

Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1884-85.

- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
- II.—Coasting Trade.
- III.—Trans-Frontier Trade.

BY

J. E. O'CONNOR,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SIMLA:

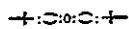
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1885.

SIMLA :

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

CONTENTS.



FOREIGN SEABORNE TRADE.

GENERAL.

	PARAS.	PAGES.
Trade of 1884-85—less than that of the previous year; proportion of increase or decrease in each year compared with the preceding year from 1879-80 to 1884-85; aggregate trade of the last six years; comparative development of trade in last twelve years of India, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, and the United States; proportion of trade per head of population in each of these countries and in China; excess of exports over imports in Indian trade during the last six years; Secretary of State's drawings	1—8	1—5

GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS.

Imports larger than in 1883-84, half the value being on account of railway material	9—10	5—6
---	------	-----

TRADE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

Proportion of trade by this route to the total import and export trade in the last two years; share in this proportion of England, France, Austrin, and Italy	11	6
---	----	---

SHIPPING.

Number and tonnage during each of the last six years; average capacity of vessels again increased; entrances and clearances of sailing vessels and steamers, with cargoes and in ballast; steamers through the Canal; movement of shipping, nationalities of vessels; British and British Indian, Foreign; steamers and sailing vessels; native craft; share of each province in movement of shipping	12—21	6—12
---	-------	------

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Gross and net revenue—import and export duties	22	12—13
--	----	-------

GOLD AND SILVER.

Imports of gold smaller and exports larger than in 1883-84; imports of silver larger than in any year since 1879-80, exports larger than in 1883-84; value of gold and silver left in the country; Secretary of State's drawings; rates of exchange in 1883-84 and 1884-85 shew a continuous decline in 1884-85	23—25	13—14
---	-------	-------

PROVINCIAL TRADE.

Value of imports and exports; trade of Bengal decreased, of Bombay increased, diversion of trade from Bengal to Bombay; trade of British Burma decreased in consequence of restriction in exports of rice	26	15
Share of trade and shipping, foreign and coasting, of each of the ten largest ports in India; trade and shipping of the five principal ports in 1883-84 and 1884-85	27—29	16—19

TRADE WITH COUNTRIES.

Proportion of trade with each of the principal countries during last three years; rate of growth of trade with the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, and the United States, in last ten years	30—32	19—21
---	-------	-------

IMPORT TRADE.

	PARAS.	PAGES.
Value of trade for the last five years	33	21
Statement shewing the quantities of principal articles with their increase or decrease in 1884-85	34	21
Proportion of value of articles which increased or decreased in quantity to the total value of imports	35	22
Table of imports in 1884-85 shewing in each case whether fluctuations in value were caused by increased or diminished quantities imported, or by a rise or fall in prices	36	22—23
Classification of articles; value of trade for the last five years under each of the five classes	37	23
I.—Animals, living—Horses and other animals.		
II.—Articles of food and drink—		
Coffee, fruits and vegetables, liquors, provisions, salt, spices, sugar, and tea	38—45	24—28
III.—Raw materials—principal articles—		
Coal, silk, precious stones and pearls, ivory, cotton, and wool	46—52	28—29
IV.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured—		
Yarns and textile fabrics—cotton twist and piece goods, silk goods, woollen goods	53—56	30—32
Metals and manufactures of metal—copper, iron, hardware and cutlery	57—59	32—33
Machinery and millwork	60	33
Railway plant and rolling stock	61	33
Apparel	62	33—34
Chemical products, drugs, &c.	63	34—35
Minor articles—agricultural implements, arms, works of art, books, building materials, corals, beads and false pearls, glassware, matches, paints, paper, stationery, printing materials, ships—parts of, umbrellas, articles imported by post	64	35—37
V.—Oils—chiefly kerosine	65	37

RE-EXPORT TRADE.

Total value during last six years of trade with the principal countries, and of principal articles exported	66	37—38
---	----	-------

EXPORTS—INDIAN MERCHANDISE.

Value of trade for the last five years	67	38
Statement shewing the quantities of principal articles exported; increase or decrease in 1884-85	68—69	39
Proportion of value of articles which increased or decreased in quantity to the total value of exports	70	39—40
Table of exports in 1884-85 shewing in each case whether fluctuations in value were caused by increased or diminished quantities exported, or by a rise or fall in prices	71	40

	PARLS.	PAGE.
Classification of articles, as in imports; value of trade for the last five years under each of the five classes	72	40—41
I.—Animals, living—Horses and other animals	73	41
II.—Articles of food and drink—		
Coffee, fruits, grain and pulse—gram, oats, rice, wheat, pulse, rice flour, jowari and bajra; provisions, spices, sugar, tea	74—83	41—48
III.—Raw materials and unmanufactured articles—		
Cotton; hides and skins; jute; saltpetre; seeds—linseed, rape seed, til or jinjili, poppy, earthnuts, castor; silk, teak wood, wool	84—93	48—56
IV.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured	94	56
Cotton yarn, cotton cloth, jute manufactures, silk goods, woollen goods	95—98	56—60
Opium, tobacco, drugs and medicines	99—101	60
Dyes and tans—indigo, cutch, myrabolams, turmeric	102	61—62
Hides and skins, dressed or tanned, lac, coir goods	103—105	62
V.—Oils:—principally castor and cocoanut	106	62

COASTING TRADE.

Value of trade—imports and exports; value of Indian merchandise decreased and of foreign merchandise increased in 1884-85		
Principal articles—apparel; coal; coffee; coir; cotton; cotton twist and piece goods; drugs and medicines; dyes—indigo, myrabolams; fruits; grain and pulse—gram, jowari and bajra, pulse, rice, paddy, wheat, other grains; cutch; hides and skins; jute; gunny bags; liquors; metals; oils; provisions; salt; seeds—castor, til; silk and silk goods; spices—betelnuts, cardamoms, ginger, pepper; sugar; tea; tobacco and cigars; teakwood; wool, woollen goods	107	63—68
Coasting shipping	108	68

FRONTIER TRADE.

Introductory; aggregate value of trade, imports and exports, during the last three years; increase in the year due to increased exports, by the Sindh-Peshin State Railway, of railway material chiefly; no real increase in ordinary trade	1—3	69
Countries with which trade is carried on; value of their import and export trade for the last two years	4—5	69—71
Principal countries the trade with which increased, and principal articles of trade with them		
Kashmir:—imports from—drugs, charas, fruit and nuts, wheat, rice, other grains, ghi, hides and skins, raw silk, timber, woollen goods—shawls		
—Exports to—cotton twist and piece goods; indigo, turmeric; metals and metalware, salt, sugar, tea		
Upper Burma:—imports from—cattle, raw cotton, cutch, hides, vegetables and mineral oil, silk goods, sugar, teakwood:—exports to—cotton twist and piece goods, rice, <i>naggi</i> , salted-fish, salt, betelnuts, raw silk, silk goods, woollen goods		

	PARAS.	PAGES.
Trans-frontier by Sindh-Peshin State Railway :—imports from—fruits, grain, wool :—exports to—railway material, gunny bags, food-grains, liquors, oils, ghi, sugar, tea, tobacco, cotton piece goods .	6—8	71—72
Countries the trade with which declined—		
Southern Afghanistan :—decrease due to smaller imports of fruits, grains, raw wool from Kandahar, Las Beyla and Kholat; exports to Kandahar diverted from the caravan routes to the railway; principal exports—cotton piece goods, indigo, sugar		
Kabul :—decrease much more in exports than imports; causes of decrease in exports to Kabul :—principal imports from—horses, drugs, madder, fruits, ghi, raw silk, silk goods, tobacco, wool :—principal exports to—cotton piece goods, indigo, sugar, tea, metals		
Nepal :—trade with this country crosses the borders of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces :—value of trade, imports and exports, with both provinces during the last two years		
Principal imports into Bengal—fibres, fruit, gram, pulse, opium, provisions :—into the North-Western Provinces—horses, cattle, rice, ghi, oilseeds, spices, timber		
Principal exports to Nepal : cotton piece goods, metals, provisions, spices, sugar, salt, fruits, tobacco, woollen goods	9—11	72—74
Other countries—Ladakh, Thibet, Karennee, Zimmé, Siam, Northern and Southern Shan States	12—14	74—75

REVIEW
OF THE
ACCOUNTS OF THE SEA-BORNE TRADE
OF
BRITISH INDIA

For the official year ending 31st March 1885.

BY

J. E. O'CONNOR,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce.

Simla, August 15, 1885.

A YEAR of almost universal depression in trade, accompanied by an unusually low range of prices in most staple commodities, might have been expected to leave its mark on the record of the trade of India as it has on the record of the trade of most other countries. The trade of the country did not in fact equal in dimensions that of the preceding year, but the decline was small, amounting to little more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the aggregate value of the year's transactions.

2. The figures of the trade for the last six years stand thus :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Increase or decrease on previous year's trade.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1879-80	51,39,75,610	69,10,19,860	1,20,49,95,470	+ 11·15%
1880-81	59,29,70,482	75,94,06,850	1,35,23,77,332	+ 12·23%
1881-82	58,31,48,651	82,99,93,464	1,41,31,42,115	+ 4·49%
1882-83	63,45,61,977	84,38,17,237	1,47,83,79,214	+ 4·62%
1883-84	65,58,18,545	89,01,34,434	1,54,68,47,224	+ 4·63%
1884-85	67,02,91,258	84,98,73,517	1,52,11,60,171	— 1·66%

3. The first of these years succeeded a year of depressed trade, the result of famine, and in that and the following year there was considerable commercial activity in supplying the needs of people who found themselves after seasons of distress in a position to buy clothing, metalware, and other imported merchandise. At the same time good harvests in India combined with a low range of exchange and freights, and constantly increasing railway mileage, permitted a great development of the export trade in wheat,

rice, and seeds. During the remaining three years the volume of trade expanded steadily, though much less rapidly. Last year saw this progress temporarily interrupted by a considerable restriction in the export trade, chiefly in exports of Indian production and manufacture, although the re-export trade also exhibits smaller dimensions than in the preceding year. The value of Indian merchandise exported diminished by about 477½ lakhs, being more than 5½ per cent. less than in 1883-84. Out of this sum nearly 374 lakhs represent the extent of the decline in the rice and wheat trade, which accounts for nearly 78 per cent. of the whole decrease in the value of the export trade. If to this item is added a decline of 109½ lakhs in the exports of raw cotton the whole decrease in the export trade is more than accounted for. There was, indeed, a contraction of greater or less extent in some other important staples of the Indian export trade, such for instance as coffee, tea, indigo, opium, silk, and sugar, but in none was there a restriction at all approaching that which occurred in rice, wheat, and cotton, and these smaller decreases were more than balanced by an expansion of trade in such items as cotton yarn and piece-goods, hides and skins, jute and gunny bags, and seeds. Although however the trade was slightly less than that of 1883-84 it was 26 per cent. in excess of that of 1879-80, six years previously.

4. Even such a small decline as 1½ per cent. in the volume of Indian trade is unpleasing to record, interrupting as it does a hitherto continuous record of expanding trade since the termination of the famine of 1877 and 1878. India however only shared in common with most other countries a depression of trade which in England as well as elsewhere has manifested itself much more severely than in this country. If we look back over a series of years we shall find that the trade of this country has expanded far more rapidly than that of either England, France, Germany, Italy, or the United States. The table below, which shews the imports and exports of merchandise for each of these countries (the figures for exports being exclusive of the re-export, trade), may be of interest in this connection.

000s omitted.

Year.	ENGLAND.			FRANCE.			GERMANY.			ITALY.			UNITED STATES.			BRITISH INDIA.			
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Official year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£
1873 . . .	871,297	255,165	626,452	143,192	151,492	293,684	187,810	115,090	302,900	50,447	45,258	95,703	133,778	105,215	238,993	(1873-74)	31,620	53,114	84,734
1874 . . .	970,063	230,558	609,041	140,309	148,044	288,353	180,235	117,055	297,890	51,826	89,129	90,054	118,209	118,032	236,811	(1874-75)	31,645	51,501	83,146
1875 . . .	873,040	223,406	697,406	141,468	151,004	296,372	176,500	124,750	301,310	48,277	40,802	69,169	111,043	101,017	213,060	(1875-76)	37,113	56,313	93,325
1876 . . .	875,165	200,639	675,704	159,536	143,024	302,560	100,105	127,885	317,490	52,283	48,340	100,623	95,988	106,496	205,484	(1876-77)	35,367	58,030	94,297
1877 . . .	891,419	199,843	693,262	146,702	137,452	284,244	188,710	138,120	326,830	45,603	37,359	83,021	94,026	122,849	216,874	(1877-78)	39,326	63,144	102,470
1878 . . .	869,771	192,849	661,020	167,048	127,188	294,236	175,685	144,957	320,042	42,358	39,044	83,302	91,052	141,814	232,866	(1878-79)	36,580	58,708	95,274
1879 . . .	862,092	191,532	654,524	183,808	120,252	313,000	188,070	138,785	327,455	40,881	42,870	92,751	92,870	145,488	238,358	(1879-80)	39,742	64,051	104,003
1880 . . .	411,230	323,060	634,290	201,328	138,716	340,044	141,035	144,770	285,805	47,447	44,139	91,586	130,157	171,656	310,812	(1880-81)	50,309	71,074	122,283
1881 . . .	507,022	234,023	631,045	194,536	143,460	338,096	148,150	148,850	297,000	49,548	46,574	96,122	133,859	184,151	318,010	(1881-82)	46,093	70,255	120,247
1882 . . .	413,020	241,467	654,487	192,872	142,976	335,848	156,475	150,525	310,000	40,030	45,983	95,022	150,067	152,758	303,725	(1882-83)	50,003	60,508	110,601
1883 . . .	426,892	239,799	666,091	192,172	138,975	331,147	163,185	163,010	326,795	51,448	47,264	98,712	150,663	167,546	318,209	(1883-84)	52,704	65,009	117,713
1884 . . .	859,775	232,028	622,703	181,039	134,004	315,043	...	...	...	...	...	...	139,104	151,034	290,138	(1884-85)	53,140	60,313	113,453
Percentage of increase or decrease in 1884 compared with 1873 . . .	+4'08	-8'71	-0'6	+27'32	-11'54	+7'27	-13'11*	+43'16*	+7'80*	+1'08*	+4'44*	+3'14*	+3'08	+43'55	+21'4		+68'04	+51'21	+57'49

* On 1883.

5. What this table shows is that the trade of—

England, between 1873 and 1884, decreased	0·6	per cent.
France, „ „ „ increased	7·27	„
Germany, between 1873 and 1883, increased	7·89	„
Italy, „ „ „ increased	3·14	„
United States, between 1873 and 1884, increased	21·4	„
India, between 1873-74 and 1884-85, increased	57·49	„

The figures for Germany and Italy for 1884 are not accessible to me as yet. If they could be referred to, it is probable that the increase of trade in the period taken would be somewhat less than what is shewn above. However, taking the figures as they stand, we find that the average annual increase of trade has been (England excluded, the trade having fallen off) :—

France, in 12 years	0·61	per cent.
Germany, in 11 years	0·72	„
Italy, in 11 years	0·28	„
United States, in 12 years	1·78	„
India, in 12 years	4·79	„

6. There is much cause for satisfaction in such a comparison. At the same time, when the figures of the trade of the different countries are brought together in this way, the small extent of the foreign trade of India relatively to its population must strike the enquirer. Assuming the population at 254 millions the trade of last year was at the rate of no more than about six rupees a head, or say twelve shillings, while in the United Kingdom, with about 35 million inhabitants, the trade represented 350 shillings a head; in France, with 37½ millions, 168 shillings a head; in Germany, with 45 millions, 145 shillings a head; in Italy, with 29 millions, 68 shillings a head; and in the United States, with 55 millions, 105 shillings a head.

7. If, however, we compare the foreign trade of India with that of China, the comparison is enormously in favour of India. The imports and exports of China (merchandise) are given in the Imperial Maritime Customs Report at:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1882	21,695,501	18,798,203	40,493,704
1883	20,537,650	19,596,856	40,134,506
1884	20,312,378	18,745,394	39,057,772

The population of China is generally estimated at between 300 and 400 millions. This is probably an exaggerated estimate, but assuming that it is equal to that of India, the trade of China was but little more than three shillings a head, or one-fourth that of India. A comparison with China is probably more appropriate than with any European country. China, it is true, does not possess the large population of Europeans who do so much to swell the volume of Indian trade, but after all due allowance is made on this and on other accounts, the external trade of China remains very much smaller than that of India.

8. Another feature which the figures of Indian trade present at the first glance to the observer is the marked preponderance of the value of exports

over imports. The excess of exports (merchandise and treasure) over the imports (merchandise and treasure) for the six years before mentioned has been—

	Rs.	
1879-80	16,42,61,126	} Government imports and exports are included in these totals.
1880-81	13,91,60,585	
1881-82	22,63,20,427	
1882-83	18,97,83,137	
1883-84	21,02,90,856	
1884-85	15,63,46,525	

The average annual excess in this period has been 18 crores and 10 lakhs. The drawings of the Secretary of State in Council Bills during the same period have been—

	£	s.	d.	Rs.
1879-80	15,261,810	@	1 7·961	= 18,34,99,544
1880-81	15,239,677	@	1 7·956	= 18,32,79,339
1881-82	18,412,429	@	1 7·895	= 22,19,14,197
1882-83	15,120,521	@	1 7·522	= 18,58,88,999
1883-84	17,599,905	@	1 7·536	= 21,62,13,821
1884-85	13,758,909	@	1 7·308	= 17,10,23,827

averaging £15,898,858, or Rs. 19,36,36,621 a year.

Government Transactions.

9. The imports and exports of stores and treasure on account of Government amounted to Rs. 2,70,11,746, which sum exceeded the totals of the transactions of the previous year by Rs. 4,21,880, or about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The imports however included those on account of the Eastern Bengal Railway from the 1st July 1884, when the line was taken over by the State and the stores imported for it were recorded under this head.

10. While the whole value of the stores imported is recorded as Rs. 2,55,37,608, about half of this sum (Rs. 1,23,74,623) stands for the value of railway plant and rolling stock, the total under this head being almost exactly the same as in 1883-84. The imports of railway material in 1872-73, thirteen years ago, were worth only a little more than $11\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs; the increase has therefore been just about eleven fold in this period. Telegraph material is represented by Rs. 18,80,131; beer by Rs. 8,85,149—a large sum considering the general introduction of Indian beer in the canteens of British Regiments; spirits stand for Rs. 5,37,618; machinery for Rs. 8,67,000; woollen goods stand for Rs. 9,23,289; paper represents a value of Rs. 13,71,095; metals (brass, iron, copper, and others) represent Rs. 13,48,437; arms and ammunition Rs. 7,00,521; boots and shoes, Rs. 6,92,329; hardware and cutlery, Rs. 5,71,598; apparel, Rs. 4,74,859; and coal and coke, Rs. 2,41,232. Altogether these items aggregate Rs. 1,04,23,258, and together with the sum against railway plant and rolling stock they are only 28 lakhs short of the whole value of all the stores imported. Speaking broadly, it may be said that for few of these items could goods made in India have been substituted: either they cannot be made of the quality required, or when they are so made or produced the stores are required at places so distant from the places of production and manufacture in India as to make competition with imported

goods impossible. It would seem from the experience which has been acquired during the last three years that the substitution of Indian for imported stores has approached its limit, and that any considerable further extension must wait for a material development of the industrial capacity of the country. In this connection, it is of interest to note that only 14 lbs. of quinine were imported by Government last year; four years ago Government was importing this drug at the rate of about 2,000 lbs. a year.

The imports of treasure and the exports of stores and treasure on account of Government are trifling, and call for no remarks.

Trade through the Suez Canal.

11. The proportion to the whole trade of that portion of it which was carried through the Canal was nearly the same last year as in 1883-84, namely, 65·6 per cent. as against 65·8 per cent. The value of the imports so carried was Rs. 53,93,80,958, being 77·51 per cent. of the whole: the proportion in 1883-84 was 78·01 per cent. The value of the export trade conveyed through the Canal was Rs. 47,60,20,177, or 55·85 per cent. of the whole: in 1883-84 the proportion was 56·49 per cent.

Of the whole value of the trade to and from India carried through the Canal, which was Rs. 1,01,54,01,135, the trade between England and India accounts for Rs. 77,29,59,803, being 76·12 per cent. The trade with France was Rs. 8,11,98,415 or only 8 per cent. of the whole; with Austria, Rs. 3,14,86,998 (3 per cent.); with Italy, Rs. 4,03,40,362 (3·97 per cent.). The traffic through the Canal with these four countries was thus 91·1 per cent. of the whole Canal traffic between India and all foreign countries.

Shipping.

12. The total number and tonnage of the shipping which entered and cleared at Indian ports from and to foreign countries, during each of the last six years, are given below:—

	Number.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	12,160	5,703,087	469
1880-81	12,305	6,469,036	526
1881-82	12,742	7,368,886	578
1882-83	11,715	7,071,884	604
1883-84	11,662	7,250,603	622
1884-85	10,338	6,649,770	643

The total number of vessels and aggregate tonnage decreased in the past year in correspondence with the decline of trade. The average capacity of each vessel again increased considerably, as it has been doing regularly in recent years. As stated in the review for 1883-84, the increase year after year in the size of vessels trading to India is remarkable. Every year the process goes on to replacing vessels by ships of larger capacity.

VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED.

13. The figures for vessels entered and cleared, which are given together in the foregoing paragraph, are shown separately in the following table:—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1879-80	6,972	2,763,621	6,088	2,939,466
1880-81	6,100	3,169,973	6,205	3,300,063
1881-82	6,460	3,632,248	6,282	3,736,638
1882-83	5,864	3,538,878	5,851	3,533,006
1883-84	5,812	3,632,305	5,850	3,618,298
1884-85	5,150	3,291,009	5,188	3,358,761

14. These tables include sailing vessels as well as steamers. The following figures, confined to steamers alone, shew the steady progress made during the past five years in the substitution of steamers for sailing vessels in the carrying trade between India and other countries. The percentage of steam tonnage to the total tonnage was 49 in 1879-80, 55 in 1880-81, 62 in 1881-82, 58 in 1882-83, 63 in 1883-84, and 65 in the past year.

	Steamers entered.		Steamers cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1879-80	1,199	1,375,001	1,240	1,445,906
1880-81	1,468	1,742,255	1,471	1,786,542
1881-82	1,829	2,263,604	1,859	2,310,872
1882-83	1,550	2,050,515	1,544	2,050,549
1883-84	1,620	2,294,310	1,603	2,277,232
1884-85	1,495	2,157,501	1,489	2,174,680

15. The following table contrasts the number of steamers and sailers which entered in 1877-78 with the number entered in 1884-85:—

	1877-78.						1884-85.					
	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
STEAM VESSELS, ENTERED—	970	1,124,040	163	141,641	1,133	1,265,687	1,223	1,606,072	272	351,420	1,495	2,157,501
SAILING VESSELS, ENTERED—	2,678	1,040,822	2,552	571,140	5,230	1,611,962	2,453	778,102	1,202	355,406	3,655	1,133,508

These figures show a large increase in the number and tonnage of steamers entered with cargoes, and an increase in the number and tonnage of those that brought no cargoes, mostly steamers that discharged coals at Aden or some other

place out of India and then came hither seeking cargo. The entries of sailing vessels shew a material reduction in both number and tonnage under both heads.

STEAMERS IN BALLAST.

16. Number and tonnage of steamers entering and leaving India without cargoes in the last six years :—

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1879-80	135	122,071	31	27,748
1880-81	189	199,274	51	51,054
1881-82	460	517,281	33	30,073
1882-83	404	485,848	56	49,371
1883-84	416	540,909	33	33,837
1884-85	272	351,429	44	61,171

In Bombay, 61 steamers entered in ballast as against 78 in the previous year, and 32 cleared in the same condition as compared with 17 in 1883-84. In Bengal, 29 steamers entered in ballast as against 80 in the previous year, while one left without a cargo in the past year, none having done so in 1883-84. In Burma, 90 steamers entered, and 5 left in ballast as compared with 136 and 2 in the previous year. In Madras, the numbers were 49 and 4 against 57 and 12 in 1883-84; and in Sindh, 43 steamers entered without cargoes, while 2 left in that condition, the entries in the previous year being 65 and the clearances also 2.

The proportion of clearances of steamers without cargoes to the whole number of steamers cleared was :—

1879-80	2.5 per cent.
1880-81	3.47 „
1881-82	1.78 „
1882-83	3.63 „
1883-84	2.06 „
1884-85	2.96 „

CANAL STEAMERS.

