs in the previous year: and the corresponding expenditure to 381 $\frac{8}{10}$ against 406 $\frac{7}{10}$ lakhs. The net result was a deficit of 2 $\frac{4}{10}$ lakhs, which reduced the Provincial balance, which stood at the commencement of the year at 54 $\frac{7}{10}$ lakhs, to 52 $\frac{3}{10}$ lakhs at its close.

The net imports of silver bullion into the Presidency in 1887-88 amounted ^{Mint} to 828 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, and those of gold were valued at 275 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. Silver weighing 639 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of tolas (rupee-weights) was tendered by merchants and others for coinage; 623 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees worth of the metal was received from the Currency Department; and uncurrent silver coins amounting to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees were received for recoinage. The amount tendered by merchants and others included 57 lakhs of tolas of native coins, the bulk of which was received from the Porbandar State, which is converting its native coinage into British currency. Silver coin of the nominal value of 608 $\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs of rupees was placed in circulation, and, in addition, coins of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ of a lakh struck several years ago were remitted to Goa. Copper coins of the nominal value of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees were struck. The revenue from all sources amounted to 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees, the expenditure to 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, and the net profit to 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. In the previous year the net profit was only about $\frac{2}{3}$ of a lakh of rupees, the coinage of silver having been 254 lakhs of rupees less in value.

The gross circulation of notes of the Bombay Paper Currency Circle at the ^{Paper Currency} end of 1887-88 was greater to the extent of 150 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees than it was at its commencement. The circulation of notes of every denomination increased, but especially of those of the higher denominations in consequence of stagnation in the export trade. The circulation commenced increasing from July, having reached its minimum in the previous month, and continued to increase till October, when it reached its maximum. The average number of notes cashed or issued on each working day was greater than in 1886-87 and still greater than in 1885-86. The issues of small coin during the year exceeded the receipts to the extent of 13 lakhs against 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in the preceding year. A series of frauds by the clerk in charge of the lost-note section of the Bombay Paper Currency Department was discovered, and the delinquent was tried by the High Court and sentenced to six years' rigorous imprisonment. The remittances of coin from and to Bombay amounted to 130 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees. Details of the transactions relating to the Karachi circle will be found in the body of the report.

The amount of land revenue to be collected during 1887-88 was 335 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs ^{Land Revenue} of rupees, out of which 336 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs were collected. The figures for the preceding year were 315 $\frac{1}{8}$ and 332 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs respectively. The revenue was collected with comparative ease, the number of instances in which distraints had to be resorted to during the year having been 12.5 per cent. lower than in the previous year. The amounts of net revenue for collection in the different districts of the Presidency proper showed no great fluctuations in most districts; but, except in the Panch Mahals and Surat districts where there was a slight decrease, they were everywhere larger than in the previous year. In Sind there was a slight decrease in the Karachi and a larger one in the Shikarpur district, but the diminution was much more than counterbalanced by increases in the remaining districts, especially Hyderabad. In the Presidency proper the bal-

ances outstanding at the end of the year amounted to $1\frac{1}{6}$ lakhs of rupees against 1 lakh at the close of the previous year, thus showing a slight increase, while in Sind they diminished from $1\frac{3}{4}$ th lakhs to 1 lakh.

Customs
Bombay,

The chief events in the history of the Customs Administration of the port of Bombay for 1887-88 were (1) the amalgamation of the appointment of Collector of Customs with that of Collector of Land Revenue and Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery, and the appointment of a Covenanted Assistant to the Collector, in accordance with the recommendations of the Finance Committee, (2) the imposition of an import duty on petroleum under Act II of 1888 which came into force on 10th February 1888, and (3) the opening of the Victoria Dock on 12th March 1888. Deducting refunds and drawbacks, the net customs revenue of the port from all sources amounted to $18\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, showing an increase as compared with 1886-87 of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Of this increase about $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of a lakh was derived from the development of the export trade in rice, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ a lakh from the duty on petroleum. The remainder, upwards of 2 lakhs, may be said broadly to be attributable partly to an increase in the number of proof gallons of spirits imported—chiefly brandy, whisky and spirits of wine—and partly to the recovery of duty on spirits at the higher rate prescribed by the Tariff Act of 1887 throughout the year, as compared with about $2\frac{1}{2}$ months only in 1886-87. The increase in the importations may perhaps be connected in some degree with the measures taken in 1887 to check the importation of cheap potable spirits slightly perfumed under the name of Eau de Cologne, by cancelling the exemption from duty of perfumed spirits imported in four ounce bottles, which have had the effect of reducing the importation of spirit in this form from 18,247 liquid gallons in 1886-87 to 4,341 in 1887-88, or by about 76 per cent. The number of passengers voyaging by vessels which come under the operation of the Native Passenger Ships Act was $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs against $8\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1887, the decrease being due to the prevalence of high rates of fare—by sea to and from ports to the south of Bombay as far as Goa, and the diversion of a part of the passenger traffic to and from those ports to the Southern Marathi Railway.

And Karachi

At the port of Karachi the Customs realizations decreased from $6\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees. A decrease of over $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a lakh was due to the preference shown by natives for good Bombay spirit over inferior brandies, no less than 14,000 gallons of the former kind of spirit were for the first time imported from Bombay during the year. Another decrease of nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a lakh resulted from a diminution of the exports of rice to the United Kingdom, France and Persia.

Opium

During the year under report, 142,527 lbs of opium passed into home consumption in the different British districts, including Aden, against 159,657 lbs. in 1886-87, the decrease being noticeable chiefly in the Kaira, Poona and Sholapur districts. The quantity which passed into home consumption in the Native States in the Presidency, including Baroda, was 147,943 lbs.