17. The following table shews the number and tonnage of steamers adopting the Suez Canal route, which entered at and cleared from Indian ports, with the percentage of the steam tonnage passing through the Canal to the total steam tonnage engaged in the Indian trade with foreign countries :—

	Entries <i>cid</i> Suez Canal.		Clearances <i>cid</i> Suez Canal.		Total entries and clearances <i>cid</i> Suez Canal.		Percentage to total steam-tonnage.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
1879-80	511	780,102	556	829,667	1,067	1,609,769	57
1880-81	686	1,018,103	773	1,115,769	1,459	2,133,872	60
1881-82	929	1,370,242	1,060	1,517,746	1,989	2,887,988	63
1882-83	711	1,152,440	934	1,433,480	1,645	2,585,920	63
1883-84	839	1,405,007	1,091	1,746,785	1,930	3,151,792	69
1884-85	726	1,264,105	923	1,553,446	1,649	2,817,551	65

MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

18. The movement of shipping during the past three years between India and the principal countries with which trade is carried on is shewn in the following table, the figures representing entries and clearances combined :—

	1881-82.		1882-83.		1883-84.		1884-85.	
	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.
BRITISH POSSESSIONS—								
United Kingdom	2,231	3,071,738	2,082	2,922,798	2,003	2,992,915	1,804	2,908,987
Aden	112	83,204	92	98,510	93	106,002	86	95,163
Australia	92	133,989	165	201,224	147	188,039	78	109,346
West Indies	16	11,985	21	16,580	12	10,515	12	9,905
Ceylon	5,513	762,328	4,903	708,637	5,091	699,998	4,589	677,597
Cape of Good Hope	137	94,413	175	161,865	120	98,840	48	36,235
China—Hong-Kong	99	133,711	118	168,865	124	186,442	134	203,474
Mauritius	255	190,375	198	163,164	327	192,010	229	201,678
Straits Settlements	945	750,319	730	689,653	620	519,869	609	522,197
Natal	66	35,861	89	51,480	81	53,434	65	31,501
FOREIGN COUNTRIES—								
Austria	80	132,987	92	150,358	99	158,977	78	130,477
Belgium	74	92,761	63	83,691	97	151,127	62	101,034
France	329	383,977	255	356,987	272	445,504	205	315,269
Germany	36	37,661	34	33,842	31	33,375	25	28,852
Holland	27	32,571	22	27,179	13	15,558	16	21,518
Italy	100	144,421	68	106,933	54	98,020	52	96,114
Eastern Coast of Africa	178	66,138	165	62,780	173	75,875	182	83,135
Egypt	290	350,212	175	229,860	250	327,952	139	193,140
United States	110	128,329	156	196,306	124	164,966	176	243,090
Arabia	496	139,961	538	131,515	467	110,725	451	113,655
China—Treaty Ports	53	91,099	49	93,235	37	75,933	39	80,600
Persia	353	105,610	316	106,789	321	117,252	280	119,430
Turkey in Asia	347	114,421	307	53,789	241	51,294	274	60,342

The tonnage employed in the trade with the United Kingdom was 46 per cent. of the whole in 1880-81, 42 per cent. in 1881-82, 41 per cent. in 1882-83 and 1883-84, and in the past year 44 per cent. For the last four years the quantity of tonnage in the trade with the United Kingdom has shewn if anything a tendency to decline.

NATIONALITIES OF VESSELS.

19. The figures for vessels under British and British Indian registry are given below :—

	British.			British Indian.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	3,828	4,403,260	1,150	3,028	401,261	133
1880-81	4,368	5,119,860	1,172	2,866	408,587	142
1881-82	4,861	5,856,677	1,205	2,868	411,490	143
1882-83	4,257	5,366,770	1,261	2,525	361,180	143
1883-84	4,196	5,568,676	1,327	2,601	347,849	134
1884-85	3,791	5,208,966	1,374	2,345	287,326	123

The proportion of British tonnage to the total tonnage of the year was 79.14 per cent. in 1880-81, 79.48 per cent. in 1881-82, 75.89 per cent. in 1882-83 76.8 in 1883-84, and 78.3 last year; and of British Indian tonnage for the same period 6.32, 5.58, 5.11, 4.8, and 4.3 per cent. respectively.

Foreign shipping represented of the aggregate tonnage :—

in 1879-80	12.06 per cent.
1880-81	11.5 „
1881-82	12.49 „
1882-83	16.52 „
1883-84	16 „
1884-85	15.15 „

The number and tonnage of the foreign vessels employed in the trade in each of the last five years are given below :—

	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	1,233	687,862	559
1880-81	1,355	743,742	549
1881-82	1,599	920,510	576
1882-83	1,834	1,168,293	637
1883-84	1,701	1,162,022	683
1884-85	1,551	1,007,074	650

The proportion of steamers to sailing vessels in the shipping of foreign nationalities as shewn below gives a percentage of steam tonnage to total tonnage of 33 in 1879-80, 54 in 1883-84, and 56 in 1884-85.

	Steamers.		Sailing vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1879-80	191	226,813	1,012	461,049
1880-81	198	239,250	1,157	504,192
1881-82	219	315,871	1,350	604,639
1882-83	341	475,431	1,493	692,862
1883-84	391	623,113	1,310	538,900
1884-85	370	568,195	1,181	439,179

The total number and tonnage of the shipping of the principal nationalities, other than British, engaged in the trade in the past year as compared with the four preceding years, are shewn in the following table:—

		1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.
Austrian	{ No.	67	86	97	89	78
	{ Tons	90,419	112,235	138,215	130,071	136,942
Belgian	{ No.	5	16	3	12	2
	{ Tons	3,177	20,291	3,551	15,928	2,646
Dutch	{ No.	3	13	5	39	92
	{ Tons	3,126	9,699	7,655	42,241	95,846
French	{ No.	228	226	219	231	183
	{ Tons	130,511	140,843	191,084	286,683	212,039
German	{ No.	118	124	238	178	156
	{ Tons	110,412	112,329	213,495	163,081	160,771
Italian	{ No.	132	247	281	217	107
	{ Tons	137,182	230,643	281,454	218,608	143,904
Norwegian	{ No.	58	80	130	74	75
	{ Tons	51,568	74,544	107,538	67,248	63,402
Russian	{ No.	4	12	17	11	3
	{ Tons	3,136	12,502	13,512	10,275	2,628
Swedish	{ No.	13	19	36	34	10
	{ Tons	5,527	8,958	21,045	18,728	4,069
American	{ No.	85	74	73	44	52
	{ Tons	107,711	87,346	85,452	52,033	64,538
Arab	{ No.	543	584	615	616	663
	{ Tons	76,813	85,853	79,045	102,393	102,215
Turkish	{ No.	23	20	12	11	20
	{ Tons	17,416	14,876	10,315	9,041	9,053

NATIVE CRAFT.

20. The number and tonnage of native craft entered and cleared in each of the last six years are given below; the proportion to the total tonnage being—

3.7 in 1879-80.
 3 in 1880-81.
 2.45 in 1881-82.
 2.48 in 1882-83.
 2.37 in 1883-84.
 2.19 in 1884-85.

	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	4,071	210,704	52
1880-81	3,716	196,847	53
1881-82	3,414	180,299	53
1882-83	3,099	175,632	57
1883-84	3,164	172,056	54
1884-85	2,651	145,804	55

SHARE OF EACH PROVINCE IN MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

21. The following table shews the share of each of the maritime provinces of India in the movement of shipping with cargoes for the last six years:—

		Vessels.	Tons.
BENGAL	1879-80	1,444	1,762,589
	1880-81	1,549	1,880,142
	1881-82	1,680	2,092,975
	1882-83	1,348	1,701,359
	1883-84	1,309	1,706,140
	1884-85	1,148	1,541,764
BOMBAY	1879-80	1,661	1,212,430
	1880-81	1,981	1,567,160
	1881-82	2,171	1,842,082
	1882-83	1,967	1,775,914
	1883-84	2,030	2,055,149
	1884-85	1,947	2,027,871
SINDH	1879-80	852	264,275
	1880-81	716	302,230
	1881-82	645	217,872
	1882-83	774	291,162
	1883-84	733	352,425
	1884-85	742	384,769
MADRAS	1879-80	3,906	860,650
	1880-81	3,683	906,241
	1881-82	3,756	927,851
	1882-83	3,443	916,082
	1883-84	3,917	1,082,878
	1884-85	3,478	1,042,727
BRITISH BURMA	1879-80	1,133	960,702
	1880-81	1,194	1,012,130
	1881-82	1,351	1,118,763
	1882-83	1,334	1,136,718
	1883-84	989	868,345
	1884-85	910	820,376

Customs Revenue.

22. The gross sum received on imports since 1882-83, in the beginning of which year the import duties were abolished on all articles but salt and those shewn below, was as follows:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arms and ammunition	1,08,738	1,47,004	1,49,940
Malt liquor	72,933	78,575	68,090
Spirits	35,86,239	35,52,100	34,49,926
Wines, liqueurs, &c.	5,66,914	5,70,913	4,96,580
Opium	2,805	2,093	2,863
Imports by post, &c.	23,430	16,914	562
Total	43 11,059	43,67,599	41,65,961

Salt is excluded from this account, as it is separately treated as Salt Revenue. The net revenue of each of these years, after deduction of refunds and drawbacks, amounted to:—

Rs.
40,95,915
43,12,113
40,95,642

The revenue was thus just on a level with that of 1882-83 and 5 per cent. below that of 1883-84. It will be observed that a decline occurred in each of the items from which the liquor revenue is derived, the revenue from wines and liqueurs having fallen 13 per cent., spirits not quite 3 per cent., and malt liquor close on 16 per cent.

The export duty on rice for the same period of three years has been:—

Gross.	Net.
Rs.	Rs.
83,19,910	80,84,844
71,88,762	69,63,791
58,83,936	57,06,391

So that in the second of these three years, the duty was less than in the first year by nearly 14 per cent. (13·8), and last year there was a further decline on the reduced revenue of the year before it of as much as 18 per cent. Last year's revenue was 29 per cent. less than that of 1882-83. The rice trade has passed through two most unfortunate years, the outcome of reckless speculation and of low prices for this as for all other grains.

Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion.

23. Gold was imported to a smaller extent last year than in 1883-84, the value being Rs. 4,77,81,724 against Rs. 5,46,94,568, which makes a difference of Rs. 69,12,844 or about 12½ per cent. It was exported, on the other hand, in larger quantity, the shipments amounting to Rs. 10,62,359 against Rs. 69,517. In 1882-83 the exports were larger than last year, amounting to Rs. 14,73,611. The reduced imports must, it would seem, be attributed to the unprofitable condition of trade during the year, a smaller surplus than usual being left to the producing and commercial classes to be hoarded in gold. The net imports of gold, exports being deducted, for the last six years stand thus:—

	Rs.
1879-80	1,75,05,036
1880-81	3,65,51,990
1881-82	4,84,39,842
1882-83	4,93,08,715
1883-84	5,46,25,051
1884-85	4,67,19,365
	<hr/>
	25,31,49,999

making a total quantity of gold absorbed in the country and withdrawn from circulation in the currency of the world of about 25½ crores, or at the average

yearly rate of nearly 422 lakhs of rupees, representing at an exchange of 19*d.* to the rupee about £3,310,000 a year, and more than 20 millions sterling in the six years.

24. Silver was imported in much larger quantity than in 1883-84:—

	Rs.
Imports in 1883-84	7,40,85,065
„ „ 1884-85	9,11,00,254

The excess was Rs. 1,70,15,189, or about 23 per cent. The quantity was much larger than in any year since 1879-80, this heavy import being due to the restriction of the drawings on Council Bills. The exports too were greatly in excess of those of 1883-84, amounting to Rs. 1,86,43,941 against Rs. 1,00,33,554. Large sums were sent to Ceylon after the failure of the Oriental Bank. The exports to that island were 90·8 lakhs, more than double those of the previous year, and the imports thence were smaller, only 8½ lakhs against about 11 lakhs. The net imports of silver, exports being deducted, for the last six years stand thus:—

	Rs.
1879-80	7,86,97,433
1880-81	3,89,25,741
1881-82	5,37,90,499
1882-83	7,48,02,269
1883-84	6,40,51,511
1884-85	7,24,56,313
	38,27,23,766

This makes a total of over 38½ crores for the six years, being at the rate of nearly 638 lakhs a year. At an exchange of 19*d.* this is equivalent to about £30,300,000 in the six years, or a little over five millions sterling a year on the average. The annual consumption of gold is thus in about the proportion of 3 to 5 of silver.

25. The drawings of the Secretary of State were:—

	£	Average exchange.	Equivalent in rupees.
1882-83	15,120,521	19·52 <i>d.</i>	18,58,88,999
1883-84	17,599,805	19·53 <i>d.</i>	21,62,13,821
1884-85	13,758,909	19·3 <i>d.</i>	17,10,23,827

The average monthly rate of exchange for Council Bills was in:—

	1883-84.	1884-85.
April	19·45	19·78
May	19·38	19·86
June	19·42	19·67
July	19·44	19·55
August	19·48	19·52
September	19·56	19·50
October	19·61	19·40
November	19·48	19·12
December	19·51	19·05
January	19·59	19·09
February	19·76	18·92
March	19·66	18·85

A continuously declining rate from the beginning to the end of the year.

Trade of each province.

26. In Bengal and British Burma the imports and exports of merchandise were materially smaller last year than in 1883-84, while Bombay and Sindh had an increased trade in both. In Madras there was a larger import and smaller export trade. The account stands thus for the last three years:—

Imported Merchandise.

	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	Increase or decrease compared with 1883-84.
	Rs.	R.	Rs.	
Bombay . . .	19,38,96,318	20,76,06,736	21,51,60,876	+ 3.6%
Bengal . . .	21,12,01,418	22,40,09,343	21,43,13,812	— 4.3%
Madras . . .	4,58,33,679	4,38,70,261	4,82,12,564	+ 9.9%
Burma . . .	3,72,30,134	3,80,71,982	3,69,53,834	— 2.9%
Sindh . . .	1,18,68,556	1,31,77,585	1,68,21,994	+ 19.8%

Exported Merchandise.

Bombay . . .	31,36,35,683	32,59,82,523	32,73,28,220	+ 0.37%
Bengal . . .	31,11,53,749	36,10,22,055	32,83,21,224	— 9 %
Madras . . .	8,23,96,212	9,11,68,601	8,43,26,731	— 7.8 %
Burma . . .	7,03,26,138	6,57,31,387	5,28,71,688	— 19.5 %
Sindh . . .	2,61,96,837	3,70,05,392	3,91,57,420	+ 5.8 %

The import trade of Bengal has not shewn any real sign of increase during the last five years, and although there was for three years following 1880-81 a substantial increase in the export trade, yet the trade of last year was smaller than it was five years ago. In Bombay, on the other hand, both the import and export trade have augmented steadily during the last five years, and a comparison of the figures of the trade of both provinces leads to the conclusion that the diversion of trade from Calcutta to Bombay, of which the mercantile community of the former port have often expressed apprehension, is in fact occurring. Last year the imports into Bombay were slightly larger than the imports into Bengal, while in former years they kept at about two crores below the level of Bengal; the export trade was only about 10 lakhs smaller, while in former years it was about three crores smaller.

In Burma the collapse of the rice trade, which resulted in many large failures, made its effects felt on the import as well on the export trade. In Madras, though there was an increase of imports, there was a larger decrease under exports. The imports and exports of Sindh have increased considerably, but the totals are still small.

It is unnecessary to make any particular reference to the imports of treasure in this connection. The bulk of this business was as usual conducted in Bombay.

27. The following table gives the figures of the trade and shipping of the ten chief ports of India during the year.

Ports.	TRADE.				NAVIGATION.						
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
BOMBAY—				BOMBAY—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	21,49,74,393	9,77,82,252	31,27,56,645	Entered ...	581	937,629	416	357,791	997	1,295,411	
Exports ...	32,73,22,433	7,26,19,336	39,99,41,874	Cleared ...	561	901,094	426	299,121	987	1,200,215	
Total ...	54,22,96,831	17,04,01,638	71,26,98,519	Total ...	1,142	1,838,714	842	656,912	1,984	2,495,626	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	10,70,14,619	17,42,467	10,87,57,086	Entered ...	399	117,155	51,145	873,311	51,538	990,466	
Exports ...	1,25,02,873	73,55,682	1,98,58,555	Cleared ...	313	67,509	11,419	350,478	11,730	417,987	
Total ...	11,95,17,492	90,98,149	12,86,15,641	Total ...	736	184,664	62,588	1,223,789	63,268	1,408,453	
GRAND TOTAL ...	66,18,14,373 43·51%	17,94,99,787 30·74%	84,13,14,100	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,878 22·87%	2,023,373 34·78%	63,430 29·05%	1,880,701 13·02%	65,306	3,904,079	
CALCUTTA—				CALCUTTA—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	21,37,00,551	3,47,94,792	24,84,95,343	Entered ...	145	259,304	607	542,384	752	801,688	
Exports ...	31,85,38,160	4,56,12,750	36,41,50,910	Cleared ...	197	336,385	607	537,129	804	873,505	
Total ...	53,22,38,711	8,04,07,542	61,26,46,253	Total ...	342	595,689	1,214	1,079,504	1,556	1,675,193	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	2,70,72,820	64,62,330	3,35,35,150	Entered ...	270	354,459	125	22,763	395	377,222	
Exports ...	30,11,442	47,21,037	77,32,479	Cleared ...	416	490,593	116	13,834	532	504,427	
Total ...	3,00,84,262	1,11,83,367	4,12,67,629	Total ...	686	845,052	241	36,597	927	881,649	
GRAND TOTAL ...	56,23,22,973 36·97%	9,15,90,909 15·68%	65,39,13,882	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,028 12·5%	1,440,741 24·77%	1,455 0·67%	1,116,101 7·73%	2,483	2,556,842	
RANGOON—				RANGOON—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	3,53,06,479	2,03,04,992	5,56,11,471	Entered ...	102	98,267	344	271,034	446	369,301	
Exports ...	3,54,58,743	1,19,37,565	4,73,96,308	Cleared ...	143	154,394	346	271,309	489	425,754	
Total ...	7,07,65,222	3,22,42,557	10,30,07,779	Total ...	245	252,661	690	542,343	935	795,055	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	2,80,243	32,53,473	35,33,721	Entered ...	98	113,685	188	15,279	286	128,958	
Exports ...	3,600	81,85,158	81,88,758	Cleared ...	153	170,895	123	12,091	277	182,986	
Total ...	2,83,843	1,17,38,631	1,20,22,479	Total ...	251	284,580	311	27,370	563	311,944	
GRAND TOTAL ...	7,10,49,970 4·67%	4,39,81,189 7·53%	11,50,30,258	GRAND TOTAL ...	499 6·07%	537,241 9·23%	1,091 0·46%	599,774 4·39%	1,509	1,106,999	
FORT ST. GEORGE—				FORT ST. GEORGE—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	4,23,52,235	1,15,57,405	5,39,09,640	Entered ...	123	231,033	257	431,033	380	662,131	
Exports ...	3,57,65,512	55,47,618	4,13,13,130	Cleared ...	99	197,676	213	493,769	312	696,785	
Total ...	7,81,17,747	1,71,05,023	9,52,22,770	Total ...	222	428,709	503	839,807	712	1,358,916	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	23,74,219	...	23,74,219	Entered ...	35	7,337	161	33,815	196	41,182	
Exports ...	21,82,811	11,27,000	33,09,811	Cleared ...	27	7,522	99	25,289	123	33,802	
Total ...	45,57,030	11,27,000	56,84,030	Total ...	62	14,859	260	60,125	322	74,984	
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,26,74,777 5·43%	1,82,32,023 3·12%	10,09,06,800	GRAND TOTAL ...	284 3·45%	443,568 7·62%	763 0·35%	899,932 6·23%	1,047	1,343,500	

PORTS.	TRADE.			NAVIGATION.						
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.	PORTS.	Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	KURRACHEE--	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
KARACHI--				Steam--						
<i>Merchandise--</i>				Entered ...	104	119,920	150	145,566	254	265,486
Imports ...	1,68,21,758	2,41,79,506	4,10,01,264	Cleared ...	176	234,353	143	119,581	319	353,934
Exports ...	3,91,53,998	97,75,540	4,89,29,448	Total ...	280	354,273	293	265,147	573	619,420
Total ...	5,59,75,696	3,39,55,046	8,99,30,712	Sailing--						
<i>Treasure--</i>				Entered ...	251	16,935	1,006	57,804	1,257	74,789
Imports ...	10,06,240	6,78,425	17,74,665	Cleared ...	208	13,373	922	55,716	1,130	69,089
Exports ...	6,11,749	98,500	7,10,249	Total ...	459	30,358	1,928	113,520	2,337	143,878
Total ...	17,07,989	7,76,925	24,84,914	GRAND TOTAL ...	739	384,631	2,221	378,667	2,960	763,298
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,76,83,655 3.79%	3,47,31,971 5.95%	9,24,15,626		8.98%	6.61%	1.02%	2.62%		
MOULMEIN--				MOULMIEN--						
<i>Merchandise--</i>				<i>Steam--</i>						
Imports ...	13,25,916	62,40,717	75,75,633	Entered ...	44	42,501	138	64,990	182	107,491
Exports ...	56,33,205	62,76,621	1,19,09,826	Cleared ...	41	44,768	176	107,383	217	152,151
Total ...	69,59,121	1,25,26,338	1,94,85,459	Total ...	85	87,269	314	172,373	399	259,642
<i>Treasure--</i>				Sailing--						
Imports ...	16,090	17,09,014	17,25,104	Entered ...	1	549	201	17,850	202	18,399
Exports ...	...	7,36,467	7,36,467	Cleared ...	27	21,223	172	20,359	199	41,582
Total ...	16,090	24,45,481	24,61,571	Total ...	28	21,772	373	38,209	401	59,981
GRAND TOTAL ...	69,75,211 0.46%	1,49,71,811 2.56%	2,19,47,030	GRAND TOTAL ...	113	109,041	687	210,582	800	319,623
					1.37%	1.87%	0.31%	1.46%		
CHITTAGONG--				CHITTAGONG--						
<i>Merchandise--</i>				<i>Steam--</i>						
Imports ...	6,03,841	1,04,59,729	1,10,63,570	Entered ...	...	...	108	60,820	108	60,820
Exports ...	77,06,811	24,88,517	1,01,95,328	Cleared ...	3	3,765	111	64,635	114	68,400
Total ...	83,10,652	1,29,48,246	2,12,58,898	Total ...	3	3,765	219	125,455	222	129,220
<i>Treasure--</i>				Sailing--						
Imports ...	...	1,67,000	1,67,000	Entered ...	25	21,753	653	79,702	678	101,455
Exports ...	...	1,21,500	1,21,500	Cleared ...	56	55,589	260	34,586	316	90,175
Total ...	...	2,88,500	2,88,500	Total ...	81	77,342	913	114,288	994	191,630
GRAND TOTAL ...	83,10,652 0.55%	1,32,36,746 2.27%	2,15,47,398	GRAND TOTAL ...	84	81,107	1,132	239,743	1,216	320,850
					1.02%	1.39%	0.52%	1.66%		
COCONADA--				COCONADA--						
<i>Merchandise--</i>				<i>Steam--</i>						
Imports ...	1,96,236	25,37,531	27,33,767	Entered ...	12	14,289	239	330,800	251	345,089
Exports ...	74,62,718	72,03,761	1,46,66,479	Cleared ...	24	31,559	226	315,004	250	346,563
Total ...	76,58,954	97,41,292	1,74,00,246	Total ...	36	45,848	465	645,804	501	691,652
<i>Treasure--</i>				Sailing--						
Imports ...	...	16,01,300	16,01,300	Entered ...	4	3,650	75	24,775	79	28,425
Exports ...	...	3,02,800	3,02,800	Cleared ...	45	17,591	80	22,462	125	40,653
Total ...	...	19,04,100	19,04,100	Total ...	49	21,241	155	47,237	204	68,478
GRAND TOTAL ...	76,58,954 0.5%	1,16,45,392 1.99%	1,93,04,346	GRAND TOTAL ...	85	67,089	620	693,041	705	760,130
					1.03%	1.15%	0.28%	4.8%		

Ports.	TRADE.				NAVIGATION.						
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
TUTICORIN—				TUTICORIN—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	16,11,211	20,96,432	37,07,643	Entered ...	1	2,014	112	177,058	113	179,072	
Exports ...	1,05,56,772	13,61,915	1,19,18,687	Cleared ...	5	6,097	110	171,847	115	180,944	
Total ...	1,21,67,983	34,58,347	1,56,26,330	Total ...	6	8,111	222	351,905	228	360,016	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	2,03,325	14,300	2,17,625	Entered ...	387	36,642	417	11,216	804	47,858	
Exports ...	5,50,000	2,01,500	7,51,500	Cleared ...	506	46,548	296	9,993	802	56,531	
Total ...	7,53,325	2,15,800	9,69,125	Total ...	893	83,190	713	21,199	1,606	104,389	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,29,21,308 0·85%	36,74,147 0·63%	1,65,95,455	GRAND TOTAL ...	893 10·93%	91,391 1·57%	935 0·43%	373,104 2·58%	1,834	464,405	
AKYAB—				AKYAB—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	48,040	33,61,742	34,09,782	Entered ...	2	2,808	120	74,938	122	77,886	
Exports ...	56,70,997	17,72,222	74,43,219	Cleared ...	30	37,320	121	78,405	151	115,725	
Total ...	57,19,037	51,33,964	1,08,53,001	Total ...	32	40,218	241	153,393	273	193,611	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	...	37,93,820	37,93,820	Entered ...	3	1,503	169	10,080	172	11,583	
Exports ...	...	15,06,700	15,06,700	Cleared ...	42	27,966	73	16,491	115	43,857	
Total ...	...	53,00,520	53,00,520	Total ...	45	29,869	242	26,571	287	55,440	
GRAND TOTAL ...	57,19,037 0·38%	1,04,34,484 1·79%	1,61,53,521	GRAND TOTAL ...	77 0·94%	69,087 1·19%	483 0·22%	179,964 1·25%	560	249,051	

28. The trade and shipping of India have been divided during the last two years in the following proportions between the five chief ports :—

	Foreign.		Coasting.	
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1894-95.
<i>Trade.</i>				
Bombay	41·55	43·51	30·91	30·74
Calcutta	38·45	36·97	15·33	15·68
Rangoon	5·06	4·67	8·69	7·53
Madras	5·28	5·43	3·23	3·12
Karachi	3·36	3·79	6·16	5·95
	93·70	94·37	64·32	63·02
<i>Shipping.</i>				
Bombay	33·82	34·78	12·07	13·02
Calcutta	26·41	24·77	7·15	7·73
Rangoon	8·8	9·23	4·06	3·94
Madras	7·24	7·62	6·01	6·23
Karachi	5·81	6·61	2·59	2·62
	82·08	83·01	31·88	33·54

29. In 1883-84 the foreign imports of merchandise into Bombay were smaller than those into Calcutta by nearly 162 lakhs: last year they were 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs larger. The foreign exports of merchandise in 1883-84 were 216 lakhs smaller: last year they were nearly 88 lakhs larger. Calcutta has decidedly lost her position as the chief centre of the foreign trade of India, in regard to merchandise as well as treasure, and Bombay now stands distinctly the first commercial port in India. The current of trade inwards as well as outwards has set in favour of Bombay with the completion of the railway system connecting it with the north, centre, and south of India, and it may be expected to set even more markedly in favour of that port in future.