The Imperial opium revenue amounted to 241 lakhs of rupees, or $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs less than in the previous year. All but $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a lakh of this revenue was derived from the pass-fee on the drug, and the decrease in revenue was due chiefly to the imports of opium into Bombay from Malwa having been smaller. The total Provincial opium revenue amounted to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, or $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a lakh more than in the previous year. 11 lakhs of this sum represented the pass-duty on opium consumed in British territory—two-thirds of the pass-duty on opium consumed in Káthiawár and Cutch, and four-fifths of the pass-duty on opium supplied to other Native States except Cambay and the States of the

Palanpur Agency and the Mahi and Rewa Kánthás, which were entitled to receive the drug free of duty. Baroda consumed the opium grown in its own territory without payment of any duty to Government. The Imperial expenditure in the Bombay Presidency on the Opium Department amounted to Rs. 24,701 and the Provincial to about Rs. 30,000.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Finance Committee important changes aiming at economy were made during the year 1887-88 in the organization of the Salt Department of the Presidency proper, the net result of which was a reduction of 60 individuals in the strength and Rs. 2,760 per mensem in the cost of the establishment. Other changes necessitated by the ever varying circumstances of the Department resulted in a net increase of 18 men at a cost of Rs. 106 per mensem. On the whole, therefore, there was a decrease of 42 men in the strength and of Rs. 2,654 per mensem in the cost of the Department.

The year marked the final cessation of the abnormal demand for Barágra salt manufactured at the Runn Salt Works which existed in the two previous years in consequence of the failure of the salt-crop at the Sámbar Lake. The stock of this Runn salt, which had in the previous years been depleted by the demand amounted to $6\frac{7}{8}$ lákhs of maunds at the commencement of the year: 21 $\frac{9}{10}$ lákhs of maunds were manufactured during the year, $1\frac{7}{8}$ lákhs written off on account of loss and wastage, and $15\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs issued during the year. The result was that the balance at the end of the year amounted to $11\frac{9}{10}$ lákhs of maunds. The issues were less by $5\frac{1}{8}$ lákhs of maunds than in the previous year, owing principally to the cessation of the abnormal demand from Northern India, but to some extent also to the abolition of the agencies beyond the Presidency and the competition of Panchbhadra salt. The issues for the Panjáb and Oudh entirely ceased; those for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh declined by $4\frac{1}{10}$ lákhs; those for Rajputána, the States of Central India and Bengal showed a decrease of $1\frac{3}{4}$ lákhs; and those for the Central Provinces were reduced by $\frac{1}{10}$ of a lákhs. In spite, however, of the large decline as compared with the previous year, the issues were more than 2 lákhs of maunds in excess of those for 1884-85, the latest year in which they were unaffected by the demand referred to.

77 lákhs of maunds of sea-salt were manufactured at the works along the coast from Bulsár to Goa against 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs in the previous year: the issues amounted to 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs against 65 $\frac{1}{10}$ lákhs. The exports of this salt to Calcutta showed a decrease of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a lákhs of maunds, but it must be remembered that they are normally liable to considerable fluctuations, being dependent on the state of the freight market. The export trade to the Malabár Coast continued to show a marked development, the exports to British Malabár having increased to the extent of nearly a lákhs, and those to the Trávancore and Cochin States, on which, however, a nominal duty only is paid, to the extent of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a lákhs.

The quantity of Barágra, sea and imported salt (this last description of salt was trifling in amount) which passed into consumption in the Presidency proper amounted to 28 $\frac{1}{10}$ lákhs of maunds against 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ lákhs in the previous year. Taking the population of the Presidency, as in the previous year, at 19,967,143 persons, the average quantity of salt consumed by each individual during the year amounted to 11.59 lbs. against 10.54 lbs. in 1886-87, a rate higher than any recorded since the organization of the Salt Department. In Gujarát the rate rose from 9.93 lbs. to 10.33 lbs. per head, and in the rest of the Presidency from 10.86 to 12.23 lbs.

The wholesale market price of salt in the Presidency proper ranged from Rs. 4-1-8 per maund at Dhárwar in April, August and December 1887, to Rs. 2-7-1 at Poona in December. The average cost price at the works in British territory

ranged from 3 annas 3 pies in the Northern and Middle Konkan to 9 annas 2 pies in the South Konkan. In Portuguese territory it was 8 annas 11 pies per maund.

The duty on salt was raised during the year from Rs 2 to Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ per maund. There was an increase of 3 in the number of salt works. The only fish-curing yard in existence in British territory was the one at Vengurla, which still failed to support itself, although it gained in popularity and promised to be a success. The gross receipts of the Salt Department amounted to $172\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees against $162\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs in 1886-87, the increase being the result partly of the enhancement of duty, and partly of the improvement in the sales of sea-salt. The expenditure amounted to $17\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs of rupees against 21 lakhs in the previous year, the decrease being due chiefly to the abolition of agencies and to the fact that the crop of Barágra salt having been smaller, less had to be expended on its purchase, storage and freight.

And Sind.

The quantity of salt manufactured or excavated in Sind in 1887-88 amounted in round figures to 2,06,000 maunds, and the quantity sold to 2,35,000 maunds, or 6,000 maunds more than in the preceding year. The average consumption per head increased from 8lbs. to 8lbs. 7oz. At the fish-curing yard at Shamspur the quantity of fish cured was more than three times as great as in the previous year, but the yard is said to benefit only a few firms to whom the fishermen are indebted. The gross receipts of the Salt Department in Sind amounted to $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, or nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ a lakh more than in the previous year, and the expenditure to $1\frac{1}{10}$ lakhs or about $\frac{1}{10}$ of a lakh more than in the previous year. During the past 9 years the sales of salt in the province have increased more than three-fold. The average wholesale price of salt for the whole year rose from Rs. 2-15-0 in 1886-87 to Rs. 3-0-8 per maund in 1887-88 in consequence of the enhancement of duty.

Excise :
Presidency
proper,

Changes of much consequence, some of them involving new departures from the principles hitherto followed, were made during 1887-88 in the *Ábkári* arrangements of several British districts and Native States of the Presidency proper. In the town and island of Bombay, in order to ensure a fresh supply of raw toddy to consumers at reasonable rates, a condition was imposed on the tree-foot booth-keepers requiring them to sell pure and undiluted toddy within a fixed maximum price of 9 pies per 8 drams. Changes were introduced in the *Ábkári* arrangements of the Thána and Kolába districts similar to those effected during 1886-87 in the town and island of Bombay and described in the last report. Their main features were, 1stly, the equalization of the duty on mowra and toddy spirit; 2ndly, the separation of the privilege of manufacture from that of sale; 3rdly, the experimental abolition of the maximum guaranteed system in favour of the principle of securing a maximum of revenue from the actual sales whatever they might be, by accepting the highest still-head duty offered on every gallon sold; and 4thly, the supply of raw toddy to consumers at low prices. The district of Khándesh, the *Ábkári* of which had for a long time past been managed on the out-still system, was brought under the operation of the central distillery, still-head duty and minimum guaranteed revenue system from the 1st of January 1888. With a view to place the *Ábkári* management of the Baroda, Cambay, and Mahi and Rewa Kántha States on a satisfactory basis, in so far as it affected the adjoining British districts, the following arrangements were made:—(i) the *Ábkári* management of Cambay, and of the States of Bhadarwa, Umeta, Pándu Mevás, Dorka Mevás and Sankheda Mevás in the Rewa Kántha was leased to the British Government, and entrusted to the Collector of K. ra; (ii) certain isolated villages belonging to Native States situated in British territory and *vice versa* were supplied with excised spirit from the nearest British or Gíekwádhi central distillery, the duty being afterwards remitted to the State concerned; (iii) the

central distillery and still-head duty system was introduced into the Rájpipla State with the object of securing the ábkári revenue of the adjoining district of Broach, and (iv) the number and position of the liquor shops on the Surat-Navsári frontier were permanently fixed, in order to restrict as far as possible the competition between the Surat and Baroda farmers. The rates of still-head duty in the districts of Poona, Belgaum, Dhárwár and Bijápur and in the tálukás of Anand, Borsad and Nadiád in the Kaira district, were more or less raised: the maximum selling price was, however, left undisturbed, except in the 8 tálukás named. The toddy farm in the Ahmednagar district was abolished, and the system in vogue in Poona, of issuing tapping licenses to applicants for the sale of toddy at shops and at tree-foot booths, was introduced into it.

The total excise revenue of the Presidency proper amounted to $76\frac{2}{5}$ lákhs of rupees against $74\frac{2}{5}$ lákhs in the previous year. The revenue from country liquor and toddy, $73\frac{1}{5}$ lákhs, formed the bulk of this sum, and contributed $1\frac{2}{5}$ lákhs of the increase: that from imported foreign liquor showed a very slight decrease; while that from intoxicating drugs and miscellaneous sources exhibited an increase of $\frac{1}{5}$ of a lách in either case. More than a fourth part— $21\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs—of the country liquor revenue was contributed by the town and island of Bombay alone, while the revenue in the different districts ranged from $\frac{1}{5}$ of a lách in the Panch Maháls to $8\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs in Surat. The increase in the revenue was contributed mainly by the town and island of Bombay, and the districts of Poona, Dhárwár, Belgaum, Bijápur, Sholápur and Kaira. The manufacture of toddy liquor increased in the town and island of Bombay, while that of mowra liquor, being weighted with a higher rate of duty, declined: the same tendency was observable and noted upon in the previous year. The total number of shops for the sale of country liquor and raw toddy in the whole Presidency rose from 3,884 to 4,377, the bulk of the increase being due to a larger number of tree-foot booths for the sale of raw toddy having been licensed in the Thána and Kolába districts, in order to afford greater facilities to the people for obtaining the raw juice. The total expenditure of the Ábkári Department amounted to $3\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs, and the annual compensation paid to the Bombay Municipality and Native Chiefs to $2\frac{2}{5}$ lákhs, exclusive of the payments to be made to several States in Khándesh and the Rewa Kántha, the amounts of which have yet to be determined.

In Sind the total excise revenue amounted, as in 1886-87, to 5 lákhs of rupees. And Sind. The system of farming country liquor was abolished and the still-head duty system introduced at the commencement of the year under report. The new system met with considerable opposition in two districts and led to a decrease of revenue in most of them. In the Upper Sind Frontier district the Amils and others are said to have abandoned the use of country liquor owing to the enhancement in its price consequent upon the introduction of the still-head duty system. The operation of the system in Sind is, however, in its infancy, and full details of it as regards the year under report have not been received up to the time of going to press.