The trade of Rangoon has suffered by the restriction in the exports of rice, while that of Karachi has appreciably increased in consequence of the employment of that port for the shipment of seeds and wheat from the Punjab and Sindh.

Trade with Countries.

30. The following table exhibits the value of the trade between India and most of the countries with which India has commercial connections, and the proportion of the trade with each country to the total trade of India with all countries, for each of the last three years. The countries are enumerated according to the importance of the trade with them in 1884-85:—

Countries.	1882-83.		1883-84.		1884-85.	
	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom	81,77,01,060	55.31	86,76,92,490	56.09	84,11,83,775	55.3
2. China—Hong-Kong	13,85,13,467	9.37	12,95,33,955	8.37	12,32,43,226	8.1
3. France	7,75,78,186	5.25	9,22,71,674	5.97	8,88,94,543	5.84
4. Straits Settlements	5,33,04,705	3.61	4,79,81,610	3.1	5,21,00,948	3.42
5. United States	4,27,75,696	2.89	3,63,17,930	2.35	4,67,68,153	3.07
6. China—Treaty Ports	3,83,36,257	2.59	4,29,55,811	2.78	4,27,38,256	2.81
7. Italy	5,40,93,044	3.66	4,32,15,925	2.79	4,03,82,433	2.65
8. Belgium	2,23,01,618	1.51	3,57,95,887	2.31	3,36,92,058	2.21
9. Ceylon	2,73,91,585	1.85	2,64,50,697	1.72	3,25,20,859	2.14
10. Egypt	2,49,55,112	1.63	3,99,36,227	2.58	3,18,27,010	2.09
11. Austria	3,21,71,045	2.18	2,90,03,449	1.88	3,14,01,969	2.06
12. Mauritius	1,47,82,752	0.999	1,67,03,420	1.08	2,74,67,416	1.8
13. Australia	2,89,11,923	2.02	3,07,47,590	1.99	2,52,91,724	1.66
14. Persia	2,06,43,757	1.4	2,24,89,489	1.45	2,17,58,160	1.43
15. Arabia	1,55,84,661	1.054	1,53,23,535	0.994	1,42,44,513	0.936
16. Aden	72,12,698	0.488	79,82,494	0.516	1,04,17,426	0.635
17. Turkey in Asia	1,05,87,771	0.718	89,12,122	0.576	96,15,435	0.632
18. Zanzibar	75,58,578	0.511	78,36,550	0.507	68,71,230	0.452
19. Germany	60,92,129	0.412	73,81,595	0.477	66,22,001	0.435
20. Japan	25,11,991	0.170	30,40,259	0.196	49,20,377	0.323
21. Holland	47,12,383	0.319	34,51,690	0.224	47,11,335	0.31
22. Malta	76,69,418	0.519	1,04,41,869	0.675	45,34,073	0.298
23. South America	28,00,945	0.193	43,92,758	0.284	30,64,082	0.201
24. Reunion	21,41,083	0.145	20,27,148	0.13	20,72,752	0.136
25. Mozambique	25,36,128	0.170	26,17,541	0.169	20,27,891	0.133
26. Spain, excluding Gibraltar	30,47,912	0.206	22,63,611	0.147	17,45,850	0.115
27. West Indies	12,93,796	0.088	12,07,339	0.078	13,67,653	0.09
28. Russia	13,31,307	0.089	14,96,351	0.097	12,19,917	0.08
29. Natal	6,70,251	0.045	9,03,554	0.059	10,27,995	0.068
30. Sumatra	4,06,133	0.027	7,36,584	0.048	8,89,143	0.058
31. Java	5,87,899	0.04	4,96,664	0.032	7,37,690	0.048
32. Spain—Gibraltar	25,72,928	0.174	7,20,248	0.047	6,17,932	0.041
33. Siam	5,57,404	0.038	5,06,130	0.033	3,60,961	0.024

31. India's trade with England is more than half her whole trade with the world. Last year the proportion to the whole was a little smaller (under 1 per cent.) than in 1883-84, but was about the same as in 1882-83. The other half of India's trade is so spread over a large number of countries that not

one of them anything like approaches the proportion of the trade with England. China takes the largest share next after England, the proportion being under 11 per cent. for Hongkong and the Treaty Ports combined. The trade with France does not represent 6 per cent. of our whole trade, being but little more than a tenth of the trade with England. Producing little of the descriptions of goods mainly required by India, while India's staple exports are weighted with heavy taxation in France, the trade with that country offers but little prospect of development. The Straits Settlements come next with under $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of our whole trade, the proportion reaching this sum in consequence of the considerable export of opium to that colony. The United States follow with about 3 per cent. of our trade, then Italy with 2.65 per cent., Belgium with 2.21 per cent., and Ceylon with 2.14 per cent. And then follow a great many other countries with a still smaller share of our trade.

It will be evident at once from the figures here set forth that the main artery of Indian commerce connects this country with the United Kingdom, and that there is but one smaller vessel of any importance connecting India with China. The flow of trade with other countries, in comparison with that between England and India, is of little consequence. Our direct trade with France, for instance, which has a larger trade with us than any two other European countries combined, might altogether cease in any year or be doubled without producing any very material effect on the aggregate volume of our trade; but a diminution of even one-tenth in the dimensions of our trade with England would produce as much effect as the total cessation of our trade with France. It is of great importance of course that India should cultivate as close and extended commercial relations with other countries as circumstances will admit. But there is no question of the immense advantage that England possesses in being the one country which extensively manufactures goods adapted to the requirements of the people of this country, as well as the one country whose fiscal policy does not discourage the consumption by her own people of most Indian products. As long as other countries are unable to give us the cottons and woollens, the metals, machinery, coal, and railway material which form the bulk of our requirements, and as long as they maintain a protective system which heavily taxes many of the most important of our Indian exports, so long will England continue to take a share of the trade of India in comparison with which their share will be but trifling. As matters stand, while England alone has more than 55 per cent. of our trade, all the rest of Europe, with Egypt and the United States put together have only about 19 per cent.

32. At the same time it is of interest to note the differences in the rate of growth of our trade with some of the countries with which we exchange goods, and I have prepared a statement of our trade with the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, and the United States, for the 10 years from 1875-76 to 1884-85, which gives the following results:—

	Increase in the 10 years.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
United Kingdom	38.27%	18.65%	28.92%
France	14.15%	81.09%	74.06%
Germany	294.45%	304.18%	302.77%
Italy	1.82%	183.26%	139.71%
United States	461.88%	91.43%	132.17%

It will be seen that the growth of the import trade from France and Italy is very slow, while in both cases the exports from India have largely

augmented. Those countries in fact have but little to send to India which is suited to the requirements of the people, and further a considerable portion of the French goods sent to India—wines and brandies and apparel and millinery, for instance—reach this country from England in English bottoms. German imports on the other hand have greatly increased, but when it is observed that their total value last year was under £93,000, it is evident that a very small increase in absolute value may further treble or even quadruple the rate of increase without making material impression on the aggregates.

The increase in the value of imports from the United States is due to the recent creation of the great trade in kerosine oil.

Import Trade.

33. The annual value of the import trade in merchandise for the last five years has been :—

	Rs.
1880-81	50,30,88,343
1881-82	46,99,20,812
1882-83	50,00,30,405
1883-84	52,70,38,912
1884-85	53,14,93,110

The trade was larger than that of 1883-84 by less than 1 per cent. (0·8), and the increase in the five years was a little over 5½ per cent.

34. The following statement shews for all important articles in the import trade for which quantities are stated in the returns the rate of progress or of decline in the quantities imported last year compared with 1880-81 :—

	1880-81.	1884-85.	INCREASE OR DECREASE IN 1884-85.	
			Quantity.	Per cent.
Coffee cwt.	22,598	37,835	+ 15,237	+ 37·48
Ale, beer, &c. gals.	1,152,678	1,066,913	— 85,765	— 7·44
Spirits "	848,238	857,970	+ 9,732	+ 1·03
Wines and liquours "	461,153	381,341	— 99,812	— 20·74
Salt tons	373,376	412,839	+ 39,463	+ 10·57
Spices lbs.	37,906,763	39,749,713	+ 1,842,945	+ 4·87
Sugar cwt.	982,262	1,613,067	+ 630,805	+ 64·12
Tea lbs.	3,322,407	3,874,412	+ 552,005	+ 16·61
Coal tons	670,360	699,177	+ 28,877	+ 4·31
Silk, raw lbs.	2,511,802	1,631,702	— 680,100	— 27·08
Cotton yarn lbs.	45,876,575	44,799,637	— 1,076,938	— 2·35
" piece goods, grey yds.	1,170,553,819	1,138,313,726	—32,210,093	— 2·75
" piece goods, white "	285,358,911	277,875,450	— 7,483,461	— 2·62
" piece goods, coloured "	318,051,544	315,345,829	— 2,705,715	— 0·85
Silk piece goods "	11,628,163	10,221,778	— 1,406,385	— 12·09
Woolen piece goods "	11,254,429	10,700,128	— 554,301	— 4·93
Copper cwt.	381,683	552,420	+ 170,737	+ 44·73
Iron "	2,665,604	3,602,276	+ 936,672	+ 35·14
Steel "	83,047	269,928	+ 206,881	+ 249·11
Tin "	30,957	41,177	+ 10,220	+ 33·01
Oils gals.	10,286,671	27,786,053	+17,499,382	+ 170·12

Metals—copper, iron, steel, and tin—oils (or rather kerosine oil), salt, coal, sugar, tea, coffee, spirits, and spices, have all increased, in some cases very largely. The great increase in the quantity of kerosine oil recently imported has been noted elsewhere in this review and in the review for 1883-84: this illuminant in many places has quite superseded the use of vegetable oils by natives. The increased import of tea and coffee into a country which largely produces both is hardly matter for congratulation, and it may be particularly noticed here once again that a great quantity of this tea is brought from China and elsewhere to be re-exported to Persia and Central Asia, markets of which the Indian tea planters ought to have obtained possession long ago. The exceptionally large imports of sugar last year were due to the collapse of prices in the sugar markets of Europe, which drove the trade to find, if possible, outlets for their stocks in India and any other likely country. Spirits may be said to be stationary; indeed, allowing for the natural increase of population, consumption must have declined. The comparatively small increase in coal must be attributed to the extending output and consumption of Indian coal. The increase in the imports of salt is normal.

On the other hand, we find that cotton yarn and piece-goods of all kinds have been imported in smaller quantities than five years ago, and that the same must be said of woollen and silk piece-goods as well as of raw silk. It cannot be inferred that the consuming capacity of the people has been diminished. A more accurate inference would be that the people in recent years have been more than fully supplied both by importation and by local manufacture.

35. The value of those articles enumerated above in which there was an increase, more or less, in the quantities imported, was 21·34 per cent. of the trade of the year. Adding hardware and cutlery, machinery, railway material, apparel, for which no quantities are given, as well as chemicals, drugs, narcotics and dyes, we have a list of important articles, in which the trade was larger than the trade of five years ago, representing about 32 per cent. of the whole trade value of the year. On the other hand the values of those articles of which diminished quantities were imported represented about 52 per cent. of the trade, but it will be observed that the increases generally were on the whole considerably greater than the decreases, so that the general result is favourable.

36. The following table carries on a similar table which was published in the last and some previous reviews. It gives the quantity and value of the principal articles imported in the year and the difference between such quantity and value and those in 1883-84. The last two columns of the statement show in each case how far an increase or decrease in trade was due to actual increase or decrease in quantity or to a rise or fall in prices.

	1884-85.		MORE OR LESS THAN IN 1883-84.		DIFFERENCE OF VALUE DUE TO	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Prices.
		£		£	£	£
<i>Goods fully manufactured—</i>						
Cotton piece goods, grey ... yds.	1,138,543,726	12,276,501	+58,401,861	+297,410	647,848	-350,438
" " white ... "	277,875,450	3,698,470	-61,501,339	-831,838	853,478	-21,640
" " coloured ... "	315,245,829	4,720,184	+15,809,338	+64,119	245,744	-181,625
Metals, copper, wrought ... cwt.	335,931	1,448,892	+19,140	-71,551	-79,340	150,891
" iron " ... "	3,511,200	1,995,057	+163,786	-101,489	-102,582	204,071
" other sorts "	373,047	392,550	+28,663	-20,998	-34,426	55,424
Silk piece goods (including mixed piece goods) ... yds.	12,080,177	1,264,648	+529,216	+71,864	54,648	17,216
Woolen piece goods ... "	10,700,129	1,002,312	+1,388,936	+45,265	142,171	-96,906
<i>Goods partly manufactured—</i>						
Cotton twist and yarn ... lbs.	44,799,637	3,360,420	-579,319	-105,523	44,247	61,276
Metals, copper, unwrought ... cwt.	166,489	621,126	+3,054	-66,271	-12,845	79,116
" tin " (block) "	41,091	221,827	+2,214	-12,794	-13,361	26,155
" other sorts "	210,691	157,796	-101,992	-58,931	64,504	-5,573
Oils, mineral, kerosine ... gals.	26,299,091	1,110,051	+13,191,824	+589,286	524,125	65,161
" " other kinds ... "	1,007,908	48,171	+231,337	+7,220	12,199	-4,979
Silk, raw ... lbs.	1,831,702	747,563	-379,191	-222,012	166,292	55,720
<i>Raw materials—</i>						
Coal (including coke) ... tons	708,560	1,204,341	+13,351	+63,663	21,905	41,758
Ivory, unmanufactured ... lbs.	336,852	190,126	-76,551	-83,595	36,957	-3,362
<i>Drugs, Liquors, and Narcotics—</i>						
Liquors, malt ... gals.	1,066,913	249,927	-194,331	-53,297	46,761	6,536
" spirits, brandy ... "	361,295	272,096	-41,805	-56,573	34,086	22,437
" " whisky ... "	266,855	224,298	+3,947	+5,869	3,429	2,440
" " other sorts ... "	229,820	123,233	+1,403	-1,762	-770	2,532
" wines ... "	381,341	336,070	-40,584	-65,208	38,598	26,610
" other sorts ... "	4,752	2,292	-2,456	-625	994	-369
Tobacco ... lbs.	1,384,355	84,208	+220,310	+8,152	14,395	-6,243
<i>Food stuffs—</i>						
Provisions, salted fish ... lbs.	12,153,960	96,901	+493,363	-8,031	-4,440	12,471
" dates ... cwt.	619,781	280,855	+60,306	+37,827	26,196	11,631
Salt ... tons	412,839	649,263	+29,749	+26,222	48,330	-22,158
Spices ... lbs.	33,749,713	602,163	+2,344,442	+45,056	34,918	10,138
Sugar (refined and unrefined) ... cwt.	1,616,874	2,140,838	+879,965	+992,468	1,371,303	-378,635
Tea ... lbs.	3,871,412	325,548	+899,242	+87,934	62,733	25,201

37. Taking the merchandise imported under the main heads in which goods are classified in the returns, the figures are as follow :

		Rs.
<i>I.—Animals, living</i>	1880-81	11,78,061
	1881-82	20,85,436
	1882-83	19,03,825
	1883-84	20,75,017
	1884-85	20,73,087
	Average of 5 years	18,62,085

The animals are nearly all horses from Australia and Persia. The number imported was rather smaller than in the two preceding years.

		Rs.
<i>II.—Articles of food and drink</i>	1880-81	5,61,93,725
	1881-82	5,27,10,218
	1882-83	5,14,50,672
	1883-84	5,38,21,617
	1884-85	6,32,72,660
	Average of 5 years	5,55,56,978

The principal items under this head are provisions, liquors (spirits, wines, and beer), salt, spices, sugar, and tea.

38. The importation of *Coffee* from Ceylon and the Straits continues on a large scale. Last year 37,835 cwt., representing a value of 10½ lakhs, were brought to India (to Bombay chiefly), and as only 14,365 cwt. were re-exported, there remained in the country about 23,500 cwt., presumably for local consumption. This is a large quantity to be received from external sources by a country which itself produces coffee extensively.

39. Under *Fruits and Vegetables* there was a considerable reduction caused by a decline in the imports of *Cocanut Kernel* from Ceylon to Calcutta.

40. *Liquors*.—The trade in *Ale* and *Porter* must be recognised to be in a declining state. The quantity imported last year was 194,531 gallons smaller than in 1883-84 and 85,765 gallons smaller than the imports five years ago, that is, 15 and 7½ per cent. respectively.

The trade in *Spirits* also is stationary if not declining. Brandy and gin have distinctly given way to whisky and rum, the decline in the imports of the two former kinds being quite as marked as the increase in the two latter sorts. The result of the trade of last year in spirit of all kinds is a fall from 894,420 gallons to 857,970 gallons, a decline of 4 per cent., and the figure is only 1 per cent. in excess of the trade five years ago.

The decline in the importation of *Wines* and *Liqueurs* is even more marked than in the case of malt liquors and spirits. It is 9½ per cent. less than the trade of 1883-84 and 20½ per cent. beneath the level of the trade of five years ago. The quantity imported was only 381,341 gallons. This trade exhibits a practically continuous decrease during the last five years: in 1883-84 only was there a very small rise caused by the efforts of exhibitors at the Calcutta Exhibition to introduce Australian and other wines to the Anglo-Indian consuming public.

In the case of malt liquor it would seem to be clear that the place of imported beer has been taken by beer brewed in India. If the returns received from the breweries are correct there were 675,800 gallons of Indian beer available for the public in 1880 (after deducting purchases by the Commissariat) and 942,920 gallons in 1884, an increased supply of 267,120 gallons or nearly 40 per cent., so that there has not been any actual abandonment of beer as a beverage by the Anglo-Indian. The same cannot be said however of spirits or wines, for the wine and brandy produced in Kashmir, though

excellent in quality, have so far been made in but small quantities and have certainly not entered yet into general consumption in India.

It may be remarked here that if Indian beer were taxed at the same rate as imported beer, the tax would produce an annual revenue of about Rs. 62,000 on the quantity now declared to be brewed and not bought by the State for the troops.

41. *Provisions*.—A moderate increase in the imports, of which the value reached about 110½ lakhs last year, about 7 lakhs in excess of the imports of the previous year. The increase in *Ghi* is very noticeable, the quantity imported (1,382,389 lbs.) having been more than four times larger than the quantity imported in 1883-84. *Ghi* is imported almost exclusively into Bombay and Karachi from the neighbouring coast of Mekran and the Persian Gulf ports. There would appear to be no demand in Bengal or Madras for imported ghi, and it is not easy to understand why it was supposed that any useful object would be attained by sending Indian ghi makers to Queensland. In the pastoral tracts of Southern Biluchistan, and the littoral of the Persian Gulf, there is an unlimited field for the supply of ghi to the Indian provinces which want it, and the smaller cost of production in those countries and lower sea freight will necessarily be fatal to competition by Queensland. The importation of *Dates* from these same tracts is a large business, the value of which last year was about 28 lakhs. *Salted fish* is also imported from the same places in great quantity and also from the Straits in the form of paste (*ngapi*) for Burmese consumption.

42. Imports of *Salt* have increased substantially during the last two years :—

	Tons.
1880-81	373,376
1881-82	357,224
1882-83	338,065
1883-84	382,090
1884-85	412,839

The lowering of price caused by the reduction of duty in March 1882 and by the low range of sea freights would seem to have had the effect of increasing consumption in Bengal.

43. The trade in *Spices* also was brisk, the quantity having reached a higher level than during any of the preceding five years. Last year 39¼ million pounds were imported: in 1883-84 under 37½ million pounds. *Betelnuts* occupy the principal place in the list of spices.

44. The imports of *Sugar* for the last five years were—

	Cwt.
1880-81	986,321
1881-82	775,982
1882-83	672,672
1883-84	736,909
1884-85	1,616,874

This remarkable expansion in the imports of the year was accompanied by an equally remarkable decline in the exports, which last year amounted to only 1,070,919 cwt., the exports of 1883-84 having been as much as 1,630,520 cwt.

The explanation of these striking features of the Indian sugar trade is to be found in the working of the system of bounties adopted by many of the States of Continental Europe and by Brazil. Under this system the sugar industry was artificially bolstered up for years, until production reached a level which made it impossible to sell at remunerative prices the ever increasing supply of sugar thrown on the market. The accumulation of stocks towards the end of last year produced an unprecedented fall of prices disastrous to all concerned in the industry.

The *Times*, in an article on the trade of 1884, published last May, thus describes the condition of the sugar market:—

Sugar had fallen towards the close of 1884 to an extraordinarily low price, owing to the excessive production of beetroot, resulting from the bounty system in force on the Continent and in South America. As necessarily happens when artificial means are taken to promote the extension of a particular industry, the policy adopted by Germany, Austria, France, Belgium, and Brazil in regard to sugar has been most disastrous for the very interest it was intended to aid. Matters came to a crisis last winter. Many sugar-making firms in Germany and Austria failed, the largest, or perhaps we should say the most impressive failure, owing to its effect in banking circles, being that of Messrs. Weinrich. Many cultivators of beetroot also became hopelessly embarrassed, as they had sold their crops in advance to houses which were unable to meet their engagements. The position of British producers of cane sugar was very bad too, though not so bad as the advocates of a protective duty to keep out foreign sugars alleged. The fall in prices last year was so great that even the most cautious people lost money, and were in some cases ruined. At the end of 1884, however, a turning point had been reached. Ever since January prices have been advancing, some slight fluctuations being left out of account. On January 11th German beet produce was 11s. per cwt. By the end of February it had risen to 12s. 3d., and though some hesitation was shown during March and April, the upward movement was resumed in the present month, the price on May 1st being 12s. 10d. During the next three weeks it rose rapidly to 16s. 3d., the rise last week being fully 1s. 6d. One of the causes for this movement was, no doubt, the reduction in the bank rate. Sugar is a speculative article, and large quantities of it are always held with borrowed money. During the latter part of last year bankers were very cautious in making advances, the security for which was in any way dependent on sugar, but during the last three or four months their precautions have been somewhat relaxed. But the principal cause of the rise in sugar was the fact that the acreage sown with beet in Germany this season is less by one-fifth than it was in 1884. The price of cane grown sugar has also advanced, the quality known as "Crystallized Demerara," which was quoted at about 17s. per cwt. early in January, being now 20s. 3d. It is probable that the sugar market will continue to harden for some little time yet, but it does not seem likely that there will be any permanent return to the level of prices formerly current.

Some facts taken from other sources may be given here to illustrate the position. In Germany the quantity of beetroot worked up in the sugar factories increased from 22,509,182 metric quintals in 1871-72 to 89,181,303 metric quintals in 1883-84, and the area under beet in the same period increased from 73,690 hectares to 140,843 hectares. Importations of raw sugar fell from 315,832 to 18,763 metric quintals and exportations increased from 56,665 to 4,911,761 metric quintals. Imports of other descriptions of sugar fell off, and exports increased in the same proportion. The production of raw sugar in the same period increased from 1,864,419 to 9,454,854 metric quintals. In Brazil the estimated production of 1884 was about 275,000 tons, an increase of at least 25 per cent. on that of the previous year. The consequence of all this increased production was a great fall of prices. In France white sugar, type No. 3, sold at 59*f.* 3*4c.* per 100 kilogrammes in December 1882; in the same month

of 1883 and 1884 the price was, respectively 55*f.* 03*c.*, and 38*f.* 92*c.* In Germany refined sugar, 1st quality, sold for 75 marks the quintal in December 1882, and for 70 and 53 marks in the same month of 1883 and 1884, respectively. It is stated that the cost of production of beet sugar, about a penny a pound, was hardly covered by the price in London.

One result of this collapse is that the cultivation of beet is stated to be smaller this year in Austria and Holland by from 25 to 30 per cent., in Germany by 20 to 25 per cent., in France by 15 to 20 per cent., and in Russia, Denmark, and Sweden by from 8 to 10 per cent. It is estimated that the manufacture of sugar in Europe generally will be about 9 or 10 million centners less than last year.

Another result has been that to find some kind of a market for surplus stocks not saleable in Europe, India has had sugar sent to her in double the average quantity imported, and has been unable to send away anything like the quantity which would have been exported in the ordinary conditions of trade. It is to be noted that while most of the sugar imported is brought to Bombay, most of that which is exported is shipped from Bengal and Madras. The exports of sugar from Bengal which had commenced to revive after a period of depression and were progressing satisfactorily, were reduced to a very low point, and the imports into that province, which had been for years on a very small scale, were nearly twice as large as the exports. The following figures shew the fluctuations of the trade in Bengal since 1865-66 :—

	Imports. Cwt.	Exports. Cwt.		Imports. Cwt.	Exports. Cwt.
1865-66	51	233,430	1875-76	152	84,116
1866-67	47	60,523	1876-77	110	637,628
1867-68		37,152	1877-78	102	445,847
1868-69	169	261,691	1878-79	3,795	46,103
1869-70	111	156,761	1879-80	10,535	50,469
1870-71	601	166,593	1880-81	43,174	23,443
1871-72	176	146,805	1881-82	4,451	93,448
1872-73	93	171,031	1882-83	1,042	165,397
1873-74	173	135,776	1883-84	1,825	221,658
1874-75	261	106,863	1884-85	68,476	38,918

The average declared value of sugar imported into, and exported from, Bengal for the last five years was :—

	Imported Sugar.			Exported Sugar.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1880-81	17	9	0 per cwt.	11	9	2 per cwt.
1881-82	17	8	6 "	10	10	5 "
1882-83	18	4	10 "	10	2	3 "
1883-84	13	8	9 "	10	6	2 "
1884-85	10	13	3 "	9	11	1 "

The twenty years' figures of trade given above shew that while Bengal is capable of producing and does actually produce and export from time to time large quantities of sugar, the province has been unable to keep a steady hold on the external consuming markets and is not able to compete successfully on a large scale with other sugar-producing countries. The recent conditions of the sugar market have for the time made competition a practical impossibility.