The aggregate receipts of the Stamp Department amounted to $48\frac{2}{5}$ lákhs Stamps. of rupees in 1887-88 against 48 lákhs in the previous year. There was a satisfactory increase of $1\frac{1}{5}$ lákhs in the revenue under the Indian Stamp Act, which was partially counterbalanced by a decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ of a lách under the Court Fees' Act attributable to a diminution of litigation. The expenditure of the department amounted to $2\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs against $2\frac{1}{2}$ lákhs in 1886-87, the decrease being due chiefly to the refunds made having been smaller.

As the income-tax report for the Central Division has not been received up Income-tax to the time of going to press, it is not possible to compare the original and

final demands throughout the Presidency for the year under report with those for the previous year. The total collections amounted to 32½ lakhs of rupees against 29½ lakhs in 1886-87. Every part of the Presidency contributed to this increase, the bulk of which—2½ lakhs—was, however, due to much larger collections having been made in the city of Bombay than in the previous year. The incidence of the tax per assessee was greatest in Bombay, lower at Aden, and lower still in the Northern and Southern Divisions and in Sind. Economy in expenditure was effected by the reduction of special establishments and stoppage of extra payments to District establishments for the collection of the tax.

Local Funds

The receipts of the Incorporated Local Funds for 1887-88 amounted to 46½ lakhs of rupees, the expenditure to 42½ lakhs, and the closing balance to 25½ lakhs, or 4½ lakhs more than the opening balance. The Sind Book Depot Fund was added during the year to the list of existing Incorporated Local Funds. All the funds, 6 in number, were in a solvent condition; and the balances of all increased, the largest increase 3½ lakhs having occurred in the balance of the fund formed under the Bombay Local Fund Act, No. J of 1884, which is by far the most important of them all. The Local Boards formed under that Act were obliged to accumulate their balances in consequence of the notice given by the Government of India that after the 31st of July 1889 they would not be permitted to overdraw their balances at the treasury, as they have hitherto been allowed to do.

The receipts and expenditure of the Excluded Local Funds amounted respectively to 30½ and 29½ lakhs, and the opening and closing balances to 11½ and 12½ lakhs, respectively. They were grouped under seven heads, of which the wealthiest were the Public Works, Police and Marine Funds. The richest of the Public Works Funds were the Káthiáwar Funds which fall under that head, and of the Police Funds those connected with the police employed in the Káthiáwar, Pálanpur, Mahá Kántna and Rewa Kántna Agencies. His Highness the Gaekwád agreed to pay a subsidy of 3½ lakhs for the maintenance of this police, and during the years 1885-86 and 1886-87 the subsidy, with some other receipts, was apportioned among the four Agencies. The most important of the Marine Funds were the Aden Port Fund, the Northern and Southern Groups Port Funds, and the Indus Conservancy Fund, the first of these funds continues to accumulate pending the formation of a Port Trust for Aden. The Educational and Medical Funds, although not so wealthy as the other groups of Excluded Local Funds already mentioned, showed a marked tendency to increase, the number of the former being 166 against 93 in the previous year, and that of the latter 81 against 74.

Public Health and Vital Statistics.

As the result of an improved system of registration the number of births registered has been regularly increasing year by year since 1878 until in 1887 it was 628,193, being higher than the number recorded in the previous year by 46,640 and the mean of the preceding 10 years by 192,676. A larger number than in the previous year was registered in every District except Broach, Ahmedabad, Thar and Pákar, and Upper Sind Frontier. 327,500 of the children born were males, while the remainder, 300,693, were females. The number of deaths recorded during the year was also greater than in the previous year, being 455,261 against 381,185 in 1886. The birth-rate was 38.18 per mille of population; the death-rate 27.67.

As in the preceding year so in the year under review the death-rate was highest in the Broach, lowest in the Upper Sind Frontier District: highest among Hindus, lower among Mahomedans, lowest among Christians. The mortality among children was, as usual, terribly high, affording unmistakable evidence of local

causes of insanitation : for no less than 44·40 per cent. of the total number of deaths represented the mortality among children under 5 years of age.

By far the largest number of deaths was due to fevers, and Broach was once more recorded as the most fever-stricken district in the whole Presidency. Among other specified causes, bowel-complaints were, next to fevers, the most destructive: and as in the preceding year they prevailed most in the Belgaum, Dhárwár, and Kháudesh districts, and least in the districts of Hyderabad and Thar and Párkar. Cholera and small-pox, which were unusually quiescent in 1886, were again very virulent in 1887, carrying off respectively 25,711 and 3,753 persons against 167 and 376 in the former year. The ravages of cholera were severest in the Dekkhan, and least in Sind. An examination of the monthly totals of deaths from this disease during the 21 years ending with 1886 shows that it exhibits least intensity in December, increases slightly in January and February, commences in March and April to show marked development, increases by rapid strides in May and June, and in July attains its maximum intensity. In August there is a decided fall, and in the following months the disease gradually subsides until it reaches its minimum intensity in December. Thus the prevalence of cholera is to a certain extent coincident in this Presidency with the rise of temperature and the increase of moisture in the atmosphere, although it is certain that other factors are needed to make the disease active.

To the 222 hospitals and dispensaries which existed at the beginning of 1887, 7 new dispensaries and the Allbless Leper Home were added during the year, making the total at its close 230, exclusive of 13 medical institutions maintained for the treatment of police and other public servants. 45 of the 230 institutions were entirely maintained by Government, while of the rest 119 received grants-in-aid from the State. 1,694,833 persons, or 81,712 more than in the previous year, were medically treated, chiefly as out-patients, the number of in-patients being 37,123. The increase affords satisfactory evidence of the growing recognition of the superiority of European methods of treating disease over those of the Native *vaidyas* and *hakims*. Over 4,000 more patients than in the previous year were treated for cholera, and over 23,000 more for skin-diseases, while an increase was also noticeable in cases of leprosy, malarious fever, rheumatic and respiratory affections, and a decrease in cases of venereal disease. 4,779 major operations, about one-third of which were on the eye and its appendages, were performed, and a cure effected in 3,976 cases, while death resulted in only 29 per cent. of the total number of cases—an exceedingly favourable result. Rs. 10,33,001, or over half a lakh more than in the previous year, were expended on hospitals and dispensaries, exclusive of those supported by Native States. The average cost per patient was Re. 0-11-3, and Government paid 78·0 per cent. of the cost, the bulk of the remainder being defrayed by Municipalities and Local Funds. The invested capital amounted to Rs. 3,84,950 at the end of the year, or Rs. 10,050 more than at its beginning. Schemes for the improvement and extension of the hospital accommodation of the city of Bombay engaged the attention of the Government, and it is hoped that in the next year's report the inception of several important works, partly at the expense of Government and partly at that of private benefactors, will hold a conspicuous place.

The number of Lunatic Asylums remained unchanged at 6. The relief afforded by the opening of the Ratnágiri Asylum in 1886 was fully felt, and there was still accommodation available there and at Colába. The aggregate number of persons who were treated at the 6 asylums was 913 against 887 in the preceding year, and the daily average strength 679·2 against 653·2, the increase being

due to the extension of accommodation. *Ganja* and grief were, as usual, the two principal causes of lunacy. Altogether 123 criminal lunatics were in confinement during the year against 114 in 1886. The net cost of the asylums was Rs. 1,05,131, or Rs. 154-12-6 per head, against Rs. 175-12-4 per head in 1886 and Rs. 186-9-7 per head in 1885. These results point to much extravagance in the past, while the example of the Hyderabad Asylum, where the cost is only Rs. 75-9-2 per head, leads to the surmise that still further economy is practicable.

Sanitation.

The outlay on military sanitary works during 1887, Rs. 4,02,686, was greater than in the previous year by Rs. 1,54,253. More than a third of this sum was spent in Bombay, where barracks for European troops at Colába and bungalows for officers in the Marine Lines were under construction. The drainage of the Sadar Bazar and Cantonment of Baroda was improved, and the Native Infantry Lines at Málegaon were repaired at a cost of about Rs. 12,000 each.

The sanitary work done by the Bombay Municipality has already been noticed. The Mofussil Municipalities spent Rs. 7,36,449, or nearly a fifth of their income (Rs. 34,79,558), on conservancy during 1886-87, against Rs. 3,38,763 in the previous year. The question of improving the water-supply received much attention in Ahmedabad, the Municipality of which city resolved to adopt at a cost of Rs. 6,00,000 a scheme recommended by Colonel Ducat, and applied to Government for permission to raise funds in the open market. At Ahmednagar an old aqueduct was discovered, and the Municipality has resolved to utilize it at a cost of Rs. 12,000 as a feeder to one of the aqueducts already in use. At Rájápur the Municipality has resolved to replace by an iron main the stone channel through which water has been brought to it from the Kadauli river. In Karáchi the Municipality has spent Rs. 15,270 in extending the water-works, and has placed the water within reach of the very poor population in the trans-Lyari district. At Broach the water-supply continues to be very defective, but the Municipality is helpless for want of funds. In the flourishing suburb of Kúrla, near Bombay, the water-supply continues to be bad and insufficient. Under the head of drainage in Mofussil municipal towns it is noticeable that underground drains were either converted into or replaced by surface drains in Sukkur.

A new form of bill of health for outgoing vessels was brought into use at Bombay during 1887. 713 vessels and 52,124 persons leaving the port were inspected by the Health Officer of the Port, against 781 vessels and 54,318 persons in 1886. Quarantine was imposed at Suez against Bombay for 66 days, although only 262 deaths from cholera took place during the year and the disease was at no time declared by the Medical Board to exist in an epidemic form. All vessels entering the port had free pratique, except 3 steamers which displayed the yellow flag in consequence of the occurrence of cases of small-pox during the voyage. The condition of the harbour foreshore underwent an improvement at some of the wharves, but on the whole it continued to be insanitary.

Vaccination.

During the year, 879,755 persons, or 23,783 more than in 1886-87, were primarily vaccinated, and 49,790, or 1,852 more than in that year, re-vaccinated. 93.85 per cent. of the operations, against 93.78 per cent. in 1886-87, were successful. A larger number of persons of all races except Mahomedans was primarily vaccinated. Out of 523,556 infants under one year of age available for vaccination, 376,791, or 71.29 per cent., were protected during the year. The proportion of such infants protected to those available was 73.93 per cent. in the preceding year. It is calculated that there were, at the end of the year, 32.37 persons of all ages per mille of population who had been protected, against

31-91 at the end of the preceding year. The quality of the lymph in use, very little of which was imported from England, was good. Human lymph was used every where, except in Bombay, Poona, Rájkot and Bándra, where animal lymph was either wholly or partially used. The average cost for each successful vaccine operation was 5 annas 1 pie, or 4 pies less than in 1886-87. No instances of any disease having been communicated through vaccination were reported. The compulsory Vaccination Act has now been working successfully in Bombay for ten years and in Karáchi for eight years.