The bulk of the sugar imported is refined sugar, and most of it is imported into Bombay. Last year's imports came from—

	Cwt.
Mauritius	1,265,362
Hong-Kong	221,814
Straits	43,717
United Kingdom	30,605
Java	20,043
Austria	14,904

And the rest in small quantities from other countries. Importations from the United Kingdom, Austria, and Java into Bengal are quite a new feature in the trade.

45. The imports of *Tea* were 26 per cent. larger than in 1883-84, having reached 3,874,412 lbs., the quantity in 1883-84 being 3,065,170 lbs. Some of this (305,822 lbs.) was imported into Burma, but the bulk was brought to Bombay, whence a great deal of it was sent to Kandahar and Kabul by land, and to Persia by sea.* Some remarks on this trade have been made under the head of re-exports for the consideration of those who are interested in the Indian tea industry.

	Rs.
III.— <i>Raw materials and</i> 1880-81	3,49,41,385
<i>manufactured articles.</i> 1881-82	2,78,40,089
1882-83	3,03,87,381
1883-84	3,08,87,277
1884-85	3,05,22,066
Average of 5 years	3,09,15,639

46. Coal, raw silk, precious stones and pearls, ivory and cotton are the largest items under this head, coal representing about a third of the total. There is no tendency to increase in this class, and as India herself produces in abundance coal, silk, and cotton, and as moreover India is as yet to but a small extent a manufacturing country, it is hardly to be expected that there will within any not very remote period be a material increase in trade in this class of goods. 741,129 tons of *coal, coke* and *patent fuel* were imported during the year, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. more than in the preceding year, Bombay importing 505,000 tons. Most of this coal is for the use of steamers on their return voyage from India and for the cotton mills of Bombay which are not well situated in regard to the Indian coal fields. The mills and factories in Bengal, and to a large extent the railways in that Province and in Northern India, use Indian

coal, of which the output in 1884 is estimated at 1,534,000 tons, an increase of 16 per cent. on the production of 1883, and the figures are no doubt much understated.

47. Bombay also imported an unusually large quantity of *Cotton* from Persia and neighbouring countries last year, nearly 68,000 cwt., worth 16½ lakhs, and at the same time the exports of Indian cotton fell off by nearly a million hundredweight. The crop was short.

48. A decline in the imports of *Ivory* from 463,403 lbs. to 356,852 lbs. must be attributed mainly to the disturbed condition of the country whence ivory is brought and of the East African coasts whence it is shipped. Direct trade too between Zanzibar and Europe is gradually effecting a diversion of this trade from Bombay, whence great part of the ivory imported is reshipped to Europe.

49. There was a considerable increase in the value of *Precious Stones* and *Pearls* imported, which rose from 13½ lakhs to over 21½ lakhs. The imports from the Persian Gulf represented about 12 lakhs in value, a small advance on the previous year. There was a considerable import of gems from England and France.

50. *Silk* was imported to a much smaller extent than in the last two previous years—only 1,831,702 lbs., which was 17 per cent. less than in 1883-84, though still a very large quantity for a country which is held to be a great silk-producing country. Whatever may be the capacity of the country for producing silk in large quantities—and as to this I venture to entertain a certain amount of doubt—it is clear enough that while India imports more silk than it exports (the bulk of the exports being moreover only waste or *chasam*), the country must more properly be called an importer and consumer rather than a present producer of raw silk. Most of the imported silk comes from China and from Siam via the Straits for Bombay mainly and Burma in smaller degree. Even Bengal however—the great silk-producing province—imported 212,349 lbs. of silk last year. It is understood that this silk is used, like the silk imported into Bombay, for the use of a local mill which has been at work for a couple of years weaving silks for the Burma market.

51. It is worthy of note here that last year 1,745 tons of *Teakwood* were imported from Siam, the Straits, and Ceylon, nearly all into Bengal and Bombay. Apparently the supply from Burma is not sufficient to meet even the local demand, but it is noticeable that these countries should be able to compete with Burma, even to a small extent, in the Indian markets.

There is nothing special in the ordinary trade in other kinds of timber imported from Ceylon, the Straits, England, and Canada. The imports were slightly less last year (12,859 tons) than in 1883-84, but the trade has been on the whole increasing of late years.

52. The importation of raw *Wool*, chiefly from Persia and the Makran Coast, was a little above the level of 1883-84, having amounted to 2,591,421 lbs. compared with 2,526,942 lbs. The imports of the last two years have not been as large as they were for some years before them. A great deal of wool is carried into India by rail from Beluchistan. Of Australian wool only 14,657 lbs. were imported.

IV.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured.

53. This is much the most important of the classes in which the imports are grouped, and it is necessary to shew the different subheads of the class separately.

	Rs.
(a) <i>Yarns and textile fabrics</i> 1880-81	29,41,93,106
1881-82	26,19,26,314
1882-83	26,95,59,800
1883-84	27,68,29,865
1884-85	27,21,05,371
Average of 5 years	27,55,22,897

This subhead includes cotton goods (yarns and cloth) which form quite the most important item of the import trade. They represented upwards of $24\frac{1}{2}$ crores last year, which was 46 per cent. of the value of all the merchandise imported into India. Woollens and silks are of much less importance, representing a value of only about $1\frac{1}{4}$ crores each.

54. The imports of *Cotton twist* for the last five years have been—

	lbs.
1880-81	45,876,575
1881-82	40,761,751
1882-83	44,859,175
1883-84	45,378,956
1884-85	44,799,637

The trade has been declining in the face of falling prices, the record of which at Calcutta is as follows:—

	January 1880.	January 1881.	January 1882.	January 1883.	January 1884.	January 1885.
Mule twist, white, No. 40	0-5-5	0-5-3	0-5-2	0-4-9	0-4-9	0-4-7 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Turkey red, No. 40	1-3-6	1-2-0	1-2-0	0-14-3	1-0-0	0-15-0
„ Orange, Nos. 40—60	0-13-0	0-13-3	0-12-9	0-12-0	0-12-6	0-11-6

The low range of prices in England also made the year a very bad one for cotton spinners.

The importation of the coarser kinds of twist has long been unimportant, the yarn of the Indian mills having driven it out of the market. Even the medium kinds are now diminishing, an indication that the Indian mills are beginning to make them too and that handloom weaving in India continues to decline as the spread of communications cheapens the cost of cloth in districts formerly unable to buy cloth by reason of cost and difficulty of transport.

The imports of *Cotton piece goods* are as follow:—

	<i>Grey.</i> Yards.	<i>White.</i> Yards.	<i>Coloured.</i> Yards.
1880-81	1,170,553,819	285,358,911	313,051,544
1881-82	1,098,468,695	269,804,109	254,812,804
1882-83	1,086,285,672	233,373,431	320,935,918
1883-84	1,079,938,865	342,376,839	299,536,491
1884-85	1,138,343,726	277,875,450	315,345,829

The trade in all three sorts must be said to be in a stagnant if not declining condition when the imports of recent years are looked at, though grey goods and coloured goods were imported last year on a larger scale than in 1883-84. The prices of grey goods, like the prices of twist, have been running low since 1876, but low prices do not seem to have stimulated consumption, and it must perhaps be allowed that the cloths of the Indian mills find a widened outlet in the country year by year as the extension of railways enables traders to lay them down at a reduced cost for transport, and that imported cottons have not a reasonable prospect of material increase in the Indian markets. It may be added that the somewhat larger imports of last year were caused not by a reviving demand, but by the necessity under which English manufacturers lay of diminishing stocks which had largely accumulated for which no other outlet was visible, and the existence of which brought about a fall of prices in Manchester singularly depressing to the cotton industry. The same conditions still exist in Lancashire, and the reductions of wages of operatives and of hours of work and other measures for reducing stocks and raising prices have been met as usual by strikes and stoppages of mills. The current year, it is possible, may again shew importations on a large scale though, as last year, with unprofitable results. Prices of grey shirtings (8½ lbs.) in Calcutta have been in—

			Rs.	
January	1880	.	4-13-0	the piece.
"	1881	.	4-13-6	"
"	1882	.	4-10-0	"
"	1883	.	4-14-0	"
"	1884	.	4-7-6	"
"	1885	.	4-8-0	"

It was unfortunate for hard pressed cotton manufacturers in England that the Indian market last year was strongly influenced against purchases in consequence of a concurrence amongst Hindu religious authorities that the year was a particularly unlucky one for the celebration of the marriage ceremony. Marriages in that community were therefore rare. Now, marriages in India mean the purchase of cottons and silks, jewellery, and confectionery.

The imports of grey goods still continue to be much more largely directed to Calcutta than to Bombay, as will be seen from the following figures:—

		1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
Bengal .	yards	683,966,987	661,311,484	666,717,809	702,811,583
Bombay .	"	328,190,831	328,251,817	316,135,591	322,411,237

55. Of *Silk piece goods*, declared to be entirely of silk, the imports of last year were larger than in either of the two preceding years. Piece goods of silk mixed with other materials were imported in slightly smaller quantity than in 1883-84. Of the former description somewhat more than a third was imported from China and the Straits. More than a half was from England, and though some proportion of this is no doubt of French origin, less than a tenth of the whole imports was brought from France direct. France on the other hand sent direct about half the whole supply of mixed goods. The principal destination of the (so-called) pure silks is Burma, the people of which province reject altogether silk mixed with other goods, while they take more pure silk goods than all the rest of India put together. For mixed goods the

largest market is in Bombay. The Burmese consumption of cotton goods is comparatively very small.

56. *Woollen piece goods* also were more largely imported than in the three preceding years, though still under the figure of 1880-81. Shawls fell off, the importation of 1883-84 having been very large. The use of these articles is almost confined to Bengal: the male Bengali wears them assiduously in the brief winter of that province, but the natives of other and colder parts in Northern India admire them not, and indeed with reason, for colour and pattern are alike unpleasing.

		Rs.
(b) <i>Metals and manufactures</i>	1880-81	4,33,22,336
<i>of metals.</i>	1881-82	4,14,31,866
	1882-83	5,40,77,770
	1883-84	5,98,91,297
	1884-85	5,68,82,817
	Average of 5 years	5,11,22,423

57. This head includes *hardware* and *cutlery*, an increasing trade, the value of which amounted to about 84½ lakhs last year. Under this head the Commissioner of Customs at Bombay notices a new and rather important trade in the importation for native use of brass receptacles for kerosine oil which are fitted on in Bombay to tin stands locally made at a cost of a few pice. *Copper* and *iron*, each representing a value of over two crores, constitute about four-fifths of this head.

58. The price of *Copper* has for some time been constantly declining in England. In January 1883 Chili bars were quoted at £66 10s. a ton, in January 1884 at £57 5s., in January 1885 at £48. In March of this year it had further fallen to less than £47, and it has since gone much lower, falling below £45. The price of copper in fact is lower than it has ever been, being more than 12 per cent. below the lowest price ever known, and, authorities state, 30 per cent. below what the trade had previously considered a safe and moderate price. This decline is due to a greatly increased production in the United States, and it would seem to those who are in a position to estimate the conditions of future production there and elsewhere that prices must continue permanently on a low level. In Calcutta Australian copper was quoted at Rs. 31-12 in January 1882, and it has fallen persistently since to Rs. 24-10 in January 1885. The marked fall of prices in the last two years stimulated imports, and accordingly we find the quantities imported to have been—

	Cwt.
1880-81	381,683
1881-82	338,108
1882-83	450,098
1883-84	530,226
1884-85	552,420

Much of it is sheet and otherwise manufactured copper and "yellow" or mixed metal for sheathing ships.

59. Of *Iron* very similar remarks may be made. Prices have shewn the same downward tendency. Cleveland bars were quoted in January 1883 at £6 a ton, in January 1884 at £5 9s., and in January 1885 at £5, remaining at this figure since. Much of the depression is attributed to the falling off in the

shipbuilding industry, which from a monthly outturn of gross tonnage of 100,000 tons in 1883, fell to 55,000 tons in 1884, and to less than 33,000 tons in the current year.

The imports of iron into India have been—

	Cwt.
1880-81	2,665,604
1881-82	2,452,507
1882-83	3,151,935
1883-84	3,543,662
1884-85	3,602,276

Imports from Belgium are beginning to assume some little importance: last year 165,488 cwt. were imported direct from that country.

	Rs.
(c) <i>Machinery and millwork</i> 1880-81	76,98,437
1881-82	1,22,10,454
1882-83	1,34,23,985
1883-84	1,78,90,662
1884-85	1,48,41,239
Average of 5 years	: <u>1,32,12,955</u>

60. The interruption to the steady increase which had marked the previous four years is a testimony to the depressed condition of the cotton and jute manufacturing industries, as well as of the tea and rice milling industries, for which are destined most of the machinery and millwork imported.

	Rs.
(d) <i>Railway plant and rolling stock.</i> 1880-81	1,11,77,649
1881-82	1,07,95,093
1882-83	1,11,64,342
1883-84	1,63,32,830
1884-85	1,59,26,202
Average of 5 years	: <u>1,30,79,223</u>

61. The decrease last year does not indicate a pause in the process of railway development, but rather a transfer of the work from the Companies to the State. The Eastern Bengal Railway was taken over by the State in July 1884, and since then the imports on account of the line have been classed, like those on account of the East Indian Railway, as imports by the State. Next year a similar transfer will be made of imports for the Sind, Punjab and Delhi line. A large proportion of the imports of the year was for the Southern Mahratta Railway. In looking at the details we find that while "materials for construction" have increased but little in the five years, the imports of engines and rolling stock have doubled, which is an indication of the great increase in the traffic on the lines.

	Rs.
(e) <i>Apparel</i> 1880-81	71,76,858
1881-82	72,17,540
1882-83	86,26,011
1883-84	97,38,210
1884-85	94,22,323
Average of 5 years	: <u>84,36,188</u>

62. The increasing use of the parcel post for the importation of this class of goods disguises the real dimensions of the transactions, and vitiates any comparison which may be drawn between the imports of the year and previous years. The importation of gold and silver thread from Austria is increasing to the detriment of the Indian makers of the same class of goods.

	Rs.
(f) <i>Chemicals, drngs, medicines, narcotics,</i> 1880-81 . . .	78,31,076
<i>dyeing and tanning materials.</i> 1881-82 . . .	77,31,121
1882-83 . . .	83,78,253
1883-84 . . .	87,69,884
1884-85 . . .	87,39,170
Average of 5 years . . .	82,90,621

63. *Chemicals* represented nearly 19 lakhs last year. This is an increasing trade. Of the enumerated descriptions the largest trade is done in alum, copperas, sulphur, and sulphuric acid, this last being also now manufactured in the country in increasingly large quantities for the preparation of aerated waters which are extensively used in the larger towns by natives as well as by Europeans. The large import of arsenic is noticeable: in five years the quantity has nearly trebled. It is much employed in curing cattle hides.

The value of *drugs, medicines, and narcotics* was about 44½ lakhs last year. This head includes tobacco and cigars, as well as opium, the import trade in this last being merely nominal. The imports of cigars were materially less last year than in the year before, though there has been a sensible development in this trade during the last three years compared with those that preceded them. The extended consumption of Indian cigars must be affecting this trade injuriously, but it is a subject of frequent remark that smoking is not at all so common amongst Anglo-Indians as the habit was a few years ago. If this general impression is correct, the fact may account for the comparative lack of vitality in the import trade in both cigars and tobacco. It must be said, however, that the quality of the Manila cigars imported leaves much to be desired, the commoner kinds being decidedly unpleasant. Cigarettes also are much in fashion and their extended use interferes with the cigar trade.

Under drugs and medicines the most important of those which are enumerated are asafoetida, camphor, and quinine. The trade in this last has risen in five years from 3,964 lbs. to 12,264 lbs., while the average declared value has in the same time fallen from Rs. 108 to Rs. 48 a pound. It may be noted in this connection—although indeed the fact is not singular—that the retail price of the drug charged to the consumer by the chemist and druggist has not declined in the same or any thing like the same proportion. Speaking broadly, though not, I think, inaccurately, the trader in India raises his rates in exact proportion to the rise in price and does so at once, while the consumer does not always get the whole benefit of a fall in prices and has to wait a long time before he gets any. The middleman in India has but little effective competition on the spot and is naturally very much afraid of any step which will place the consumer in direct relations with European middlemen or

producers. Hence the opposition of the trading community to the proposed value-payable parcel post between England and India.

Under the head of *dyeing and tanning materials*, it is to be regretted that an enormous increase in the import of aniline dyes must be recorded. Five years ago 3,555,310 ounces of these mineral colours were imported; in 1883-84 8,094,006 ounces, and in 1884-85 9,287,288 ounces. The use of these cheap and glaring colours is working serious injury to the textile industries of India, and may irreparably damage them. In the review of the trade of 1883-84 it was noted that the Persian Government had prohibited the import of aniline dyes into that country; this year it may again be recorded that the same country has followed up that step by prohibiting the importation of yarns dyed with them. If a similar step could be adopted in this country, it would be entirely beneficial. The cheapening of the price of these dyes, which has fallen about 50 per cent. in the five years, is a great encouragement to their use.

	Rs.
(g) <i>Other manufactured articles</i> 1880-81	3,37,74,964
1881-82	3,73,33,528
1882-83	4,05,49,399
1883-84	4,42,53,975
1884-85	4,54,12,878
	<hr/>
Average of 5 years	4,02,65,519
	<hr/>

61. This group, although relatively of no great importance, comprises a great variety of articles, the rise or fall in the demand for many of which suggests reflections on the social condition and progress of the country. *Agricultural implements*, which are mainly required for tea and coffee estates, were imported to a materially larger extent last year than in the previous year, but the trade does not give any particular sign of expansion such as might be expected from the ever widening area brought under tea in recent years. Native agriculturists do not take kindly to the use of European implements, all the efforts of Agricultural Departments for years to induce them to do so notwithstanding. Owners of tea estates have found that economy in management is an imperative consequence of low prices for leaf, and coffee has fared badly for some years. *Arms and ammunition* do not, naturally, constitute an increasing trade in face of a heavy import duty and an Arms Act. The importation of *works of art* is on the most restricted scale, for the Anglo-Indian community is poor and its artistic development not very intense; while the wealthy native only appreciates European works of art in a certain genre, and the class of wealthy native who will spend money at all on European works of art in any genre is infinitely small. The *book* trade also hardly gives signs of increase, but the Anglo-Indian, in consideration of a climate pernicious to the preservation of books and also of frequent transfers from place to place, borrows books largely, and when he buys is partial to cheap editions; moreover much of the import of books is lost to sight in these returns, the parcels post being largely resorted to.

Building and Engineering materials have been imported in greatly increased quantities during the last five years, the bulk of the trade consisting

of cement. These are mainly imported for municipal and port trust works in Calcutta and Bombay. The failure of the company which manufactured cement in Calcutta led to a sensible increase of imported cement last year.

The trade in *Corals* is considerable, but fluctuates with the harvests, for this article is almost entirely imported for native use. Last year the imports were not on as large a scale as the year before when the Exhibition in Calcutta attracted coral dealers from Italy to shew large stocks, and importers are dissatisfied with the prices obtained. The fact is that the supply of coral has been in excess of the demand since the discovery in 1880 of a coral bank several kilomètres in length near the island of Sciacca in Sicily. Prices of the finished article are now, it is said, actually below the cost of the labour employed in producing it. *Beads* and *false pearls*, which also are imported mainly for native use, likewise were imported in smaller quantities. This trade is on a rather smaller scale than the trade in corals. In *glassware* generally too there was a falling off. There has of late been a quite overdone trade in cheap glass lamps for kerosine. The bazars are full of them. It may be noted here that a project is being talked of for the establishment of a glass manufactory in Bombay. The trade in *Matches* is now very large: last year the value of the imports amounted to only a little less than 20½ lakhs of rupees. It is interesting to observe how very general has become the use of cheap Swedish matches by the people of the country, especially in Burma. There is probably not a man in any of the towns who does not use them, though the poorer classes exercise judicious economy in their consumption. The sulphur-tipped sticks which require the application of fire to light them are becoming rare in India as tändstickors become common. *Paints and colours* appear to be imported in increasing quantities, though the trade develops slowly. *Paper* for printing is actually a declining trade to all appearance, and it may be that the competition of the Indian mills with the cheaper kinds of imported printing paper is succeeding. Writing paper has also fallen off in greater proportions. But it must be noted that the paper which was formerly imported as 'private' trade for the East Indian and Eastern Bengal Railways is now recorded under Government transactions, and this change may account for some of the decrease. Still it is curious that while five years ago the value of the writing paper imported was 23½ lakhs (quantities are not recorded), last year it was under 13 lakhs. Other kinds of paper—for instance wall paper and packing paper, and pasteboard and millboard, have somewhat increased in quantity. *Stationery*, unlike paper, has steadily and continuously increased during the last five years, and so have *printing and lithographing materials*. There was a very large increase in the value recorded last year under '*Ships, parts of*,' due mainly to the supply of small steamers for passenger traffic on the lower reaches of the Hooghly in the vicinity of Calcutta and to the increase of river traffic between Bengal and Assam and Cachar. *Umbrellas* keep in good demand. Last year the number imported exceeded 4½ million, representing a value of over 33½ lakhs. This is greatly in excess of the trade of previous years. Still the number was not more than about one umbrella to about 56 of the population, which may be said to be not quite sufficient for actual requirements. *Articles imported by post* (not specified in these returns, owing to difficulties pointed out by the Post Office) have increased in value from under 16 lakhs five years ago to 30½ lakhs last year. If the development of this business goes on at the same rate it will certainly be necessary before another five years have passed to

provide some means of specifying these imports in order to save the record of trade from marked incompleteness.

	Rs.
<i>V.—Oils</i> 1880-81	52,91,746
1881-82	56,05,853
1882-83	1,05,08,967
1883-84	65,42,273
1884-85	1,22,94,968

65. The bulk of the imports of oil consists of kerosine from the United States. Of this oil the imports have increased from 9,692,269 gallons, five years ago, to 26,299,091 gallons last year. This oil is now used everywhere, in towns at least, for illuminating purposes, and in the littoral provinces and places convenient to railways it has extensively displaced the vegetable oils formerly exclusively used by natives for lights. The recorded value shews a fall of price in the five years from 0.48 of a rupee to 0.42 of a rupee the gallon, but the actual fall of price in this period is really more marked than these figures indicate.

Re-Export Trade.

66. The export of foreign merchandise was smaller by about 4.9 per cent. than in 1883-84, but even with this decline the dimensions of the trade were materially higher than in any previous year. The value for the last six years was :—

	Rs.		Rs.
1879-80	2,22,23,250	1882-83	2,80,27,095
1880-81	2,55,72,139	1883-84	3,03,55,753
1881-82	2,61,67,165	1884-85	2,88,73,204

As has been said in previous reviews, a very large part of this trade consists of the export of cotton twist and piece goods, chiefly from Bombay to Africa and the islands on its coast and to Asiatic ports lying westward of Bombay. The whole trade last year with these places was :—

	Rs.
Persia	95,42,962
Arabia	18,80,645
Asiatic Turkey	18,44,019
Zanzibar	10,26,800
Aden	9,45,296
Mozambique	5,82,112
Egypt	4,41,009
Mauritius	4,00,897

This represents Rs. 1,66,63,740 out of the total, leaving Rs. 1,22,09,464 as the value of the re-export trade with other countries of which the greater part was thus distributed :—

	Rs.
United Kingdom	66,54,970
Straits	25,09,381
Hong-Kong	9,13,702
Ceylon	6,57,751

There remains something under 14 lakhs, which was distributed amongst various other countries in small amounts.

The principal re-exports to the United Kingdom are ivory, gums, and spices from Africa and Zanzibar, and Mekran wool; but the returns are swelled with a great number of European articles sent back to England for repairs or for other reasons by private parties or in the way of trade for want of a market here.

To Persia the exports of cotton yarn and piece goods represented a value of between 58 and 59 lakhs, being 61 per cent of the total re-export trade with that country. The exports of the same class of goods to the Straits amounted to 19½ lakhs, 8¾ lakhs to Asiatic Turkey, 10 lakhs to Arabia, 6¾ lakhs to Zanzibar, and so on for other places. The whole value of cotton goods and twist exported was about 125 lakhs, twist however being a comparatively very small item. The trade was materially smaller than it has been in recent years.

The trade in ivory seems to fluctuate within certain limits. In regard to both these articles it is not probable that much development of trade may be expected, for the increase of direct trade between England and the coast whence the ivory is shipped and to which the cotton goods are taken must tend in course of time to lessen the need of using Bombay as an entrepôt. There was a considerable increase in the sugar trade, resulting no doubt from the unprecedented cheapness of sugar during the year, and there was also a remarkable expansion in the trade in tea of which 985,842 lbs. were exported, not far from double the exports of previous years. Of this quantity 855,677 lbs. were sent to Persia. It is remarkable that there should be brought to India—a tea producing country wanting markets for its produce—nearly a million pounds of foreign tea, Chinese and Japanese, for reshipment to countries convenient to us, and that our planters and merchants should make no real effort to obtain possession of these markets. We sent 855,677 lbs. of foreign tea to Persia, and during the same year we sent only 40,974 lbs. of our own tea. It is for those who are interested in the tea industry to consider what these figures indicate.

Exports of Indian Merchandise.