The total number of public educational institutions in the Presidency in 1887-88 was 8,274, and of the pupils attending them 484,059, or greater respectively by 278 and 7,760 than in the previous year. Nearly $\frac{4}{5}$ ths of this increase was due to the spread of primary instruction, principally through the agency of institutions maintained by Native States, and to a smaller extent through that of institutions aided by Government and by Local and Municipal Boards. Every race contributed to the general increase: Hindus of other than the highest and the low castes to the greatest extent, Mahomedans to a lesser extent, and Bráhmans, low-caste Hindus, and aboriginal and hill tribes to a still lower extent; while no individual race whose pupils were separately classified, showed a smaller increase than the Pársis, a result due to the high standard of education already attained by a community which supplied 12,588 pupils out of a total population, young and old, of 73,973. The private educational institutions of the Presidency numbered 2,958 and the pupils who attended them 70,339, showing an increase of 31 and 4,602 respectively over the previous year; and the increase was entirely confined to elementary education. Of the total number of 554,398 pupils, 500,872 were boys and 53,526 girls, showing an increase of 11,777 and 585 respectively. 27 out of every hundred boys of school-going age and 3 out of every hundred girls were under instruction of some kind or other.

Schools and pupils.

The total sum expended on the public institutions was 52½ lákhs of rupees against 50 lákhs in 1886-87. More than one-half of the increased expenditure was met from fees, which amounted to 10½ lákhs against 9½ in the previous year. The Local Boards and Municipality spent 11 against 9½ lákhs in the previous year, 16½ lákhs were spent from Provincial revenues against 17½, and 14½ from all other sources—chiefly Native State revenues—against 13½. Apart from the building and special grants, in which the Provincial expenditure mainly decreased, the grants-in-aid from Provincial revenues to schools and colleges increased from 249 to 286 thousands of rupees.

Cost of education.

The number of students who appeared at University examinations higher than the Matriculation was 1,276 and the number of them who succeeded was 566, or 30 and 101 less respectively than in the previous year. 2 Government, 2 Native States and 5 Aided Arts Colleges were maintained in the Presidency. The number of students was slightly higher than in the previous year, but the number of those who passed the Previous and 1st B.A. Examinations, especially the former, was considerably less. The staff of the Elphinstone College was strengthened by the establishment of a Professorship of History and English. A scheme was matured to provide the Sind College, a growing institution, with a college building at a cost of 2 lákhs of rupees, out of which more than Rs. 80,000 had already been subscribed and other sums had been promised from public and private sources. The foundation stone was laid by the Viceroy in November 1887, when His Excellency was pleased to announce his intention of presenting the college annually with a silver and a bronze medal as long as he remained in India. The college was also fortunate in securing a donation of Rs. 7,354 for

University education.

the formation of a laboratory and another of Rs. 20,000 towards a library. The Law Classes at Bombay and Poona, the Grant Medical College at Bombay, and the College of Science at Poona were less numerously attended than in the previous year; and the fall in the attendance was largest at the last-mentioned institution, owing to the necessity imposed upon students of passing the Previous Examination in Arts before proceeding to the examinations in Engineering. The spectroscopic observatory, towards the purchase of the telescope for which H. H. the Thákor Sáheb of Bhávnagar made a munificent donation, was in course of construction in the vicinity of the College of Science, the atmospheric conditions of Poona being considered more favourable to observation and to the preservation of the telescope than those of Bombay, where it was originally proposed to erect the observatory.

Secondary instruction.

The number of candidates who presented themselves at the Matriculation Examination was 3,012, or 560 more than in the previous year. There were 78 high schools and 21,391 pupils, or 4 schools and 508 pupils more than in 1886-87. 12 of the schools, attended by 1,236 pupils, were for girls. The Elphinstone High School was remarkably successful in the University Entrance Examination; the Cathedral Boys' School was observed to possess much more of the spirit of an English public school than is ordinarily to be seen in this country; the Fort High School—an unaided institution—was found to be full of life and vigour, and in point of staff equipment and results in the very first rank of schools in Bombay; the Convent Schools at Karáchi made beneficent and successful efforts to establish classes for training European and Native school-mistresses; and the Government high schools at Broach, Dhárwár and Kárwár reduced their lowest standards in favour of private enterprise, while the one at Hyderabad was directed gradually to reduce its middle school standards with a similar purpose.

There were 320 middle schools with 18,232 pupils, showing an increase of 6 schools and 1,051 pupils. The increase in schools was wholly confined to those for girls, which numbered 46 at the end of the year, with 1,972 pupils on the rolls: but nine-tenths of the increase in pupils occurred in boys' schools. Of Government schools, that at Ahmednagar was transferred to the local Education Society and that at Tatta to the Municipality, while one of those at Ahmedabad was closed. The St. Joseph's Convent School at Bándra, an aided institution, was observed to be one of the most efficient establishments of its kind, distinguished for the completeness of its buildings and other accessories.

Primary education.

There were 7,267 primary schools for boys with 409,164 pupils, or 226 schools and 5,487 pupils more than in the previous year. Káthiáwár provided the lion's share of the increase, and the inclusion of the figures for Janjira accounted for a large portion of the rest. An order prohibiting the Local Boards from overdrawing their balances at the treasury, as they have hitherto been accustomed to do, imposed upon them the necessity of economizing, with the result that there was a decrease of scholars instead of the large increase which might otherwise have been expected. Again, the attendance in schools maintained both by Local and Municipal Boards was made to appear seemingly lower than that of 1886-87 by the enforcement of a rule putting an end to careless registration. The deficiency caused through the operation of these circumstances was, however, in great part compensated for by the growth of aided institutions. The number of Local Board schools in the Upper Sind Frontier District was doubled and a large increase occurred in the number of their pupils, through the active exertions of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Giles. Encouraging

accounts are given of the work done by Local Board and Municipal School Committees and of their relations with the officers of the Educational Department, although a disposition to interfere with technical matters and to allow junior masters to appeal against the authority of their head-masters was observable.