67. The values of this trade for the last five years have been as follow :—

	Rs.
1880-81	71,97,40,678
1881-82	79,25,52,431
1882-83	80,59,81,554
1883-84	85,08,57,205
1884-85	80,31,32,079

The trade of the year was about 5·6 per cent. less in value than that of 1883-84. Most of the decline was the result of a restriction in the quantity of wheat and rice exported, coupled with a considerable fall in the prices of both grains. The export of raw cotton was also materially smaller, and there were smaller restrictions in coffee, tea, sugar, indigo, opium, and silk. Restricted as the trade was, it exceeded in value the trade of five years ago by about 11½ per cent.

68. The following table gives for 1880-81 and 1884-85 the quantities of the principal articles of Indian produce and manufacture exported:—

		1880-81.	1884-85.	INCREASE OR DECREASE.	
				Quantity.	Per cent.
Coffee	cwt.	369,357	228,317	— 41,010	— 11.11
Rice	"	27,266,040	22,051,532	— 5,214,508	— 19.12
Wheat	"	7,444,275	15,831,754	+ 8,387,379	+ 112.67
Pulse	"	240,889	608,233	+ 367,344	+ 152.5
Spices	lbs.	16,444,766	20,990,220	+ 4,535,454	+ 27.58
Sugar	cwt.	534,174	1,070,919	+ 536,745	+ 100.48
Tea	lbs.	46,113,510	64,162,055	+17,748,545	+ 38.24
Cotton, raw	cwt.	4,541,539	5,066,057	+ 524,518	+ 11.55
Hides, raw	"	595,114	733,652	+ 138,508	+ 23.27
Skins, raw	"	40,661	45,312	+ 4,651	+ 11.51
Jute, raw	"	5,809,815	8,368,686	+ 2,558,871	+ 44.04
Salt petre	"	352,995	451,917	+ 98,922	+ 28.02
Seeds	"	10,229,109	18,250,688	+ 8,021,579	+ 78.42
Silk, raw, waste and cocoons	lbs.	1,302,576	1,561,901	+ 262,325	+ 20.14
Teakwood	tons	65,626	47,566	— 18,060	— 27.52
Wool, raw	lbs.	22,602,690	18,928,173	— 3,674,517	— 16.26
Cotton yarn	"	26,901,346	65,897,183	+38,995,837	+ 144.96
Cotton piece goods, grey	yards	21,739,056	33,140,782	+11,401,726	+ 52.45
Cotton piece goods, coloured	"	8,196,227	14,608,495	+ 6,412,268	+ 78.23
Gunny bags	No.	52,386,227	82,779,207	+30,392,980	+ 58.02
Silk piece goods	yards	2,127,576	3,467,308	+ 1,339,732	+ 62.97
Chinchona bark	lbs.	699,258	745,730	+ 46,472	+ 6.65
Opium	chests	92,190	86,578	— 5,612	— 6.09
Tobacco	lbs.	13,267,325	15,620,864	+ 2,353,539	+ 17.74
Cutch	cwt.	320,756	246,159	— 74,597	— 23.26
Indigo	"	116,870	154,629	+ 37,759	+ 32.31
Myrabolam	"	315,628	533,730	+ 238,102	+ 75.44
Hides, tanned	"	62,871	102,215	+ 39,344	+ 62.58
Skins, tanned	"	113,313	129,369	+ 16,056	+ 14.17
Lac, shell and button	"	80,602	141,847	+ 61,245	+ 75.98
Oils	gals.	4,999,184	5,120,504	+ 121,320	+ 2.43

69. This table shows that last year's trade in coffee, rice, teak, timber, raw wool, opium, and cutch was not equal to that of five years previously, and in fact was in every case materially below that level. One does not now expect to see an increasing and vigorous trade in coffee, the industry having steadily gone from bad to worse for some years past. It may be hoped that the rice trade will soon again resume larger dimensions, but the decline in the exports of this grain as well as of teak and cutch is unfortunate for Burma of which province they are staple productions.

70. But while these six articles have fallen off—the decline of all but one being no doubt quite temporary—all the other chief products of the country

have increased, in most cases very largely, during the same period. The cotton industry has made a great advance, though not a profitable one: the export of yarn has risen from nearly 27 million to nearly 66 million pounds, an increase of 145 per cent.; cotton piece goods have risen from about 30 million yards to nearly 48 million yards; the number of gunny bags has risen from 52½ million to 82¼ million. The export of wheat and sugar has more than doubled, and in seeds, jute, indigo, and all other articles the last five years have seen remarkable improvement.

Those articles in which there was a diminished trade last year compared with the trade of five years ago represented about 26 per cent. of the value of the year's exports, half of this being the value of opium. The articles in which on the other hand the trade has increased represented 70½ per cent. of its total value.

71. The following table gives for exports the information given for imports in the table printed in the 36th paragraph of this review:

	1884-85.		MORE OR LESS THAN IN 1883-84.		DIFFERENCE IN VALUE DUE TO	
	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity. £	Prices. £
<i>Drugs and Narcotics—</i>						
Chinchona bark . . . lbs.	745,730	98,611	+ 439,311	+ 57,966	58,272	—306
Opium . . . cwt.	118,599	10,832,606	—7,986	—411,854	712,545	—300,691
Tobacco (including cigars) . lbs.	16,025,301	149,990	—3,060,366	—17,681	26,836	—9,205
<i>Foodstuffs—</i>						
Coffee . . . cwt.	328,317	1,245,506	—11,708	—193,357	49,544	143,813
Rice (not in the husk) . . . "	21,702,136	7,122,787	—5,129,579	—1,206,092	1,592,231	—336,189
Wheat . . . "	15,831,754	6,309,149	—5,124,741	—2,568,421	2,170,925	397,486
Spices . . . lbs.	20,950,220	473,718	+ 3,753,018	+ 103,231	79,612	28,689
Sugar (refined and unrefined) . cwt.	1,070,919	546,069	—559,601	—397,149	323,716	73,433
Tea . . . lbs.	64,162,055	4,044,759	+ 4,250,352	—39,121	—239,725	328,846
<i>Goods fully manufactured—</i>						
Cotton piece goods, grey . yds.	33,140,732	362,536	—8,893,578	—107,335	99,469	7,866
" coloured, &c. . . "	14,608,495	439,697	+ 1,189,312	+ 57,750	33,851	23,839
Jute bags . . . No.	82,779,207	1,410,323	+ 19,133,223	+ 154,064	377,656	—223,532
Lac, shell and button . . . cwt.	141,847	597,462	+ 31,031	+ 44,130	154,945	—110,815
Silk piece goods (including mixed piece goods) . . . yds.	3,537,711	324,676	+ 670,437	+ 43,012	64,737	— 21,725
Woolen shawls . . . No.	19,759	66,306	+ 7,005	+ 12,039	29,806	—17,767
<i>Goods partly manufactured—</i>						
Cotton twist and yarn . . . lbs.	65,897,183	2,441,101	+ 16,020,577	+ 514,939	618,691	—103,752
Indigo . . . cwt.	154,629	4,068,900	—13,961	—572,091	384,322	187,769
Hides and skins, dressed or tanned . . . cwt.	231,584	2,075,760	+ 492	—111,612	—14,184	125,796
Oils, castor . . . gals.	3,207,045	308,460	+ 104,932	—4,510	—10,592	15,102
" cocoanut . . . "	1,553,837	182,013	+ 565,373	+ 43,723	67,655	—23,932
Saltpetre . . . cwt.	451,917	425,000	—39,751	—39,410	37,547	1,863
Silk, raw (including waste) . lbs.	1,564,901	463,561	—37,913	—164,051	14,846	149,205
<i>Raw material—</i>						
Caoutchouc, raw . . . cwt.	8,117	77,329	—1,056	—36,030	13,050	22,990
Cotton, raw . . . "	5,066,057	13,256,367	—913,437	—1,097,361	2,197,231	—1,099,920
Myrabolans . . . "	553,730	239,013	+ 106,011	+ 54,907	43,592	11,315
Nutch and gambier . . . "	246,159	232,108	—56,143	—71,092	65,596	5,496
Hides and skins, raw . . . "	773,994	2,853,580	+ 93,636	+ 382,215	333,329	43,886
Jute, raw . . . "	8,363,686	4,661,368	+ 1,350,701	+ 63,733	883,911	—815,178
<i>Oil seeds—</i>						
Linseed . . . "	8,746,596	4,912,034	+ 202,830	+ 328,911	108,825	220,086
Rape . . . "	4,521,933	2,683,591	+ 576,206	+ 242,153	356,530	—114,373
Til or jinfla . . . "	2,646,484	1,923,013	—206,898	—56,741	143,551	—86,810
Other sorts . . . "	2,286,059	1,195,933	+ 316,159	+ 145,809	168,540	—22,731
Stone, jade . . . "	3,738	56,005	—107	—25,291	2,262	23,029
Teak timber . . . cubic tons.	47,556	532,129	+ 1,085	+ 6,632	12,268	—5,588
Wool, raw . . . lbs.	18,923,173	713,576	—1,168,023	—42,265	41,799	466

72. The exports are classified in the same way as the imports, but whereas the most important imports are classed under the heading "articles manufactured and partly manufactured," we find the exports comprised in

“ articles of food and drink ” and “ raw materials and unmanufactured articles ” to represent about 55 crores out of the total of 80 crores. The values of each section are given in the following paragraphs, as was done in the paragraphs treating of imports.

I.—Animals, living—

	Rs.
1880-81	7,08,887
1881-82	7,78,037
1882-83	8,99,826
1883-84	12,78,636
1884-85	11,79,547

73. A small trade, mainly confined to the shipment from Madras of cattle and sheep to Ceylon, the Straits, and Sumatra.

II.—Articles of food and drink—

	Rs.
1880-81	18,30,91,779
1881-82	23,44,90,549
1882-83	21,46,53,285
1883-84	24,81,18,037
1884-85	20,59,18,718

74. The principal articles in this head, in the value of which the year's trade shows a falling off of 17 per cent., are coffee, rice, wheat, spices, sugar, and tea. Each of these, spices excepted, shared in the reduction of value, the decline in rice, wheat, and sugar being particularly marked.

75. The exports of *Coffee* for the last five years have been :—

	Cwt.
1880-81	369,357
1881-82	316,364
1882-83	353,324
1883-84	340,025
1884-85	328,317

These figures sufficiently indicate the critical condition of Indian coffee resulting from a combination of causes—disease in the plantations, dissipation of energy in the vain search for auriferous rocks, low prices in the European markets arising out of greatly increased production in other countries. Compared with the exports of 1883-84, those of last year declined nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in quantity and over 13 per cent. in value; in 1883-84 however prices were fairly good in London. During the present year prices have kept tolerably steady at between £2 15s. 6d. and £2 19s. per cwt. (minimum and maximum), but the rates are low compared with those of 1883-84, when they ranged from £3 5s. to £4 a cwt.

Of the quantity exported about 34,000 cwt. were sent to Persia, Asiatic Turkey, Arabia, Egypt, and the East African Coast, and these places, especially the four first mentioned countries, now form a somewhat important market for Indian coffee. England and France however continue to take the bulk of the exports.

76. In *Fruits and Vegetables* the trade is small. There is a trifling export of the latter (mainly potatoes) to Ceylon, the Straits, Hong Kong, and Zanzibar, but the largest item is cocoanut kernel or copra of which a fairly large quantity was exported to France last year. The whole value of the trade however was under 8 lakhs.

77. *Grain and Pulse*.—This head comprises gram, rice, wheat, oats, pulse (*dál*), rice flour, *jowári* and *bájra*, and some undistinguished kinds. In rice and wheat only is the trade of real importance. *Gram* is sent to Mauritius and Réunion, to Ceylon and the Straits, for consumption by horses and by coolie immigrants. Mauritius takes the largest proportion of the exports, the Indian coolie population of that island being very numerous. *Pulse (dál)* is much more largely exported than gram. Last year the quantity exported was 608,233 cwt., value 17 lakhs. Five years ago only 240,889 cwt. were exported. This great augmentation of the trade has occurred only during the last two years. One commonly sees bags of *dál* now in the grocers' shops in England, and if the wholesome and nourishing pulses of India come to be as well known and appreciated as they deserve, it is quite possible that the trade may in the future assume extensive dimensions. At present, however, Indian pulses are still mainly ground up for the preparation of the "foods for invalids" so much advertised. Of the exports of last year 392,326 cwt. were shipped to England, most of the remainder going to Mauritius, Natal South America (that is, to British, French and Dutch Guiana), the West Indies, Ceylon, and the Straits, for coolie consumption. In *Oats* the trade is small and apparently declining. Almost all of this grain is sent to Mauritius. It is singular enough that though oats are cultivated in India over a moderately large area capable of indefinite extension, it is bought in the country solely by the Commissariat, and large quantities of oatmeal are regularly imported in tins all the way from England and the United States for Anglo-Indian consumption. We are still, it is clear, in regard to many things in but the primary stage of evolution. The export of *rice flour* commenced a few years ago and was carried on in a small way until the great fall in the price of rice made the trade unprofitable. There has been no trade in this article for the last two years. The millets *jowári* and *bájra* are exported in small quantities to Aden, Arabia, the Eastern coast of Africa, and the Mekran coast. They are chiefly consumed by the people of the East African littoral. The events of the last two years on that coast have greatly interfered with the trade and much reduced its dimensions.

78. *Rice*.—The exports for the last five years of husked rice were :—

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	26,769,344	8,97,16,809
1881-82	28,519,422	8,24,95,769
1882-83	31,029,721	8,44,00,909
1883-84	26,831,715	8,32,88,786
1884-85	21,702,136	7,12,27,870

The exports of 1883-84 were less than those of 1882-83 by 13½ per cent. in quantity and 1½ per cent. in value. Last year's trade was again less than that of 1883-84 by 19 per cent. in quantity and 14½ per cent. in value. The year in fact was a disastrous one for the rice trade. Prices of Rangoon rice gradually declined in the London market from 8s. 10d. a cwt. in December

1883 to 6s. 10d. in December 1884, a fall of about 22½ per cent., and at the commencement of July the price had only recovered to 7s. The rice crop of Burma was not up to the average, and much larger supplies than usual were sent to Upper Burma. The holders of rice were thus able to demand higher prices for their rice than the conditions of the European markets justified exporters in paying, and the business was so unprofitable that some large failures occurred. A larger quantity has been exported during the current year, but it is doubtful whether the trade as yet gives any positive indication of returning to a profitable condition. Stocks in Europe are large, competition with other rice-producing countries increases every year, and the continued low prices of other grains useful for distillation seriously affect the market for rice so far as it is used for that purpose. It may be noted here that the competition of Saigon and Bangkok is becoming important. There were exported from Saigon, in 1884, 509,000 tons, of which about 113,000 tons were shipped to Europe, and from Bangkok 278,771 tons, of which 46,741 tons were shipped to Europe.

As regards Japan the British Consul at Nagasaki says that "there is a large and steady demand for Japanese rice in New Zealand and the Australian Colonies, and in Europe its merits as a rich and palatable table rice meet with increasing recognition. When more freely opened to the participation of foreign merchants, the export trade in Japanese rice has the promise of a bright future" (Report for 1883). The British Legation at Tokio add that "a sample of what can be done in favourable seasons in Japan was afforded in 1878, when rice to a value of over 4½ million dollars was exported. And if this is the case at present when the open ports where alone trade can be carried on are not good outlets for the rice districts, cost of transport to them being great, what may be expected when the ports of the rice growing districts are opened for trade?"

The destinations of the shipments of rice for the last three years were as follow:—

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
1. To England and the Continent .	19 millions	16¾ millions	12·17 millions.
2. To Asiatic Countries	8½ "	6½ "	6·22 "
3. To the East African Coast and British Colonies in Africa	2 "	2¼ "	2·27 "
4. To South America and the West Indies	1,200,000	1,288,000	982,000
5. To Australia	70,000	48,000	61,000

"England and the Continent" in this list include Egypt, for the rice which is recorded as sent to that country is merely shipped nominally to Port Said, the vessel on arrival there finding orders to proceed to some European port. With Australia alone of all countries was there any appreciable increase in the trade during the year, and even here the exports were much below those of 1882-83. The decline in the shipments to European countries was particularly great. To England the exports were a million hundredweight less than in 1883-84, and other countries compare thus:—

	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
France	758,726	22,104
Italy	334,740	6,094
Malta	3,312,851	1,420,000

With France and Italy the trade practically ceased. A heavy additional tax recently imposed upon foreign grain imported into France will probably have the effect desired of practically suppressing the import trade in grain. It was stated in the review for 1883-84 that the Italian distilleries had been buying largely in 1883 in anticipation of an increase in the spirit duties and that there had been no necessity to buy more in 1884. Malta is, as is well known, a great storehouse for Indian rice intended for Continental ports.

Of the whole quantity exported in the year Burma rice represented 62 per cent., Bengal rice about 28 per cent., Madras rice about $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Exports from Bombay and Sindh are always comparatively very small.

79. In *Wheat*, as in rice, the trade was materially smaller than in 1883-84.

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	7,441,375	3,27,79,416
1881-82	19,863,520	8,60,40,815
1882-83	14,144,407	6,06,89,341
1883-84	20,956,495	8,87,75,610
1884-85	15,831,754	6,30,91,402

The quantity exported was about $24\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. less and the value fell off in even greater proportion, being about 29 per cent. smaller than in 1883-84. Considering the range of prices for wheat in England the decline in the trade is no matter for astonishment. Indeed, even a sharper decrease might have been looked for, and it would no doubt have taken place but for the circumstance that the trade in wheat is eminently speculative, and great quantities having been bought and freights contracted for on speculation months in advance of the actual time of shipment, merchants found themselves obliged to carry out their contracts and proceed with shipments in the face of prices which in many cases left an actual loss on the transactions. The fall of prices was quite unprecedented. In the review for 1883-84 it was shewn how the average yearly price had fallen since 1882. The figures may be stated here again for convenience of reference.

	s.	d.
1880	44	4
1881	45	4
1882	45	1
1883	41	7
1st half 1884	37	8

Following on this fall prices ranged thus for the second half of the year :

	s.	d.
July	37	4
August	37	6
September	34	3
October	32	4
November	32	0
December	30	10

From this low point there has been a slight rise since, the prices in the present year 1885 being—

	s.	d.
January	31	5
February	33	9
March	32	0
April	32	7
May	37	1
June	34	6
July	33	3

Anticipations of hostilities with Russia led to a rise in May which was not maintained. It is reported that the outturn of American winter wheat will be greatly below the average this year, little more indeed than will suffice for home consumption, and practically the only available quantity for exportation will be the surplus from previous crops. Wheat in Southern Russia too is a disastrous failure from drought. But the crops in England and the rest of Europe are a fair average, and the supplies in prospect from other sources are large. Although therefore there may be a further recovery of prices yet it can hardly be expected that they will reach even the comparatively low point of the average of the first six months of 1884. If this anticipation should prove correct, it will be necessary if any profit is to be found in continuing the trade that the cost of rail transport in India, the cost of sea freight, and the rate of exchange, as well as the prices of wheat in India, should all rule very low. So far this has been the case, and in consequence we find that in the first three months of this year—April, May, and June—exports were greatly in excess of those of the corresponding quarter last year, being 5,620,365 cwt. against 3,912,386 cwt. If exports were to proceed at the same rate for the rest of the year the total shipments would be a million hundredweight in excess of those of 1883-84, when nearly 21 million were exported. But the trade of the first quarter, stimulated as it was by anticipations of war, is hardly perhaps a good standard by which to judge what will happen during the rest of the year. It will be well to bear in mind that this is a speculative and uncertain trade, dependent for its importance upon the concurrent existence of a number of factors, the absence of any one of which is liable from month to month, and year to year, to create violent fluctuations and reduce a large trade to one of relatively unimportant dimensions. At the same time it may be taken as certain that the trade is hardly likely in future to shrink to smaller proportions than those of 1880-81, though it may often under favouring conditions be double or treble, perhaps four times as large.

The exports of the last two years have been thus distributed :

	1883-84 Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
United Kingdom	10,508,210	7,411,981
France	3,397,908	3,312,135
Egypt (for the Continent)	3,305,999	2,150,439
Belgium	2,593,577	1,738,684
Italy	445,522	700,875
Holland	192,750	133,905
Malta	124,413	93,184
Other European countries	185,729	100,121
	<u>20,754,108</u>	<u>15,674,324</u>

In 1883-84 there were 202,387 cwt. left for consumption elsewhere than in Europe; last year the quantity so left was 157,430 cwt., chiefly shipped to Mauritius, Zanzibar, Aden and Arabia, Ceylon and the Straits. Practically it may be said that all the Indian wheat exported is for European consumption, and that it is taken roughly in about equal proportions by England and by the Continent.

The bulk of this trade keeps tending towards Bombay and Karáchi as will be seen from the following figures showing the division of the trade for the last three years:—

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
Bombay	6,957,752	8,970,603	8,993,108
Sindh	2,732,275	4,372,832	4,271,860
Bengal	4,439,105	7,611,535	2,563,204
Madras	6,599	1,525	1,315
Burma	8,376	...	2,267

Bengal had 31½ per cent. of the trade in the first of these three years, 36½ per cent. in the second, and only just above 16 per cent. last year. Bombay and Sindh together had 68½ per cent. and 63·6 per cent. in the first two years, but their share was close on 84 per cent. last year. During the present year Bengal shipped about 26 per cent. of the exports of the first quarter.

80. The trade in *Provisions* again increased, as it has been doing steadily every year for the last seven years, having risen in that period from 19½ to 31½ lakhs. The quantity of *Flour* exported—mainly to Aden, Ceylon, Zanzibar, and Arabia—increased last year from under 8 million to above 11 million pounds. The increase however must to a substantial extent be attributed to the presence of troops on the East African Coast. Some day in the future perhaps a really large trade may arise in the export of flour from India to Europe such as now exists from the United States. There is no apparent reason why it should not begin now, but at present the exports, small as they are, proceed from Bombay almost entirely. There seems to be some prospect of the establishment of steam flour mills in that city capable of doing more than merely supply the local demand. The trade in *Fishmaws* and *Sharkfins* and *Lard* also increased, but there was a falling off in *Ghi*—which is exported mainly for coolie consumption in Mauritius, Ceylon, the Straits, and other places—as well as in *Salted fish* which also goes chiefly to Ceylon.

81. In *Spices* there was a large increase, the value being 47·37 lakhs last year against 36½ the year before. In *Ginger*—mostly exported to England—an unusually large trade was done, the quantity exported being 8¼ million pounds, worth about 15·7 lakhs. The export of *Pepper* too was a little larger, and there was a material increase in *Cardamoms*.

82. The exports of refined *Sugar* fell from 203,693 cwt. to 55,323 cwt. and of unrefined from 1,426,827 cwt. to 1,015,596 cwt. The bulk of the trade was from Madras. Of the refined sugar 20,754 cwt. were sent to Ceylon, 14,460 cwt. to Australia, and 10,855 cwt. to England. Of unrefined sugar the bulk, 785,547 cwt., was shipped to England. The conditions of the sugar trade during the year having been fully discussed elsewhere and the causes stated of the increase of imports into India and the decline of exports, it is

unnecessary to enter upon the matter again here. It is sufficient to say that there has been since the end of the year some recovery from the very low prices which distressed the trade, a recovery due to the knowledge that the area under beet in Continental Europe has been much reduced as a result of low and unprofitable course of prices.

83. *Tea*.—Exports increase year after year, but prices have fallen to a level which is very low compared with that of former years, and it is probable that the industry must be content to see them range permanently at a perhaps lower level than that now reached. The quantities and values exported during the last five years were :

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	46,413,510	3,05,42,400
1881-82	48,691,725	3,60,91,363
1882-83	57,766,225	3,69,94,965
1883-84	59,911,703	4,08,38,805
1884-85	64,162,055	4,04,47,592

While the quantity exported increased 7 per cent. in the year the value was actually slightly smaller, the decrease in the latter being in proportion to quantity nearly 8 per cent. Prices in Calcutta were, in—

	Fine Pekoe per lb.			Good Souchong per lb.			Congou per lb.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
January 1881	1	5	0	0	7	0	0	6	0
„ 1882	1	3	6	0	9	6	0	7	0
„ 1883	1	1	0	0	8	6	0	5	6
„ 1884	1	2	0	0	7	0	0	6	0
„ 1885	0	14	0	0	6	0	0	5	0

In London also prices have ranged lower this year than last year though a little higher than in 1883. For good Congou the quotations are :—

	1883.		1884.		1885.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
January	1	0	1	2	1	0½
February	1	0	1	2	1	0½
March	1	0	1	2	1	0½
April	1	0	1	2	1	0½
May	1	0	1	1	1	1½
June	1	0	0	10	1	1½
July	0	11	1	3	1	3
August	1	5	1	2	...	
September	1	2	1	3	...	
October	1	2	1	2	...	
November	1	2	1	1	...	
December	1	2	1	1	...	

The *Times* publishes figures shewing the average price of tea in England to have been in :

1869	17-78d. per lb.
1873	16-67d. „
1878	15-29d. „
1883	12-46d. „
1884	11-78d. „

The condition of affairs in China was expected to have a beneficial effect on the prices of Indian tea, but these anticipations have not been realised.

At the tea sales of the year in Calcutta out of 306,820 chests sold, 103,267 were from Assam, 99,187 from Cachar, 44,800 from Darjeeling and Kurseong, 40,302 from the Terai and Dooars, 9,300 from Chittagong. The other tea-growing districts have a quite insignificant representation at the Calcutta sales. There were 89,054 chests of Pekoe, 65,896 of broken Pekoe, 62,437 of Pekoe Souchong, these three classes forming the bulk of the tea sold.

The whole area in India reported as under tea in 1884, was 266,286 acres namely, 188,428 in Assam and Cachar, 55,698 in Bengal, 8,427 in the North-Western Provinces (Kumaon, Gurhwal and the Dún), 8,172 in the Punjab (Kangra), 5,551 in Madras, of which 1,487 in Travancore, and only 10½ acres in Burma.

The exports were thus distributed :

	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
England	54,108,114	59,225,189	62,154,264
Australia	2,772,461	379,204	1,515,044
United States	676,507	198,612	174,376
Straits	129,241	30,958	120,659
Other countries in Europe	11,680	26,224	54,382
Other countries in Asia	59,017	41,839	93,409

The quantity sent to England last year was nearly 15 per cent. larger than it was two years previously. From the English trade returns it appears that the imports of tea from the "British East Indies" have risen from 25½ million pounds in 1875 to 66 million pounds in 1884, while in the same period the imports of tea from China have fallen from 170½ million pounds to 144½ million pounds. The proportion borne by imported Indian tea to the whole imports was about 13 per cent. in 1875 and 31.4 per cent. in 1884. It also appears that while the China tea trade is of a very fluctuating character, the imports from India have steadily augmented from year to year without interruption during these ten years.

The trade with Australia shewed some revival of vigour during the year, but is still very much smaller than it should be. While in England the consumption of Indian tea may be taken at about two pounds per head of the population, in Australia the consumption is still only about a third of a pound. The exports must be sixfold the quantity shipped last year before the consumption in proportion to the population equals that of England. The efforts made to open a trade with the United States have been so far unsuccessful, and Chinese and Japanese teas still hold their ground there. The trade with Asiatic countries ought to be twenty times as large as it is, and it is astonishing that no serious effort is made to send Indian teas to Persia to which country, as pointed out in another part of this review, large quantities of China and Java teas are sent from Bombay.

		Rs.
III.—Raw materials and unmanufactured articles.	1880-81	28,85,17,342
	1881-82	31,00,69,985
	1882-83	31,55,65,319
	1883-84	34,94,34,530
	1884-85	34,54,78,415

84. This class, the aggregate value of which last year was 43 per cent. of the whole export trade, comprises some of the most important commodities in the list of exports—cotton, hides and skins, jute, saltpetre, seeds, silk, teakwood, and wool.

85. *Cotton, raw*, is much the most important article in the Indian export trade, largely exceeding in value opium, seeds, wheat, or rice. The exports for the last five years have been :

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	4,541,539	13,24,17,341
1881-82	5,627,453	14,93,59,595
1882-83	6,168,278	16,04,90,174
1883-84	5,979,494	14,38,37,278
1884-85	5,066,057	13,28,63,673

The reduction in the quantity exported was above 15 per cent., though the value fell in only half that proportion. Of this decrease of 913,437 cwt. as much as 317,662 cwt. occurred in cotton shipped from Calcutta, the result of a short and inferior crop. The Bombay cotton crop was also below the average. The prices of cotton in England in 1884 were on the whole rather better sustained than in 1883. Fair Dhollera was quoted in :

	1883.	1884.	1885.
January	3½d. per lb.	4d. per lb.	4¼d. per lb.
July	3½d. „	4d. „	4½ „

The exports were thus distributed :

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
United Kingdom	2,865,065	2,696,921	2,134,762
Italy	937,934	881,860	740,647
France	585,766	668,151	577,169
Austria	704,550	600,163	575,645
Belgium	333,708	458,472	533,993
China	368,556	313,226	236,600
Germany	114,412	132,535	85,353
Other countries (Europe)	155,074	156,239	98,904
Other countries (Asia)	36,110	67,251	79,681

England took last year about two-fifths of the whole quantity, but much of the cotton shipped to England from India—about half the imports—is re-exported to the Continent, and in fact England consumes less than a fifth of the cotton exported from India. There are indications that Continental countries—Austria, France, Italy, Belgium—are ceasing to draw supplies of cotton from Calcutta and prefer to take them from Bombay. As practically all the cotton exported from Calcutta comes from the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces it may be expected that this trade, like the trade in wheat and seeds, will in future find its most convenient outlets in Bombay and Karáchi. The exports from Bengal have fallen away remarkably :

	Cwt.
1880-81	875,697
1881-82	702,338
1882-83	512,305
1883-84	636,633
1884-85	288,976

The decline last year was more than 55 per cent.

The cotton crop in India this year promises well, and as the crop in the United States is expected to be rather smaller than last year, and prices in England are sustained, it is probable that the exports this year will be larger and profitable. It is to be regretted that no serious attempt has yet been made to obtain trustworthy statistics of the area under cotton in each district, the proportion of the commercial varieties cultivated in different provinces, and the condition of the crop from time to time. Such statistics are much wanted by the commercial community of Bombay and they ought to be forthcoming. The statistics now published are incomplete and inaccurate.

86. *Hides and skins, raw.*—This trade continues to increase. The exports of hides (of cattle) are especially large, having amounted to 8,374,409 in number (733,652 cwt.) last year, an excess of 1,028,796 over the exports of 1883-84. The value of the exports was declared at 252·3 lakhs. Of smaller skins the number exported was 4,551,567 (45,342 cwt.) which also was in excess of the previous year's trade by nearly three-quarters of a million in number. Value declared over 33½ lakhs. These were shipped as follows:

	Hides.		Skins.	
	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
To United Kingdom	384,140	417,636	3,151	19,856
United States	106,094	116,987	35,163	21,719
Austria	32,091	42,463	513	283
France	16,820	15,420	2,477	2,184
Italy	72,493	96,593	1,473	985
Other countries	30,785	44,553	128	315

The exports of hides to Italy have increased 52 per cent. during the last five years. The centre of the hide trade is Calcutta, whence about six-sevenths of the exports were shipped last year.

87. *Jute, raw.*—The quantities of this important fibre exported during the last five years are given below, with the declared values:

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	5,809,815	3,93,40,296
1881-82	7,510,314	5,03,03,023
1882-83	10,348,909	5,81,69,259
1883-84	7,017,985	4,59,26,353
1884-85	8,368,686	4,66,13,684

Comparing the trade of last year with that of the year which preceded it, it will be seen that while the quantity exported was 19 per cent. larger the value was only 1½ per cent. larger, indicating a heavy fall in prices. It was stated in the review published last year that the large exports of 1882-83 were the result of an unprecedentedly abundant crop, but that its abundance depressed prices to such a point that the area under jute was greatly restricted. On this restricted area moreover the crops were not good and exports accordingly in 1883-84 fell to a low point. In the following year there was plenty of jute, the crop being good, but its quality was poor, and the result is seen in an augmented export but low prices. In January 1884 the price of picked jute in Calcutta was Rs. 29-8 the bale, and in the same month of 1885 it was Rs. 20, a fall of 32 per cent. Ordinary jute had fallen in the same period from Rs. 27-8 to Rs. 18, a reduction of more than 34 per cent.

These low prices moreover merely corresponded with the range of prices in England, which stood as follows for good marks :

	• £
January 1883	14-10 per ton.
July „	15 „
January 1884	17-5 „
July „	15-10 „
January 1885	13 „

From July 1884 the price steadily fell until it reached £13 at the end of the year, remaining at that rate until April of the present year. There has been a small recovery since, but in July the price still remained no higher than £13-10 a ton.

Exports were thus distributed :

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
United Kingdom	7,834,136	5,534,950	6,077,075
United States	2,002,731	1,244,086	1,726,193
Austria	117,614	115,224	194,894
Italy	65,523	91,863	112,278
Germany	184,508	None	130,387
Other countries	114,362	31,562	127,859

The trade may be considered as one belonging exclusively to Bengal. A little over a million hundred weights were exported from Chittagong, whither it was brought down the Megna from Narainganj, and the rest from Calcutta.

88. *Saltpetre* was exported in smaller quantity than in 1883-84, but the trade was still much larger than it had been in previous years. Total value of exports 42½ lakhs. This also is a Bengal trade, nearly all the saltpetre exported being produced in Behar.

89. *Seeds*.—This trade has developed in recent years into one of the first importance, exceeding greatly the trade in wheat, rice, jute both raw and manufactured combined, indigo, or tea, and being exceeded only by cotton and opium. The way in which this trade has augmented during the last five years will be apparent from the figures placed below :

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	10,229,109	6,34,52,089
1881-82	10,466,098	6,05,40,987
1882-83	13,139,206	7,20,03,365
1883-84	17,355,588	10,08,37,583
1884-85	18,250,688	10,74,52,035

The trade increased during the year in quantity by a little more than 5 per cent., in value by 6½ per cent. The increase in the five years was about 78½ per cent. in quantity and 69½ per cent. in value.

Linseed, rapeseed, til or jinjili seed (sesame), poppy seed, earthnuts, and castor seed, are the principal kinds of seed. They have here been mentioned in the order of their respective aggregate values last year, thus:

	Rs.
Linseed	4,01,29,344
Rapeseed	2,68,35,906
Sesame	1,92,30,123
Poppy	40,91,595
Earthnuts	36,14,063
Castor	21,03,379

These values amounted to 1,050 lakhs, all other kinds together representing only 24½ lakhs in value.

The exports of *Linseed* stand thus for the last five years :

	Cwt.
1880-81	5,997,172
1881-82	5,116,110
1882-83	6,737,114
1883-84	8,543,766
1884-85	8,746,596

The increase during the year was something less than 2½ per cent., but it was hardly to be expected that there would have been even this small increase in view of the sudden expansion of the trade from its former dimensions in 1883-84, and perhaps there would have been no increase but for the apprehension of war with Russia. In the five years the increase in the quantity exported was nearly 46 per cent. The diversion of this trade from Calcutta to Bombay is so striking that the figures will be of interest :

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.]	1884-85.
<i>Exports from—</i>	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Bengal	4,065,341	2,864,116	3,492,945	4,290,293	3,757,018
Bombay	1,925,524	2,281,422	3,244,000	4,253,419	4,989,578

In 1880-81 Bombay exported 52 per cent. less than Bengal; in 1884-85 Bombay exported 33 per cent. more than Bengal.

The exports during the last three years have been thus distributed :

	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
United Kingdom.	4,694,320	4,885,302	4,731,138
France	653,230	1,416,430	1,656,659
United States	318,531	1,086,199	1,231,437
Egypt	485,508	378,915	.....
Belgium	187,849	356,028	283,272
Holland	251,013	325,521	568,839
Other countries	146,663	95,371	275,251

Apparently the tendency in this business is to take the seed direct to the countries where it is required rather than to continue taking it to England, thence to be reshipped.

In connection with the linseed trade it may be mentioned that the manufacturers of floor-cloths (linoleum and waxcloth) say that oil made from Indian linseed is too rich or fat to make a readily drying and hard surface on these cloths, in the manufacture of which linseed oil is largely used. Russian linseed oil, which is poorer, is preferred as it dries more readily and a higher price is in consequence paid for it. It is also stated, however, that the admixture of rosin gives Indian linseed oil the requisite qualities, and on the other hand the cake made from Indian linseed is preferred by cattle-breeders to Russian cake because of its fattening properties. Nothing seems as yet to be doing in the direction of export of oil instead of seed to be made into oil elsewhere.

Rapeseed.—The trade has increased in even greater proportion than the trade in linseed.

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	1,255,580	67,10,338
1881-82	1,935,621	1,03,19,272
1882-83	2,821,420	1,57,05,233
1883-84	3,945,727	2,44,14,331
1884-85	4,521,933	2,68,35,906

Increase in the year, quantity $14\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., value close on 10 per cent. Increase in the five years, in quantity 260 per cent., in value nearly 300 per cent.

The seed of last year was shipped to :

	Cwt.
England	1,881,207
France	1,194,328
Belgium	707,404
Egypt	484,045

The exports to Egypt were only nominally for Port Said, the real destination of the seed being some Continental port. Excepting the portion sent to England the whole of the exports were directed to the Continent. The shipments to Belgium have increased from 39,000 cwt. in 1880-81 to 707,000 cwt. last year, the value of this trade having risen from 2·7 lakhs to 46·8 lakhs in the same period.

Much more rapeseed is exported from Bombay and Karáchi than from Calcutta. Last year's exports were :

	Cwt.
Bengal	1,908,355
Bombay	1,363,401
Sindh	1,197,887
Madras	52,290

Prices of this seed ranged rather low during the year. At the beginning of 1884 the price was 52s. a quarter; at the end of the year it was 39s. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d., having fallen steadily each month.

The exports of *til* or *jinjili* (*sesame*) were smaller than in the previous year, though substantially larger than at any other period of the five years. The exports were 2,646,484 cwt. which was about 206,000 cwt. short of the trade of 1883-84, value 192·3 lakhs. Almost all of this seed is shipped to the Continent, principally to France and Italy. Hardly any is taken by England. Bombay and Karáchi have almost the monopoly of the export business.

The exports of *Poppy* seed were on a much larger scale than has previously been seen. Nearly 660,000 cwt. were exported, value 40·9 lakhs, an increase of 28 per cent. in quantity and 35 per cent. in value during the year. The trade however is a fluctuating one. France takes large quantities of this seed, about half the exports. England also takes a great deal. Belgium has been taking a fair quantity too in recent years.

In *Earthnuts* the trade was on a somewhat restricted scale. Exports in :

1883-84.	1884-85.
Cwt. 712,954	Cwt. 676,460
Rs. 37,65,462	Rs. 36,14,063

The real extent of the trade, which is of quite recent creation, is however concealed by reason of the circumstance that a considerable export trade is carried on at Pondichery in earthnuts grown in British India. It is reported that a company is about to be formed at that place for the expression and exportation of earthnut oil. Properly conducted such an industry would be as profitable as it would be useful and the example might well be followed at Bombay, whence nearly five-sixths of the exports of the year were shipped. These seeds are taken mostly by France and Belgium.

In *Castor* seed the trade is still comparatively small, but it has grown very quickly. Exports in :

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	76,461	4,33,858
1881-82	250,696	11,77,090
1882-83	222,156	10,02,517
1883-84	512,444	24,00,488
1884-85	476,396	21,03,379

It was shipped last year as follows :

	Cwt.
To France	194,190
„ Italy	91,260
„ England	90,450
„ United States	70,404
„ Russia	30,003

There can be no doubt that the extension of railways in India has materially aided in the development of the great trade in oilseeds, enabling the producer of these bulky articles to transport them quickly and cheaply to the seaport towns. There has been in consequence a large extension in the area cultivated with oilseeds in all parts of the country suitable for their growth. The figures of the trade in recent years indicate a much greater capacity for steady and regular increase. The attention of merchants might usefully be given to the development of an export of Cotton seed. There is a great trade in this seed between the United States and Europe where the oil is used as a substitute for olive oil from the lower qualities of which it is not distinguishable.

90. The trade in *Silk* has been struggling for existence under adverse circumstances for many years. In the face of the keen competition of China, Japan, Italy, France, and other silk-producing countries, there seems to be but little prospect of finding higher prices and widening markets for the relatively inferior and badly reeled silk of India. It has been pointed out in another part of this paper that India imports more silk than is exported. The exports of the last two years were:—

	1883-84.	1884-85.
lbs.	1,602,814	1,564,901
Rs.	62,76,117	46,35,613

Nearly 61 per cent. of the quantity exported last year came under the description “chasam” or waste, and more than 5 per cent. were cocoons. The export of reeled silk, fit for the weaver, was only 531,205 lbs. last year, a smaller quantity than five years ago. It would seem that Bengal is not able to produce reeled silk such as is required by silk manufacturers and the industry is

undoubtedly decaying. As a substitute for this struggling industry in the silk of the mulberry worm it is stated that there is a prospect of the development of an extensive trade in wild silks, those produced by the *tasar*, *eria*, and *múga*. Some persons connected with the silk industry in England and France entertain hopes that this will become an important business. It will be wished that these hopes may be fully realised.

The prices of silk in Calcutta for the last five years have been, for Cossimbazar silk, per factory seer :

	Rs.	A.
January 1880	19	12
" 1881	17	8
" 1882	19	8
" 1883	17	4
" 1884	15	0
" 1885	13	0

The price at the beginning of this year was lower only once, in 1876, when it fell to Rs. 12. In England also Cossimbazar silk, which was quoted at 15s. per lb. in January, fell by January 1884 to 13s. 6d., and by January 1885 to 10s. 3d. Prices since have fallen still lower.

91. In *Teakwood* there was an increase of trade.

	1883-84.		1884-85.
Cubic tons	46,471	Cubic tons	47,556
Rs.	52,54,475	Rs.	53,21,295

But this trade remains at a low level still, compared with the trade of previous years. Prices were much depressed during the year.

92. In *Wool* there has been a steady decline for the last five years :

	lbs.	Rs.
1880-81	22,602,690	1,01,41,371
1881-82	21,580,618	81,45,513
1882-83	21,561,303	79,04,058
1883-84	20,036,196	75,58,409
1884-85	18,928,173	71,35,760

Prices for wool in the London markets have ruled very low in the English markets for the last two years. From 11d. a lb. for Sydney wool in the beginning of 1883, they fell gradually to 10½, 10d., and the year ended with a price of 9¾d. In 1884 the price fell from 9½d. to 8¾ and 8½, rising again to 9½d. at the end of the year, and at this rate it now stands. When these low prices were taken for good Australian wool, it was hardly possible to get a sale for the inferior wool of India and Mekran at a price which made export profitable. The prices of "East India, Ferozepore yellow" are quoted at :

9¾d. per lb. on 31st December 1880.	
10½	" 1881.
9½	" 1882.
9	" 1883.
7½	" 1884.

At the close of the year the price of Indian wool was 12·34 per cent. lower than the average of ten years. Our wool is used in England for blanketings and carpetings and the prices it obtains are amongst the lowest in the market. Almost all our wool is taken to England from Bombay and Karáchi.

93. Of the minor articles comprised in this group there is not much to be said. *Borax* and *Caoutchouc* are not thriving and do not present any prospect of an important future; in both articles the competition of other countries is carried on under conditions which afford little hope of extended trade in them. *Feathers* are being largely exported; last year the value was $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. It is not a business that can be regarded with much satisfaction from any point of view. There is a reckless slaughter of small birds in some places in India, carried on for "sport" or for profit, which should be prevented by the enactment of a close time for small birds, such as now exists for game. There were 101,621 lbs. exported in 1883-84, and 91,136 lbs. last year. These figures indicate the excessive destruction that goes on. It is understood that there are persons in the Dún who make their livelihood by such slaughter of birds. *Horns* are exported very constantly and steadily: value of the trade last year 15.8 lakhs; and there is a fairly large but fluctuating trade done in *Animal bones* (7.9 lakhs last year), although it would be much more profitable in the end to apply the bones to Indian fields. The trade in *Mowra* or *Mowra flowers* fell from 6.7 lakhs to under Rs. 61,000, as the result of prohibitory regulations in France whither the article was shipped for the distillation of spirit. It promised to be an extensive trade. Of *Musk* the value was under $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs; this has been a declining trade for the last two years and it can never be anything of importance. A regular trade is being conducted in *Rags* and other materials for paper making, value Rs. 3.7 lakhs. It is to be hoped that care is taken at the places to which Indian rags are taken to render them innocuous by disinfection. They are mostly shipped to the United States. *Jade*, *tallow*, and *wax* were all exported on a reduced scale during the year.

		Value.
		Rs.
IV.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured	1880-81	21,16,11,276
	1881-82	21,25,31,586
	1882-83	21,07,00,356
	1883-84	21,70,66,234
	1884-85	21,52,14,988

94. It will be noticed from these figures that in this class of articles the export trade is of slow growth compared with the increase in the class comprising raw materials and unmanufactured articles. Five years ago the value of this class of articles was $33\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole export trade; last year it was under $30\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The principal articles comprised in this head are cotton yarn and piece goods, jute goods (bags and cloth), silk goods, woollen goods, opium, tobacco, indigo, cutch, manufactured coir, dressed or tanned hides and skins, and lac (button and shell). It must be allowed that the classification is imperfect, and that certain items under dyes, such as myrabolams, turmeric and cutch, and some under drugs, such as chinchona bark, should be classed under unmanufactured articles. An endeavour will be made to amend the arrangement before the issue of the accounts for the present year.

95. *Cotton yarn*.—The exports of the five years were :

	lbs.	Rs.
1880-81	26,901,346	1,28,25,764
1881-82	30,786,304	1,36,88,362
1882-83	45,378,040	1,81,68,185
1883-84	49,876,606	1,92,61,625
1884-85	65,897,183	2,41,11,008

The trade has more than doubled in five years, at least in quantity, and the year's trade gives an increase of 32 per cent. in quantity and of nearly 27 per cent. in value. The condition of the trade is not however by any means as satisfactory as these figures appear to indicate. The industry indeed has been the reverse of profitable, prices have ranged very low, and the very large exports of the year were due, not to a demand which was to be met, but to the anxious desire of the millowners of Bombay to find any kind of way of disposing of stocks that had accumulated on their hands, profit or no profit. There was mostly no profit. The state of the business is accurately illustrated in the appended extract from the report of the directors of a Bombay cotton mill read to the shareholders at a meeting held last April :

The fact is notorious that this year has been to the cotton spinning industry in general an unprecedentedly disastrous one. We in India who are interested in the spinning of cotton have suffered this year from two evils—namely, the war abroad between China and France, and a bad harvest of cotton at home. The depression of the yarn trade which has resulted from that war, and by which the prices of yarn have immensely fallen off, losing fully as much as one anna and more per pound, all round, has necessarily been to us an indirect scourge. On the other hand, the cotton crop of last monsoon having materially suffered, the prices of cotton, instead of yielding to a fall corresponding to the lowering of the prices of yarn, have considerably risen. The balance between the raw cotton and the yarn produced has been seriously disturbed, the price of the former almost reaching the limit of the latter, and leaving a dangerously small margin for the defrayal of even working expenses. The consequence of this double evil has been that the whole mill industry of the country is passing through an ordeal never known before. Whilst your mills have, in common with all mills, reason to mourn over the results of the depression of the yarn trade and the poor harvest of a bad season, you will also note that this mill began working under the Company from the 1st of June last.

The value of all shares in these enterprises has fallen heavily, and two at least among the largest mills in Bombay found themselves compelled to stop working in March and April. Most of the yarn produced in the mills is shipped to foreign ports in Asia, mostly to China and Japan. The exports of the year were :

	lbs.
To China (Hong-Kong)	55,455,997
„ China (Treaty Ports)	1,013,390
„ Japan	6,943,680
„ Aden	1,125,895
„ Java	634,420
„ Arabia	227,055
„ Other countries	436,746

During 1884-85 the exports of twist by sea from Bombay to other Indian ports amounted to 19,212,984 lbs. and the exports by rail to about 6,400,000 lbs., making a total supply from the cotton mills in the Bombay Presidency to other parts of India of about 25,613,000 lbs., or a little more than 40 per cent. of the supply sent from Bombay to China and other foreign countries. If to this quantity is added the quantity taken up in Bombay itself, city and districts, for which statistics do not exist in a complete or accurate form, it may be concluded that for every pound of Bombay-made twist used up in India two pounds are sent to foreign countries. The importance of maintaining and extending these foreign markets is therefore manifest. Nothing further seems to have come of the very good proposal that the mills should depute

a trusted and competent agent to investigate possible new outlets and enlargement of existing markets on the shores of the Persian Gulf and the African Coast. The exports of twist from Bombay last year came to nearly 96 per cent. of the whole exports from India. Bombay, in fact, has practically almost a monopoly of the foreign trade in twist.

The trade in *cotton cloths* and other manufactures is much smaller than the trade in twist. The value of this trade for the five years has been :

	Rs.
1880-81	62,65,579
1881-82	64,16,798
1882-83	76,15,643
1883-84	92,70,085
1884-85	89,69,289

The piece goods exported, which form the largest proportion of the trade, are chiefly used by the people of the Southern Persian, Mekran, and East African Coasts. There was a material decline in the trade last year chiefly in consequence of the disturbed condition of Eastern Africa. In coloured goods, on the other hand, there was a sensible increase of trade. Most of these are shipped from Madras to Ceylon and the Straits.

The development of the cotton spinning and weaving industry in India during the last three years is shewn by the following figures :—

	1883.	1884.	1885.
Number of mills	62	74	81
„ spindles	1,654,108	1,895,284	2,047,801
„ looms	15,116	16,251	16,443
Average daily number of persons employed	53,624	61,836	66,163

Of these 81 mills there are 63 in the presidency of Bombay (of which 44 in and close to the city of Bombay), 6 in Bengal (all near Calcutta), 5 in Madras (of which 4 in the town of Madras), 3 in the North-Western Provinces (all at Cawnpore), 2 in the Central Provinces, one at Hyderabad, and one at Indore. A mill is being started in Travancore, one has been opened at Bangalore, and there are others in course of formation elsewhere.

96. *Jute manufactures.*—The jute mills of Bengal, like the cotton mills of Bombay, have passed and are still passing through a very critical time, and the figures of the trade, which show a largely increased export, indicate no profit corresponding to the augmentation of trade. The number of power loom gunny bags exported rose from 61·78 million to 77·84 million, an increase of nearly 26 per cent., but the value increased by only about 11 per cent. (from 122·3 lakhs to 135·9 lakhs), indicating a heavy fall in prices. Similar features manifest themselves in the trade in handloom bags and in gunny cloth. The whole trade in all jute manufactures totals thus :

	Rs.
1880-81	1,13,06,716
1881-82	1,09,75,886
1882-83	1,48,78,314
1883-84	1,33,41,447
1884-85	1,54,38,696

Of the 82,779,207 bags exported last year (77,841,776 power loom and 4,937,431 hand loom), there were shipped to :

United States	22,220,830
Australia	18,703,700
Straits	17,582,007
United Kingdom	7,006,000
China (Hong-Kong)	6,677,010
Persian Gulf	2,427,993
Egypt	2,276,207
Natal	1,135,100

The remainder was shipped in smaller quantities to Ceylon, Japan, Mauritius, Eastern Africa, the South African Colonies, and other countries. The principal market for gunny cloths is found in the United States.

The following are the statistics of the jute mills :

	1883.	1884.	1885.
No. of mills	20	21	22
No. of looms	5,633	6,139	6,926
No. of spindles	95,737	112,650	131,740
No. of persons employed (daily average)	42,797	47,868	51,902

All but two of these mills are in Bengal, and those two are not large.