504 schools, attended by 31,462 pupils, were provided for the primary education of girls, against 478 in 1886-87. Allowing, however, for the boys in girls' schools and *vice versa*, the total number of girls in primary schools was 45,809, or 1,556 more than in the previous year. It is noticeable that in the education of girls the Musalmáns of Sind were apparently in advance of the Hindus. At Kandiaró 71 girls attended with exceptional regularity, and divided their time between the Sindhi standards and practical instruction in spinning and weaving.

Of the total number of 3,423 Europeans and Eurasians under instruction in public institutions, 3,348 received primary and secondary instruction in 41 schools, of which 39 were aided and 2 unaided. The attendance at the Rájkumár Collége for the education of the sons of Chiefs declined. 3 of the pupils left for England for the further prosecution of their studies. The Wadhván school for the children of the nobility and gentry was a model of its class: but it is noticeable that a large number of such children, both in Gujarát and the Southern Marátha Country, still attend the common schools. The establishment of a special school of this class in Sind is advocated. The Dekkhan Association for the promotion of higher education among Maráthas, which commenced in 1885 by supporting 2 students, supported 48 during the year under report. The Lingáyat Association's fund continued to grow, and a second fund was started with the object of sending a Lingáyat to England to study for the Civil Service or the bar. 62,729 Mahomedans, or 1,757 more than in the previous year, were under instruction in the public institutions. The increase occurred in all the Educational Divisions, but was greatest in the Northern and considerable in the Central Division. The increase in the number of Mahomedans serving as Deputy Educational Inspectors from 5 to 10, and the establishment of special scholarships by Government, Khán Bahádúr Kázi Sháhbudin, C. I. E., and Mr. Ibráhim M. Sáyaní tended to awaken among the Mahomedans an interest in education. A predilection for the general schools rather than the special ones established for the race was observable. 9,360 children of the depressed castes of Hindus and 5,844 of the aboriginal or hill tribes, or 1,091 and 1,039 more respectively than in the previous year, attended public institutions.

Education of
Special Classes.

The various training colleges and schools for school masters and mistresses were maintained in a state of efficiency. The newly established Barton Female Training College at Rájkot made decided progress, and was patronized by the Chiefs of Káthiáwár, whose interest in the institution may be surmised from the fact that the annual prizes were distributed by the Jámái Sáhib of Vánkánér in the presence of 200 of the leading ladies of Rájkot. The training school at Hyderabad was raised to the rank of a college. There was again a decline in the attendance at the medical schools at Poona, Ahmedabad and Hyderabad, which has been made the subject of special enquiry. The number of students in the Bombay Veterinary College rose to 80, including 21 sent by Native States, who evince a laudable interest in veterinary instruction. The duties connected with the repression of cattle-disease were, as in the previous year, undertaken by the college. The arrangements connected with the formation of the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, the progress of the scheme regarding which was described in the last report were nearly completed, the Ripon Fund Committee having

Special instruction.

agreed to transfer the funds held by it to the Institute on condition that the latter should comprise a department designated the Ripon Textile School, and a home for the Institute having, as already stated, been provided through the liberality of Sir Dinsháh Mánekji Petit. The programme of the Institute comprehends, for the present, instruction in machine drawing, the use of steam, theoretical and applied mechanics, and certain branches of physics; and the object aimed at is quite as much to train the mind in habits of exact reasoning as to store it with information of scientific and practical value. Of the other institutions for special instruction, 3 small industrial schools started at Moro, Naushahro and Kandháro in the Hyderabad District through the efforts of Khán Bahádúr Kádirdád Khán deserve mention. These institutions provide a good training in the staple industries of the district, and keep touch with the local market by the sale of the work turned out. The people have subscribed for the schools, and the local landed gentry have not only volunteered their support, but undertaken to serve on the school committees. A similar school was started at Umáerkot, in the Thar and Párkar district, with private subscriptions.

Miscellaneous
educational
matters.

The North-East Educational Division was abolished during the year. The standards for primary instruction were revised and adapted more largely to popular requirements. The University School Final Examination, when passed with a vernacular language as the second compulsory subject and certain specified optional subjects, was recognized as qualifying for employment in the lower grades of the revenue and judicial branches of the public service, and the Government of India Final Examination for European schools when passed with one of the vernacular languages as the second language or an optional subject was similarly recognized. 66 scholarships worth Rs. 5 each per mensem, tenable for four years in secondary and special schools, were offered by Government annually for competition in the different districts of the Presidency, including Bombay, the first scholarship in each district being open to general competition and the second and third reserved for candidates belonging to classes backward in English education, especially Mahomedans.

Literature and
the Press

The total number of publications registered in 1887 was 1,793, or 11 less than in the previous year. In quality as well as in quantity the literature of the year was barely on a footing of equality with that of its predecessor. The important subjects of *Arts and Science* were still neglected. Light literature and religion received much attention as usual, and some was paid to the questions of the day regarding the marriageable age, and the position and rights of Hindu women. 67 of the total number of publications were produced by graduates of the University. The tone of the publications was on the whole unobjectionable, although a few indecent songs, and a series of letters alleged to have been written by Nána Farnavis charging the English with treachery, and published with an introduction describing them as a designing race whose rule had made the natives vicious and poverty-stricken, were observable in a mass of pious literature and Jubilee accounts of Her Imperial Majesty's life and reign.