The immediate causes of the present depression of this industry lie in the restriction of the grain trade and in the great expansion of production which followed on good prices two years ago. There are other and more permanent causes at work however which impede the prosperous development of this industry. These it is unnecessary to discuss here ; it is sufficient to say that shareholders in the mills have the remedy for them in their own hands.

97. *Silk goods*.—This trade increased about 15 per cent., the value of the exports rising from 28·5 to 32·8 lakhs. It has steadily increased during the last four years. There were 3,467,308 yards of silk piece goods exported, an increase in the year of 24 per cent. As piece goods comprise the bulk of the trade, and other kinds of silk goods fell off in quantity and value too, these figures indicate a considerable fall in prices. This is almost entirely a Bengal trade. There is a silk mill now working in Calcutta, started and worked by a Bombay man, which weaves goods mainly for the Burma market, as does the similar mill in Bombay. The piece goods noted above exported to foreign countries, mainly England and France, are woven in handlooms. They are to a material extent sent to England to be coloured and printed and then returned to India.

98. The export of *Woollen goods* has declined in value quite as steadily as the trade in silk goods has increased. The figures for the five years are :—

	Rs.
1880-81	21,02,752
1881-82	19,66,830
1882-83	15,83,494
1883-84	12,07,003
1884-85	11,83,427

The only item in which there has been an increase is shawls, but it is probable that the figures in the trade returns do not correctly indicate the state of the woollen trade. The fine woollens of the country are sent out

of the country through the parcel post to an extent which increases every year, and this practice removes an important section of the trade from view. This remark also applies to *Apparel*, the value of the trade in which shews a decrease in recent years.

99. The recorded value of the trade in *Opium* has fallen steadily for the last five years. Exports in :

	Chests.	Rs.
1880-81	92,190	12,60,01,477
1881-82	89,338	12,43,21,418
1882-83	91,798	11,48,13,764
1883-84	91,963	11,29,44,601
1884-85	86,578	10,88,26,060

100. Of this peculiar trade it is not necessary to say anything in this place. It is of little or no interest to the general public or, amongst the commercial community, to any but a small section. Its features are discussed at length for the use and information of Government in other papers.

The trade in *Tobacco* is very fluctuating. From 11 million pounds the exports rose to 19 million, and then fell last year to 16 million pounds. The value of the trade fell from 16½ lakhs to 15 lakhs. Most of the tobacco grown in India is consumed in the country. A large proportion of that which is exported goes from Bombay to Aden for the East African Coast, and this last year saw a great increase of trade, chiefly no doubt by reason of the presence of a native Indian force at Suakim. But there was a heavy decline in the exports to England, whither Indian tobacco is sent to be made into very bad cigars in Holland, Germany, and other Continental countries. It must be allowed that Indian tobacco, of the quality obtainable for the price which European importers are willing to pay, is hardly good enough for even that purpose. Italy, France, and Austria have from time to time imported our tobacco, but even they reject it, although Italian cigars are probably the very worst in the world. The lower qualities of Indian tobacco in fact cannot compete with the lower qualities of American tobacco. Until Indian tobacco is more carefully grown and cured the prospects of such a largely increased trade as might reasonably be expected from the capacity of this country to produce good tobacco are shadowy. However, the internal consumption is large, and, so far as regards the tobacco which is used in making cigars for Europeans resident in the country, very satisfactory improvement still continues and the consumption increases.

101. *Drugs and Medicines*.—The trade nearly doubled in the year, rising in value from Rs. 8,23,973 to Rs. 16,31,730. This increase was largely due to an augmented export of *Chinchona* bark, which more than doubled in the year, increasing in quantity from 306,419 lbs. to 745,730 lbs. and in value from Rs. 4,06,453 to Rs. 9,86,110. The exports were almost all from Madras. In Bengal there is little cultivation of chinchona except in the State plantations near Darjeeling, the produce of which is converted into preparations used in India. In these plantations there were about five million trees last year, besides seedlings, and 6,464 lbs. of febrifuge were manufactured. In the State plantations in the Nilgiris there were 1,855,957 trees. On private plantations in India there were last year about 3,400,000 trees, making altogether, with the State plantations, over 10 million chinchona trees in India. The great extension of chinchona cultivation in India, Ceylon, and Java, has materially reduced the price of the bark as well as of quinine, and planters no longer realise the handsome profits of a few years ago.

102. *Dyes and tans.*—The only really important item under this head is *Indigo*. Trade in indigo for the last five years :

	Cwt.	Rs.
1880-81	116,870	3,57,15,814
1881-82	150,363	4,50,90,802
1882-83	141,041	3,91,29,970
1883-84	168,590	4,64,09,906
1884-85	154,629	4,06,88,996

The distribution of the exports for the last three years was :

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.	1884-85. Cwt.
United Kingdom	60,645	93,356	71,870
United States	27,285	21,194	25,082
France	15,513	17,396	15,193
Egypt	16,076	12,869	14,985
Austria	8,394	12,403	11,428
Persia	6,077	4,593	5,824
Germany	490	677	4,026
Turkey in Asia	4,033	3,477	3,169
Italy	1,607	1,678	1,224
Other countries	921	917	1,828

The prices of indigo fluctuate much from year to year. For good indigo it was, in Calcutta, in January, per maund :

	Rs.
1881	275
1882	305
1883	280
1884	307-8
1885	270

Prices in the European markets ruled equally low, the result of large stocks accumulated after the considerable export of 1883-84, a rather low general quality, and the general depression of prices in almost everything. Indigo, however, fluctuates much in price, as will be seen from the subjoined figures for "good consuming quality, Bengal," giving the price per pound on 31st December for the last fourteen years :

	s.	d.		s.	d.
1871	9	0	1878	5	5
1872	6	9	1879	7	10
1873	6	8	1880	7	0
1874	7	0	1881	7	0
1875	5	0	1882	6	3
1876	6	7	1883	6	3
1877	5	6	1884	5	8

Of the 154,629 cwt. exported 106,069 were shipped from Calcutta, 42,001 from Madras, 3,376 from Bombay, and 3,183 from Karáchi.

In explanation of the decline of exports to Persia, one of the British Consuls in that country offers an explanation which is interesting. He says that the extension of opium cultivation in Persia has brought so much money to the Persian peasantry that they are discarding their coarse home-woven indigo dyed shirts and are substituting for them fancy prints from Manchester, not so durable but pleasanter to the eye. If this is correct, the competition of

Persian with Indian opium in China acts upon this country in more ways than one. The decline in the exports to Persia is not serious as yet, but this statement suggests that the indigo trade might suffer seriously if such a change in dress were to be introduced generally in Egypt, Persia, and Asiatic Turkey. Those three countries took about 24,000 cwt. of indigo last year.

There was a considerable decline in the exports of *Cutch* and an increase in *Myrabolams*. *Turmeric* also increased again.

103. *Hides and skins*, dressed or tanned, form a considerable trade the value of which last year was Rs. 207½ lakhs. The exports were smaller than in 1883-84. This trade is mainly conducted at Madras.

104. There was a revival of the trade in *Lac* after a depression which had lasted long. The exports were 142,536 cwt. (about 28 per cent. larger than the trade of 1883-84), but the value, which was nearly 60 lakhs, was only 8 per cent. greater. Prices, as for most other articles, ruled very low.

105. In *Coir* goods the value of the trade was 20·2 lakhs, a large recovery from the depressed trade of the two previous years.

106. *V.—Oils.*—There are but two kinds of oil of all those exported which possess any commercial importance. *Castor oil* is exported in large quantities to England, Australia, Ceylon, the Straits, China, and Mauritius—the bulk going to England and Australia. To both these countries a larger quantity than usual was sent last year. Prices were low. Total exports to all countries 3,207,045 gallons, value Rs. 30,84,602. *Cocoanut oil* is exported to England, the European Continent, and the United States. It is said to be used extensively as a hair oil possessing in a coloured and perfumed state virtues not appreciated by us who see and smell it in this country in its natural condition. Exports last year 1,553,887 gallons, value 16½ lakhs. Castor oil is chiefly exported from Bengal, cocoanut oil from Madras. The export of *earthnut oil* is increasing, but is as yet of small importance.

Coasting trade.

107. The coasting trade, like the foreign trade, of 1884-85 gave a diminished value, the decline in the year's value being nearly 5 per cent. The following figures give the aggregates of the imports and exports of merchandise and treasure for the last five years :

		1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
IMPORTS—						
Merchandise	{ Country	18,61,97,949	19,30,40,889	20,20,25,033	22,07,06,039	21,41,20,064
	{ Foreign	5,73,73,477	5,12,62,086	5,21,73,285	6,00,62,646	6,05,18,467
	Total	24,35,71,426	24,43,02,975	25,41,98,318	28,07,68,685	27,46,47,531
Treasure		2,93,31,113	2,88,70,631	4,06,65,571	3,40,46,082	2,46,23,995
	TOTAL IMPORTS	27,29,02,539	27,31,73,606	29,48,63,889	31,57,14,767	29,92,71,526
EXPORTS—						
Merchandise	{ Country	16,93,88,626	16,98,31,993	18,48,85,632	19,43,41,877	18,71,48,092
	{ Foreign	6,43,46,240	5,79,54,285	6,03,56,777	6,76,33,695	7,02,55,802
	Total	23,37,34,866	22,77,86,278	24,52,42,409	26,19,75,482	25,74,03,894
Treasure		3,64,49,816	2,96,25,355	3,31,61,251	3,69,26,082	2,73,40,133
	TOTAL EXPORTS	27,01,84,682	25,74,11,633	27,84,03,660	29,89,01,564	28,47,44,027
GRAND TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS		54,30,87,221	53,05,85,239	57,32,67,549	61,46,16,311	58,40,15,553

Appended is a statement giving the imports and exports of merchandise into and from each province for the last two years :

		1883-84.	1884-85.
		Rs.	Rs.
<i>Bengal:</i>			
Imports	. . . . .	5,05,88,195	5,33,26,785
Exports	. . . . .	6,32,40,578	6,14,54,993
<i>Bombay:</i>			
Imports	. . . . .	12,59,66,203	12,24,55,987
Exports	. . . . .	12,21,34,544	11,87,75,133
<i>Sindh:</i>			
Imports	. . . . .	2,25,09,743	2,44,21,332
Exports	. . . . .	1,39,89,435	1,03,89,271
<i>Madras:</i>			
Imports	. . . . .	4,86,45,013	4,31,73,582
Exports	. . . . .	4,11,42,752	4,60,10,375
<i>Burma:</i>			
Imports	. . . . .	3,50,59,531	3,12,69,845
Exports	. . . . .	2,14,68,173	2,07,74,122

Although the decrease in the whole trade was as much as 5 per cent., the falling off in the value of the merchandise conveyed was only 2 per cent. The decrease in the value of treasure was as much as 28 per cent.

The principal articles exported by coasting vessels from one port to another are mentioned in the following paragraphs. Those of Indian origin were valued at 1,871½ lakhs, a decrease of a little more than 3·7 per cent. on the value of the trade of 1883-84. It was a good deal larger, however, than the trade of any of the four years preceding 1883-84.

The value of foreign merchandise thus conveyed is much smaller, as would be expected, than the value of Indian goods. It amounted last year to 702½ lakhs, the increase on the year's trade being almost exactly in the same proportion (3·7 per cent.) as the decrease in the trade in Indian goods.

Apparel.—Indian, value 5·4 lakhs—foreign, value 22 lakhs. A large proportion of the exports is sent from Bengal to Burma.

In *Coal* there is hardly any trade, only 9,000 tons having been conveyed from Bengal last year, all Bengal coal. As yet Indian coal, owing to high rates of transport by land as well as by sea, can hardly be used at any considerable distance from the mines, and the progress of Indian industry is in consequence greatly retarded.

Coffee.—A large increase. Value 19½ lakhs. Exported mainly from the coffee producing districts to Madras and Bombay.

Coir, raw and manufactured. Value 14 lakhs. An increasing trade. Exported from Madras to Bengal and Bombay.

Cotton, raw. A great decline in this item, the quantity having fallen from 1,162,626 cwt. to 806,080 cwt., and the value from 253·4 lakhs to 189·5 lakhs. It is chiefly brought from Karáchi and the smaller ports in Bombay to Bombay.

Cotton twist and yarn.—The year's trade was :

Indian twist	}	. . . lbs.	23,239,041
		. . . Rs.	99,98,902
European twist	}	. . . lbs.	12,095,163
		. . . Rs.	86,31,938

The figures indicate that the quality of the European twist is much better and more valuable than that of the Indian twist. Of the latter only the lower counts are made as yet in this country, and with these English twist is not able to compete. The trade in both descriptions was much in excess of the trade of 1883-84, but, as explained in the paragraphs on this article in the review of the foreign trade, this increase must be attributed not to a larger demand but to the anxiety of the Bombay cotton spinners to dispose of accumulated stocks.

Cotton piece goods.—Indian goods, value 72·3 lakhs. Quantities imperfectly stated in the returns. A large increase in the trade, as to the cause of which the remarks in regard to twist apply.

European piece goods, grey, white, and coloured. Total quantity 195 million yards, value 272·8 lakhs. A small increase in this trade.

Drugs and medicines.—Indian, value 7½ lakhs—foreign, value 7¼ lakhs.

Dyeing and colouring materials.—In *Indigo* there was a very great decrease of trade, only 7,745 cwt. having been exported against 10,894 in

1883-84. This is mostly Punjab and Sindh indigo sent from Karáchi to Bombay, for re-export to Persia. *Myrabolams* are brought to Bombay from the outports of the Presidency for re-export: the trade was tolerably large, the foreign trade requiring a supply larger than usual. The same conditions exist in regard to turmeric, which is brought from the smaller ports of Madras and Bombay to Calcutta and to the port of Bombay for shipment to Europe: a large increase in the trade.

Fruits and vegetables.—This is a large trade, value 61½ lakhs last year. Cocoanuts and cocoanut kernels are the two most important items in this head. The bulk of the traffic is from Southern India and the Malabar coast to Bombay.

Grain and pulse.—The grain trade is much the most important part of the coasting traffic. The following figures give the quantities and values of the various grains exported during the year from one place in India to another:

	1883-84.		1884-85.	
	Cwt.	Rs.	Cwt.	Rs.
Gram	309,336	8,31,867	444,310	11,34,627
Jowári and bájra	177,068	4,88,827	281,190	7,87,071
Pulse	593,315	15,80,815	728,265	21,36,694
Rice in the husk (paddy)	1,818,452	34,71,396	2,866,577	55,92,532
Rice not in the husk	5,677,694	1,92,50,230	5,612,892	2,12,09,877
Wheat	420,788	16,79,305	250,100	8,62,330
Other sorts	644,830	17,02,744	244,098	6,07,496

The aggregate quantity and value of the grain conveyed was in:

	Cwt.	Rs.
1883-84	9,551,483	2,90,00,184
1884-85	10,427,432	3,23,30,627

The trade in gram is to a large extent an interportal trade in Madras and Bombay, being conveyed for the purpose of shipment to foreign ports.

Jowári and bájra are chiefly exported from Karáchi to Bombay and the Native States lying between Karáchi and Bombay.

Pulse, like gram, is an interportal trade in Madras and Bombay.

Paddy is widely carried about. From Bengal and Burma it is sent to Madras. In Madras supplies are carried from port to port within the Presidency, and the same thing is done in Bombay.

Husked rice is exported in very large quantities from Bengal to Madras, Bombay, Travancore and Cochin, and some is even sent to Burma, this being table rice, for which purpose the rice of the province is considered too coarse by those who can afford a better quality. Bombay and Karáchi send rice to Kutch and Kathiawar, and much of that which is received from Bengal in Bombay is shipped to the smaller ports of the Presidency. Madras sends rice to Bombay and Goa, and Burma sends it to Bombay and Madras. Bengal however has the bulk of this trade, more than half the exports being shipped from that province. There were about 424,000 tons of rice, husked and unhusked, carried about coastwise last year, value about 268 lakhs.

The trade in wheat is trifling. It is sent from Karáchi to Bombay, and from Bombay to Madras and Kutch.

Cutch, value 14.4 lakhs, is sent from Burma to Calcutta for export to Europe and the United States. This is not an increasing trade as facilities offer, with the development of Burma, for direct shipments to foreign countries.

Hides and skins.—Value 43.16 lakhs—a smaller trade than in 1883-84. Raw hides are sent from Madras to Bengal and are an interportal trade in both Presidencies. Raw skins are sent from Bengal to Madras and from Madras to Bengal, and rather largely from Karáchi to Bombay. Tanned skins, a large industry in Madras, are sent from that Presidency to Bengal.

Jute, raw.—An extensive trade. Exports last year 1,267,034 cwt., value Rs. 74,89,893. The greatest part is brought from Chittagong, whither it comes down the Megna from the jute growing districts, to Calcutta.

Gunny bags.—The number exported was 48,755,114, value Rs. 94,29,372. A smaller trade than in 1883-84, the restriction being accounted for by the decline in the grain trade. These bags are supplied from Calcutta to all other parts of India. The trade in gunny cloth is comparatively very small.

Liquors.—This trade is confined to an interportal exchange of country liquor in the Bombay Presidency. The coasting trade in European wine, beer, and spirits is small.

Metals, Indian, value 13.3 lakhs, chiefly brass and copper vessels. Imported metals are carried about to a very much larger extent. Value last year 64.3 lakhs. Copper and iron are the principal metals.

Oils.—Mineral oil of Indian production is exported only from Burma, chiefly to Calcutta where it is used for batching jute. It is a small trade still, only 688,561 gallons having been conveyed last year. The coasting trade in American kerosine oil is about four times larger. Of vegetable oils the most important in the coasting trade is cocoanut oil of which close on 2½ million gallons were carried last year. It is almost entirely, like the kernel from which the oil is made, a Madras trade.

Provisions—Indian, value 34½ lakhs, and foreign, 16.8 lakhs. The two specified items in this head are ghee, of which Burma gets a considerable supply from Madras and Bengal, and salted fish, an interportal trade in Burma and Madras.

Salt is extensively conveyed coastwise. The quantity exported last year was 114,642 tons, value 72.6 lakhs. Bombay supplied 32,190 tons to Madras and 14,036 tons to Bengal. Madras also sent 1,249 tons to Bengal.

Seeds.—Castor seed, quantity 715,728 cwt., value 29½ lakhs. Almost entirely an export from Madras to Bengal.

Til or jinjili (sesame), value 15½ lakhs. A great deal of this trade is done with Burma, which receives it from Bengal and Madras.

In other descriptions the trade is separately of not much importance, though the whole trade in seeds of all kinds is large, exports last year being 1,929,877 cwt., value Rs. 86,37,182.

Silk, raw.—Exports 338,793 lbs., value 16·6 lakhs, chiefly shipped from Calcutta to Madras. This is Indian silk. The trade in foreign raw silk is also tolerably large: exports 328,096 lbs., value 11½ lakhs. Chiefly interportal trade in Bombay and also shipped thence to Kutch and to Karáchi.

Silk goods.—Indian, value 11·8 lakhs—foreign, value 12·8 lakhs. The Indian silks are made in Bengal for export to Burma which province also gets some in smaller quantities from Bombay and Madras. Burma also receives the bulk of the foreign silks exported coastwise. For the other Provinces land carriage is preferred for such articles as silks.

Spices.—Quantity 74,887,653 lbs., value Rs. 1,27,47,138. The principal descriptions are betelnuts, cardamoms, ginger, and pepper.

Value of betelnuts 55½ lakhs. Chiefly exported from Bengal to Burma and from Madras to Bombay. There is also a considerable interportal trade within the limits of Bengal and Bombay.

Value of cardamoms 15·9 lakhs. Shipped from Madras (Malabar coast) to Bombay; there is also a large interportal trade in the Bombay Presidency.

Ginger, 7¼ lakhs. Shipped from Madras to Bombay.

Pepper, 34½ lakhs. Shipped from the Malabar coast to Bengal and also to Bombay whence there is a large export of pepper to foreign countries.

There is also a small trade done in the supply of Zanzibar cloves from Bombay to Bengal and other places.

Sugar.—Indian, 957,443 cwt., value 67½ lakhs. Foreign, 465,079 cwt., value 63¼ lakhs. The foreign sugar is all refined sugar, mostly of Chinese and Mauritian origin, imported into Bombay and thence distributed to Karáchi, Goa, Kutch, Kathiawar, and other ports within the Presidency and in small quantities to other Presidencies. Of the Indian sugar the bulk is raw sugar (goor, jaggery, molasses) carried in interportal trade within the limits of Bombay and Madras, supplies being also sent to Kutch and Kathiawar. The bulk of the refined sugar (whole value 17 lakhs) is made in the Madras Presidency and shipped thence to Bengal, Burma, and (in small quantity) to Bombay. Bengal and Bombay also export a little to other places within the Presidency.

	lbs.	Rs.
<i>Tea</i> —Indian	1,192,480	8,49,714
Foreign	1,068,052	11,35,027

The export of Indian tea is extremely small. The bulk of the trade represented by the figures given above consists of shipments of tea from Chittagong for sale in the Calcutta market and subsequent export to London. The whole quantity of Indian tea shipped from Calcutta to other places in India last year was only 288,210 lbs. Of the foreign (China) tea the greatest part was sent from Bombay to Karáchi.

Tobacco (Indian).—Exports in:

	1883-84.	1884-85.
lbs.	33,320,569	26,819,458
Rs.	44,62,553	38,75,190

Two-thirds of the trade represent exports to Burma from Bengal and Madras. The rest is mainly interportal trade. In cigars the Madras trade is nearly ten times larger than that from Burma. Madras last year exported to other parts of India 30,381 lbs. of cigars, Burma exported only 36,483 lbs.

Teak timber.—Exports in :

	Cubic tons.	Rs.
1880-81	109,767	63,58,059
1881-82	106,607	66,67,999
1882-83	119,341	92,73,511
1883-84	116,435	1,21,03,294
1884-85	126,878	95,60,914

This is an export from Burma to Bengal, Madras, and Bombay. Prices of this wood have moved up and down very irregularly of late years. See remarks in the section relating to exports to foreign countries.

There is a tolerably large trade in other kinds of timber, in ornamental wood, firewood, and manufactures of wood, but the trade in each separately is of no particular importance.

Wool, raw, value 23 lakhs. This trade is declining. It is all sent from Karáchi to Bombay for export to Europe. Combined with the depression in the wool trade which has lowered prices and diminished exports, there are also facilities now which did not exist a few years ago for direct shipment from Karáchi to Europe.

Woollen goods.—Indian woollens in the coasting trade are of no importance at all. The value of foreign woollens last year was 14 lakhs, the bulk of the trade being shipments from Bombay to Karáchi, ports in Madras, and other places.

COASTING SHIPPING.

108. The following table gives the number and tonnage of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade during the last five years :—

	<i>Entered.</i>					
	STAMBERS.		SAILING VESSELS.		NATIVE CRAFT.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880-81	4,713	4,675,190	3,643	613,532	147,194	2,415,710
1881-82	4,956	4,769,040	3,725	485,262	155,319	2,482,128
1882-83	5,547	5,543,702	4,687	551,206	160,160	2,514,625
1883-84	5,518	5,925,198	4,635	607,635	169,090	2,669,128
1884-85	5,484	5,547,657	4,503	495,284	174,701	2,781,479
	<i>Cleared.</i>					
1880-81	4,665	4,614,583	3,607	549,113	137,583	2,267,075
1881-82	4,918	4,718,283	3,576	396,803	144,583	2,327,081
1882-83	5,541	5,520,468	4,623	518,749	147,663	2,408,344
1883-84	5,574	5,975,597	4,629	458,240	156,429	2,553,672
1884-85	5,461	5,487,561	4,600	477,806	158,453	2,616,385
	<i>Entered and cleared.</i>					
1880-81	9,378	9,289,773	7,250	1,162,645	284,777	4,682,785
1881-82	9,874	9,487,323	7,301	882,065	299,902	4,809,209
1882-83	11,088	11,064,170	9,310	1,069,955	307,823	4,922,969
1883-84	11,092	11,900,795	9,264	1,065,875	325,519	5,222,800
1884-85	10,945	11,035,218	9,103	973,090	333,154	5,397,864

TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE FOR 1884-85.

The routes by which trade is carried across the frontiers to and from India have been so often described and illustrated by coloured maps that it is not considered necessary to give a description which would merely repeat what has often been written. In regard to these, a reference to the reviews of the trade for 1883-84 and previous reviews is requested. The present account will be confined to a brief summary of the facts of the year.

2. The trade again increased during the year, the increase following on one in the previous year:

		Imports. R.	Exports. R.	Totals. R.
1882-83	.	5,34,11,364	4,65,31,115	9,99,42,479
1883-84	.	5,50,90,523	5,25,72,523	10,76,63,051
1884-85	.	5,51,12,733	6,12,23,487	11,63,36,225

3. The trade of last year was just 8 per cent. more than that of 1883-84, and the trade of that year was nearly 8 per cent. larger than that of 1882-83. Almost the whole increase is due to a great augmentation of the exports sent across the frontier over the Sind-Peshin State Railway. Deducting this increase, which amounts to more than 81 lakhs, the increase in the aggregate trade was only a little over 5 lakhs, which is almost inappreciable. Now, of these exports railway material represented a recorded value of 69½ lakhs, the net increase on this account in the year's traffic being 67½ lakhs, and the balance of 14 lakhs represents to a large extent Government stores of various kinds required for the troops and civil population, including railway employes, in Sibi, Peshin, and Quetta. It must be said therefore that there was really no increase in the frontier trade of the year, regarded as ordinary trade, or an increase so slight as to be of no significance.

4. Looking down the list of countries with which trade is conducted, we see a few which, by the comparatively large volume of the transactions with them, stand out prominently from the rest. These are mentioned below in geographical order, commencing from the extreme west, and the figures of the trade with them for the last two years are also stated, imports therefrom and exports thereto being shown separately.