The number of newspapers published by natives of India increased from 111 to 118 and that of periodicals diminished from 37 to 11. Many of the newspapers were, however, conducted by persons who were hardly by their education, their character, their social position, or their antecedents, qualified to undertake the responsible duties of journalists. The Jubilee evoked warm sentiments of loyalty and affection towards the Sovereign, which found expression in the Press. The constitution of the Public Service Commission and the manner in which it performed its work gave satisfaction on the whole. Innumerable suggestions for retrenchment without much attention to figures or detail were evoked by the appointment of the Finance Committee, prominent among them

being the proposal to reduce the number and salaries of European officers. The recommendations of the Forest Commission were approved. The old charge that the ábkári policy of Government tended to the spread of drunkenness was reiterated. His Excellency the Governor's speech at the opening of the Sind College was applauded, but the proposal to transfer the management of the Dekkhan College to private agency gave rise to bitter writing. The affairs of Native States engaged the usual share of attention.

The number of resident members of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society declined from 157 to 140; that of non-resident members was 65, against 66 in 1886. The library was enriched with a greater number of books than in the previous year, and the Society received, as usual, presents of coins from the Government for its numismatic collection. A cave at Elephanta was excavated under the Society's auspices, and its journal contained some papers which, besides being learned as usual, were of great interest to the public. The number of members of the Sassoon Mechanics' Institute again exhibited a large decline, attributable to the attractions of new libraries. A large number of books was added to the library of the Institute, and four very interesting lectures, which were largely attended by the public, were delivered. Some progress was made with the augmentation of the Lecture Hall Building Fund. The Gujaráti Dnyán Prasárák Mandli also did very useful work in the propagation of knowledge. Seven interesting lectures on subjects connected with literature, science and art were delivered in the vernacular under its auspices, and were well attended by the public. The work done by the Bombay Medical and Physical Society showed that the medical profession of Bombay had kept pace with the most advanced practice and literature of the day.

The Victoria and Albert Museum at Bombay was originally intended to be an economic and not a natural history museum. The present Curator, Dr. D. Macdonald, has, however, added to it a natural history division, and brought it to as high a stage of perfection as was possible with the scanty funds at his disposal. This division as well as the anthropological division received numerous valuable additions during the year 1887-88, the chief of which was the collection of Indian drugs and economic products made by the Government of Bombay in conjunction with the Government of India for the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. The museum was open to the public for 313 days against 295 in 1886-87, and was visited by 586,228 persons against 674,327 in the previous year. The decrease was attributable to certain changes in the hours at which the museum was kept open.

The Archaeological Survey of Western India devoted its attention almost exclusively to the city and suburbs of Bijápur and the surrounding villages, which abound in the magnificent monuments of the Adil Sháhi kings and their nobles. Drawings were made and photographs taken of these remains so far as they have escaped the ravages of time and the destructive hands of the Maráthás, and impressions were obtained of the inscriptions which were found among them in Arabic, Persian, Devanágari and Kánarese. The tombs and mosques, palaces and fortifications, water-works and wells which form these remains, unrivalled throughout Western India by any other relics of Muhammadan power save those at Ahmedabad, all underwent a careful research, and materials were collected for an exhaustive account of the archæology and architecture of Bijapur. The newly excavated cave at Elephanta was also reported upon by the Survey, Buddhistic remains near the Borivli Railway station in Sálsette were inspected, and the groups of dolmens near the village of Konnur, in the Dhárwár District, reported upon. The close of the year found the Survey engaged in preparing

the manuscript of a report on the Chálukyan architecture of the Dhárwár district

Ecclesiastical.

The permanent strength of the ecclesiastical establishment of the Established Church of England was the same in 1887-88 as in the preceding year, but owing to incidental circumstances the effective strength could not be maintained as steadily as was to be desired. The church at Kolhápúr was consecrated during the year. The strength of the Established Church of Scotland was the same as in previous years.

Stationery

The Stationery Department received during 1887-88 European stores worth Rs. 1,86,985, and Indian stores worth Rs. 1,31,715, and issued the former to the value of Rs. 1,66,050, and the latter to that of Rs. 1,26,477. The substitution of country-made for European articles was continued with great advantage. Blue-black ink, of which a dozen bottles procured from Europe used to cost Rs. 9-7-2, was purchased during the year at Rs. 5-8-0 for the same quantity, and arrangements have been made since the close of the year to obtain it at the still lower rate of Rs. 2-14-0 from a new firm of manufacturers—Messrs. Sharafah and Hormasji of Bombay. The opening of the Reay Mills at Poona rendered it possible to direct the purchase of paper of a variety of kinds—chiefly for printing and packing purposes—from them to the estimated yearly value of Rs. 1,79,815. The value of the country-made stationery substituted during the year for stationery of European manufacture was Rs. 1,21,988 against Rs. 82,946 in 1886-87, and Rs. 69,625 in 1885-86; and the resulting gain to Government was Rs. 58,291 against Rs. 42,649 in the previous year, and Rs. 10,555 in the year before that.

Government
Printing Presses

The year's operations of the Government Central Press at Bombay showed a net profit of Rs. 36,886, those of the Commissioner in Sind's Press at Karáchi of Rs. 4,705, and those of the Government Photozincographic Office at Poona of Rs. 19,541. The rates of printing charged by the Central Press were lowered during the year, and the charge for the detention of proof-sheets abolished. A committee was appointed to consider and report upon the comparative cost of printing at the Press and in the open market, and, after full consideration of the report of the committee, Government resolved upon the retention of the Press as a measure conducive to economy. The Press was transferred, immediately after the close of the year, to the Hydraulic Press building already referred to above.