Southern Afghanistan and Biluchistan, comprising the countries enumerated in the returns as Lus Beyla, Khelat, Khorassan, Kandahar, Ghazni, Girishk, Peshin, and Sewestan:

		1883-84 R.	1884-85. R.
Imports	.	17,77,629	13,90,212
Exports	.	17,60,502	18,97,933
Total	.	35,38,131	32,88,145

Trans-frontier by Sind-Peshin State Railway:

Imports	.	20,16,481	17,22,890
Exports	.	73,06,127	1,54,42,773
Total	.	93,22,608	1,71,65,663.

		1893-84.	1894-85.
		R.	R.
Kabul	{ Imports . . .	28,88,556	27,98,368
	{ Exports . . .	56,96,899	51,68,639
Total . . .		85,85,455	79,67,007

In these totals is included the trade with Tirah and Bajaur.

Kashmir	{ Imports . . .	52,90,127	51,59,130
	{ Exports . . .	37,25,914	38,49,991
Total . . .		90,16,041	93,09,121
Nepal	{ Imports . . .	1,48,23,186	1,41,30,991
	{ Exports . . .	99,42,584	98,62,910
Total . . .		2,47,65,770	2,39,93,901
Upper Burma	{ Imports . . .	1,70,58,481	2,02,39,330
	{ Exports . . .	1,82,61,137	2,07,14,238
Total . . .		3,53,19,618	4,09,53,568
Karennce	{ Imports . . .	61,55,431	46,28,254
	{ Exports . . .	19,07,869	13,38,639
Total . . .		80,63,300	59,66,893
Zimmé	{ Imports . . .	20,14,880	16,99,615
	{ Exports . . .	28,247	1,14,780
Total . . .		20,43,127	18,14,395
Siam	{ Imports . . .	4,74,514	4,08,644
	{ Exports . . .	25,49,516	12,25,545
Total . . .		30,24,030	16,34,189

Of the other countries with which trade is carried on, it is only necessary to notice those mentioned below :

Ladakh	{ Imports . . .	3,05,090	3,78,321
	{ Exports . . .	2,22,726	3,39,746
Total . . .		5,27,816	7,18,067
Thibet	{ Imports . . .	9,87,914	11,16,957
	{ Exports . . .	3,84,950	5,12,798
Total . . .		13,72,864	16,29,755

In these totals are included the figures of the trade with Sikkim because most of the trade with Sikkim only passes through that valley on its way into and out of Thibet.

Northern Shan States.	{ Imports . . .	4,46,267	3,45,998
	{ Exports . . .	3,23,616	3,46,976
Total . . .		7,69,883	6,92,974

The trade with Bhutan and Towang, with the hill tribes on the Assam frontiers, Manipur, and the Southern Shan States is so trifling that it requires no notice. The nature of this trade has been commented upon in previous

reviews, and it is sufficient to say here that it offers no prospect of development.

5. It will be seen from the foregoing figures that, putting out of account the traffic on the Sind-Peshin Railway for the reason already given, the trade of the year with Southern Afghanistan and Kabul, with Nepal, the Karen country, the Northern Shan States, and Siam, fell off more or less seriously, while there was an increase of trade with Kashmir, Ladakh, Thibet and Sikkim, and Upper Burma.

I will now examine the accounts of the trade in merchandise with each of these countries, and show where there was an increase or decrease of trade. First, as regards the countries with which trade increased.

Kashmir.

6. Principal imports : Drugs of kinds, including charas and bhang, fruit and nuts, wheat, rice, and other grain, ghi, hides and skins, raw silk, timber, woollen goods, and shawls.

Principal exports : Cotton twist and piece goods, dyes (indigo and turmeric), metals, metalware, salt, sugar, and tea.

The returns give an increase in the imports of drugs, under the head of charas, and in fruits, raw silk, and woollens (not shawls, which have fallen off). The grain trade is quite a local business which was conducted on a small scale last year. This year will probably see great activity in the trade owing to poor crops in Kashmir. The trade in ghi and hides also fell off. The importation of ghi from Kashmir is a large business : quantity last year 34,594 cwt., value 10½ lakhs. The imports of raw silk almost doubled. This may perhaps be taken to indicate that success has attended the efforts made to produce silk in Kashmir. The timber trade and the trade in shawls was slightly restricted. These two articles and ghi are the staple imports from Kashmir.

The exports of twist are still small, but there was a great increase in the trade last year, the exports being Indian much more largely than English twist. Of European piece goods 10,828 cwt. were exported, and of Indian 8,417 cwt. Indian cottons have steadily increased in each of the last two years, while European goods appear to be taken in smaller quantity. If the returns are correct, practically all the tea sent to Kashmir is Indian—about 372,000 lbs. last year, which was a quite remarkable increase on the trade in the two previous years, but I feel inclined to doubt the statement that all this was Indian tea. The trade in metals and sugar increased, and salt was exported in smaller quantities.

On the whole the trade with Kashmir was of a satisfactory character during the year.

Upper Burma.

7. Principal imports : cattle, raw cotton, cutch, hides, vegetable and mineral oil, silk goods, sugar, and teakwood.

Principal exports : cotton twist and piece goods, rice, *ngapi*, salted fish, salt, betelnuts, raw silk, silk goods, woollen goods.

Amongst the imports only catch, vegetable oil, and silk goods diminished in value. The other articles mentioned were all imported in increased quantities.

The manufacture of silk in Upper Burma has been affected injuriously by the large importation of silks made in Europe, India, and China, so that last year the exports of silk goods to Upper Burma were worth close on 21½ lakhs, while the imports thence were worth about 7½ lakhs. Cutch was not in much demand and the production was small. The trade in hides has increased very much and will probably now remain a large one, the people having discovered that what they formerly allowed to go to waste has a good market value.

Amongst the exports we find that cotton piece goods and salt alone were taken in smaller quantities. There was a sensible increase in all other exports, the augmentation of trade in rice and ngapi being particularly large.

Sind-Peshin State Railway.

8. There was an enormous increase in the trans-frontier traffic on this line, due, as has already been explained, in large measure to the transport of railway material for the construction of the line beyond the frontier. There was also a material increase in other traffic, but much of it manifestly consists of stores for the troops and the population of the cantonments, such as gunny bags, food-grains, liquors, oils, ghi and other provisions, sugar, tea, tobacco, all of which passed across the frontier in increased quantities towards the end of the year. Indian piece goods (value 12·4 lakhs) increased, while in European piece goods (value 18½ lakhs) there was a falling off. The imports, it will be seen from the figures, are very much smaller than the exports even when the 70 lakhs of railway material are deducted from the latter. They consist chiefly of fruits, grain, and wool. On the whole the imports were materially smaller than in the preceding year.

Southern Afghanistan.

9. Turning now to the countries with which the accounts show a declining trade, we come first to the trade being all that trade which is not carried over the line of the Sind-Peshin Railway.

In this trade there was a decrease in imports not quite balanced by an increase in the export trade. From Kandahar imports fell off about two lakhs, and from Lus Beyla and Khelat about a lakh each. The decline was very general, though most prominent under the head of fruits, grains, and raw wool. The explanation of the decrease in this last article is to be found in the condition of the trade as stated in the review of the foreign trade.

In the export trade to these countries the trade to Kandahar is the only one which has declined. The accounts for the last three years give diminishing figures each year, thus: in 1882-83, 7·5 lakhs, in 1883-84, 4·6 lakhs, in 1884-85, 3·8 lakhs. But the trade has not actually declined; it has simply been diverted from the caravan routes to the more convenient railway, and is recorded under that head though the transfer makes it impossible to say what is actually destined for Kandahar. The trade is of small extent in most articles, only cotton piece goods, indigo, and sugar having any appreciable dimensions, though they too are small enough.

Kabul.

10. With Kabul there has been a decline of trade, larger in the exports to that country than in the imports from it, and the falling off has been

continuous for the last three years. The causes of the decline must be sought in the exactions to which traders are subject as their merchandise passes from place to place in Afghan territory, and in the fiscal measures adopted by the Russians to prevent British or Indian goods from entering Russian Turkestan. It was stated in the review for 1883-84 that orders had issued prohibiting the entry into Russian Asiatic territory of all British or Indian goods except tea, muslins, and indigo, and that on these three classes of goods heavy duties had been imposed. The result of course was that contraband trade commenced. The Russians are now taking steps to prevent smuggling, and even to prevent the importation of the three classes of goods named, by the establishment of a preventive line which, it is hoped, will shut out our goods altogether from the markets in Russian territory. Under such a system, however inefficiently it may be carried into practice, prices must be raised to an extent which will materially lessen the demand for these goods, and a further decline of trade may probably be looked for. If the Amir's government could be persuaded to reduce or abolish the import and transit duties charged on goods circulating in Afghanistan there is little doubt that the expansion of trade in Afghanistan itself would minimise the effects of the fiscal policy adopted by the Russians, and a steady and increasing trade would be created.

The principal imports from Kabul are: horses, drugs (including asafoetida and charas), madder or manjit, fruits, ghi, raw silk and silk goods, tobacco, and wool. The imports of fruits and manjit represented together a value of 13½ lakhs, the value of all the merchandise imported being only 23·84 lakhs.

The principal exports are European and Indian cotton piece goods, value of the former 17 lakhs, of the latter 9 lakhs; indigo, value a little under 3 lakhs; sugar, a little over a lakh; Indian tea, about 279,000 lbs., value 1·13 lakh, China tea (about 1,015,000 lbs., value 10·6 lakhs), metals, and other articles in small quantities. There was a great reduction in the trade in tea (both Indian and China), indigo, and European piece goods. Indian piece goods were exported in somewhat larger quantity than in 1883-84, though the trade was but little in excess of that of 1882-83.

Nepal.

11. The trade with Nepal also fell off, though the decline was not large—a little over 3 per cent. on the whole value.

The trade with this country crosses the borders of both Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. The figures below give the division of the trade between the two provinces:

		1883-84	1884-85.
		R.	R.
Between Nepal and Bengal	{ Imports	71,29,456	71,54,698
	{ Exports	67,85,329	70,74,626
Total		1,39,14,785	1,42,29,324
Between Nepal and N.-W. P. and Oudh	{ Imports	73,57,887	66,84,192
	{ Exports	29,11,244	27,40,016
Total		1,02,69,131	94,24,208

Some classes of imports from Nepal are directed almost exclusively to Bengal, for instance, fibres, fruits, gram and dál, opium, and provisions. Others again, such as horses and cattle, rice, ghi, oilseeds, spices, timber, are brought to both provinces, but in varying proportions, the imports of timber and ghi into the North-West being twice as large as into Bengal, and those of oilseeds into Bengal being twice as large as into the North-West. The largest imports are rice, oilseeds, timber, cattle and horses, ghi and other provisions.

The largest exports are European piece goods (28·3 lakhs), Indian piece goods (12½ lakhs), metals (8·7 lakhs), provisions (11½ lakhs), spices (7·1 lakhs), sugar (4½ lakhs), salt (5½ lakhs), fruit (about 4 lakhs), tobacco, and woollen goods. The exports of European cotton goods are twice as large from Bengal as from the North-Western Provinces, these provinces on the other hand exporting Indian cottons to double the quantity exported from Bengal. In all other articles the export trade from Bengal is far larger than the trade from the North-Western Provinces.

Ladakh.

12. The trade with Ladakh is insignificant. The imports are borax, charas, raw silk, and raw wool. Charas (value 1·11 lakh), wool (value 1 lakh) are the most important. The exports are indigo, metals, opium, tea, and various other goods, none reaching a lakh in value. The trade to and from Yarkand passes through Ladakh, but it seems to possess no present capacity for growth. Trade is not easy when it has to traverse passes of great altitude covered with snow for great part of the year, and when the administration of the country on the other side of the passes discourages commercial intercourse with India.

Thibet.

13. Much the same may be said of the trade with Thibet, with the addition that the country is very poor and not likely even under a more liberal régime to be able to support a really considerable trade. The people are poor, their soil is sterile, the climate rigorous, and they have neither agricultural nor manufacturing industries worth mentioning. A pastoral people, all that they can export is what they now send, namely, a certain quantity of mineral and animal matter such as salt, borax, musk, hides, wool, yak's tails, and some cattle. Thibetan salt cannot descend into the plains below the Himalayas in competition with Indian or even Cheshire salt, even though these are weighted with a duty from which trans-Himalayan salt is exempt. Borax imported from Thibet and exported from India cannot compete in Europe with the Californian or Tuscan product. Musk and yak's tails are and will continue to be in small demand. Hides from Thibet cannot be required on an extensive scale when the hides of Indian cattle can be obtained much more cheaply in immense quantity. Wool is the only article in which the trade may increase to some extent, but even this, owing to cost of transit, may be successfully competed with in India by Indian and even by Australian wool while it has no chance of reaching markets beyond India. The idea that gold exists in large quantities may be put aside as a myth: there is probably more gold in the Nilgiris (where there is very little indeed) than in all Thibet. The Thibetans may take some Indian tea to mix with butter, forming the compound which with barley meal is the staple food of the people, and it is possible that they may also in course of time take a certain quantity of woollen cloth. At present the exports to Thibet consist

mainly of food-grains and other necessaries of life, and a small quantity of pots and pans of copper and iron, and of cotton piece goods. The whole value of the merchandise imported and exported during the year, assuming that all trade between Bengal and Sikkim was transit trade to and from Sikkim, which is not quite correct, was :

	Imports. R.	Exports. R.
With the Punjab	1,81,977	22,131
With the North-Western Provinces	5,58,993	2,66,290
With Bengal (through Sikkim)	3,73,060	2,04,735
Total	<u>11,14,030</u>	<u>4,93,156</u>

Karennee, Zimme, Siam.

14. The import trade from the Karen country and from Zimmé is almost exclusively confined to teak timber, which is to a large extent paid for in rupees, the exports of merchandise being of small importance. To Siam also the exports are mainly coin.

The trade with other countries (Bhutan, the hill tracts on the Assam frontier, and the Northern and Southern Shan States) is of no significance, and does not merit detailed attention.

Government of India,
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1885-86.

- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
- II.—Coasting Trade.
- III.—Trans-Frontier Trade.

BY

J. E. O'CONNOR,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SIMLA :
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1886.

-SIMLA :

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

CONTENTS.

GENERAL.

	Pages
Trade of the year only fractionally better than that of 1884-85—totals of imports and exports for last seven years and rate of increase or decrease each year—average yearly rate for these years—imports of merchandise last year declined while imports of treasure increased—exports of merchandise increased while exports of treasure decreased	1—2

GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS.

Total value largely increased, owing to imports of railway material, which forms 40 per cent of the imports—about two-thirds of the whole imports for Public Works Department and a great proportion of the remaining third for Military services—remarks on possibility of substituting Indian goods for imported stores—excess of exports generally, including Government transactions as well as ordinary trade, over imports—drawings of Secretary of State	2—3
---	-----

TRADE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

Totals of the trade and percentage to the whole trade of India during last five years—imports and exports—proportion of the Canal trade with England, France, other European countries, and the United States	4
---	---

SHIPPING.

Total number and tonnage of all shipping, of entries and clearances for all vessels and for steamers separately—increase in steam as compared with sailing tonnage—steamers in ballast—Canal steamers—movement of shipping between India and other countries—nationalities of vessels—native craft—provincial share in movement of shipping	5—12
---	------

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Gross and net revenue on imports and exports for each of last four years	13
--	----

GOLD AND SILVER COIN AND BULLION.

Imports and exports of gold for each of last five years—same for silver—silver imported last year in the proportion of 5 to 1 of gold	13—14
---	-------

TRADE OF EACH PROVINCE.

Imports and exports for last five years for each province, and rate of increase or decrease—trade and shipping of the ten largest ports of India—proportion of the whole trade of India for last three years at each of the five chief ports, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Rangoon, and Karachi	14—18
--	-------

TRADE WITH COUNTRIES.

Table shewing trade for each of the last four years with 33 foreign countries, and the proportion taken by each of the whole trade—increases or decreases in imports and exports last year for United Kingdom, China, France, Straits Settlement, Italy, United States, Belgium, Egypt, Ceylon, Austria-Hungary, Persia, Mauritius, Arabia, Aden, Zanzibar, Turkey in Asia, Australia	18—26
---	-------

	Pages
IMPORT TRADE IN MERCHANDISE.	
Total value—Animals—Coffee—Fruits and vegetables—Grain and Pulse—Hops—Malt liquor, Spirits, Wines and liquours—Provisions—Salt—Spices—Sugar—Tea—Metals, Hardware, Machinery, and Railway Plant—Chemicals, Drugs, Aniline dyes—Kerosine oil—Coal—Cotton—Ivory—Silk—Wool—Cotton goods—Silk piece goods—Woollen goods—consumption of clothing material and yarn—Boots and Shoes—Glass and Glassware—Corals, and other articles of minor importance—Classification of imported articles according to their importance—table of quantities and values compared with 1884-85	26—31
RE-EXPORT TRADE.	
Total value—general description of the trade—share of each province in it	32
EXPORTS OF INDIAN PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURE.	
Total value—general classification—Animals—Coffee—Rice—Wheat—other grain and pulse—total value and provincial distribution of the grain trade—Provisions : Flour and other kinds—Spices—Sugar—Tea—Opium—Indigo—Myrabolams—Turmeric—Cutch—Tobacco—Chinchona bark—Oils—Cotton—Seeds—Wool—Hides and Skins—Horns, bones, and rags—Saltpetre—Silk—Feathers—Borax—Caoutchouc—Yarns and textile fabrics : gunny bags, Cotton yarn and piece goods, Indian cotton mills, Silk goods, Woollens—Tanned or dressed Hides and Skins—Lac, shell and button—other minor articles—Principal exports of the year arranged according to their importance, and table comparing quantities and values with 1884-85	32—50
NOTE ON THE INFLUENCE OF A LOW RATE OF EXCHANGE ON THE TRADE OF INDIA	51—88
COASTING TRADE AND SHIPPING	89—90
TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE	91—93

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

for the official year ending March 31, 1886.

BY

J. E. O'CONNOR,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce.

Simla, August 10, 1886.

SECTION 1.

Sea-borne Foreign Trade.

THE universal depression of trade and low level of prices for almost all commodities which marked the year 1884-85, continued in the year now under review, and the value of the trade of India exceeded by a minute fraction only (0.06 per cent) the value of the transactions of the preceding year, the excess of the year being only 8.9 lakhs.*

2. The aggregate value of the trade under all heads for the last seven years was as follows:

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	<i>Percentage of increase or decrease each year compared with preceding year.</i>	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1879-80	51,39,75,610	69,10,19,860	1,20,49,95,470	+	11.15
1880-81	59,29,70,452	75,94,06,850	1,35,23,77,332	+	12.23
1881-82	58,31,48,051	82,99,93,464	1,41,31,42,115	+	4.19
1882-83	63,15,61,977	84,38,17,237	1,47,53,79,214	+	4.62
1883-84	65,58,18,545	89,10,28,679	1,54,68,47,224	+	4.63
1884-85	67,02,81,588	85,08,78,583	1,52,11,60,171	—	1.66
1885-86	67,28,93,813	84,91,56,777	1,52,20,50,590	+	0.06

The average yearly rate of increase in the trade during the last seven years has been about 3.7 per cent, and, during the five years 1881-82 to 1885-86, only 1.55 per cent.

3. The trifling increase in the trade of the year was due, it will be seen, to an increase of about 26 lakhs in the value of the imports, the value of the export trade having fallen away. The increase in the imports was due to a large increase in the quantity of the precious metals imported, merchandise values exhibiting a material decline. Under exports, on the other hand, there would

* N.B.—A lakh = 100,000 rupees.

have been an increase to record instead of a decrease if it were not for a falling off in the treasure exported, for merchandise, Indian as well as re-exports, increased slightly in value.

4. It was explained in the Review for 1884-85 that the large augmentation of trade in the first two out of these seven years marked the recovery of the country from the effects of the intense famine which had preceded them, and that thereafter trade progressed normally for three years. During the last two years of the period, however, trade has fallen off.

Government Transactions.

5. The foregoing figures include all the general trade of the country, apart from the imports and exports on account of the State. The imports by Government have greatly increased in recent years, owing chiefly to (1) the transfer to Government from the Companies which owned them of the East Indian, Eastern Bengal, and Sind, Punjab and Delhi lines of railway and the consequent transfer in the trade statistics of imports for those lines from general to Government imports, and (2) the continued active construction by Government of lines of railway. The total value of all imports for the State was :

	Rs.
1881-82	2,12,12,897
1882-83	2,09,26,701
1883-84	2,57,54,572
1884-85	2,56,31,108
1885-86	3,84,43,290

Of this last sum as much as Rs. 2,29,91,994 (say 230 out of 384½ lakhs) represents railway material, which thus formed 40 per cent of the imports on account of the State. They were thus divided :

	Rs.
Engines and tenders	38.88 lakhs.
Carriages and trucks	16.14 „
Materials for construction	174.92 „

More than half of this sum (125 out of 230 lakhs) represented imports into Karáchi, the activity in railway construction during the year being very largely on the frontier lines west of the Indus.

The remainder of 154½ lakhs consisted of :

	Rs.
Arms and ammunition	22.51 lakhs.
Telegraph material	16.75 „
Iron and steel	13.98 „
Hardware and cutlery	10.43 „
Paper and pasteboard	10.01 „
Beer, spirits and wine	8.86 „
Woollen goods	7.11 „
Machinery and millwork	6.62 „
Boots and shoes	5.42 „
Books	5.24 „
Brass and copper	4.16 „
Apparel	3.49 „
Cement	3.36 „
Lead	3.10 „

and a number of other items, each representing a comparatively small value. At least two-thirds of the whole imports are for the Public Works Department

(railways, telegraphs, and buildings), and of the other third a very large proportion is for the Military Department.

6. The importation of Beer has fallen to a low point, only 375,396 gallons having been imported last year. The time is probably now approaching when Government will cease almost altogether to import beer, liquor brewed in India being substituted for it. Cement, on the other hand, for the manufacture of which in India equal facilities exist, is imported in large quantities, the Company which started the manufacture in Calcutta having failed. A great deal of the cement, however, was imported for the breakwaters at Madras, where local manufacture does not exist. The importation of Quinine has fallen to 20 lbs. This, like beer, must eventually cease altogether to be imported. There is clearly abundant room for the extended manufacture of Boots and Shoes, of which about 65,000 pairs were imported last year, but local enterprise in this direction is still confined to one firm of contractors at Cawnpore. The imports of printing paper have fallen low, and should in time cease almost entirely with the extension of manufacture in India. Writing paper, however, is not yet made in this country. It is remarkable that none of the Indian mills have as yet set themselves to make the cardboard from which railway tickets are made. Already about a hundred million tickets are issued annually on the Indian railways, and this quantity will soon be doubled and go on increasing. It is evident that a mill making these tickets can always rely on a large and steady demand, but the endeavours to obtain them have failed. Woollen piece goods also should be obtained much more largely from Indian mills, for much of the stuff imported by Government is of a quality that can be made locally quite as efficiently as in England and more cheaply.

It is difficult to see, however, in what other items any material reduction in the imports of Government stores can be made.

The exports of Government stores and treasure are trifling and need no remark.

7. The excess of exports over imports, including Government transactions as well as general trade, and treasure as well as merchandise, for each of the last seven years was :

	Rs.
1879-80	16,42,61,126
1880-81	13,91,60,585
1881-82	22,63,20,427
1882-83	18,97,83,137
1883-84	21,02,90,856
1884-85	15,63,46,525
1885-86	13,85,57,912

The average annual excess comes to 1,749.6 lakhs. In the same period the drawings of the Secretary of State in Council Bills have been—

	£	Pence.
1879-80	15,261,810	@ 19.961 = 18,34,99,544
1880-81	15,239,677	19.956 = 18,32,79,339
1881-82	18,412,429	19.895 = 22,19,14,197
1882-83	15,120,521	19.522 = 18,58,88,999
1883-84	17,599,805	19.536 = 21,62,13,821
1884-85	13,758,909	19.308 = 17,10,23,827
1885-86	10,292,692	@ 18.254 = 13,53,25,000

the average being £15,097,978 or 1,853 lakhs annually.

Trade through the Suez Canal.

8. The value of the trade to and from India carried through the Canal was, in—

	Rs.		
1881-82	88,09,27,887	...	being 61·4 per cent of the whole trade.
1882-83	93,42,60,084	...	„ 62·2 „ „
1883-84	1,03,55,59,326	...	„ 65·8 „ „
1884-85	1,01,54,01,135	...	„ 65·6 „ „
1885-86	1,03,23,31,652	...	„ 66·2 „ „

9. The proportion of the Indian trade which takes this route has increased during the last five years at an average rate of about one per cent yearly, the increase in the ten years from 1876-77 to 1885-86 amounting to 13·32 per cent, or an average rate of $1\frac{1}{3}$ per cent yearly, an indication both that a larger actual proportion of the trade with countries westward of India passes through the Canal and that the trade with the West increases in greater ratio than trade with countries lying eastward of us. Last year in fact the trade with countries the route to which does not lie through the Canal fell off materially.

10. The proportion of imports into India carried through the Canal is much larger than that of the exports—

<i>Imports—</i>	Rs.		
1883-84	53,17,13,129	...	being 78·01 per cent of all imports.
1884-85	53,93,80,958	...	„ 77·51 „ „
1885-86	55,00,18,010	...	„ 77·32 „ „

<i>Exports—</i>	Rs.		
1883-84	50,33,46,197	...	being 56·49 per cent of all exports.
1884-85	47,60,20,177	...	„ 55·85 „ „
1885-86	48,28,13,642	...	„ 56·81 „ „

11. Out of the total of 10,328 lakhs, 7,870 lakhs represented the value of trade with England, being over three-fourths of the whole, or about the same proportion as in 1884-85. With France the trade was under 686 lakhs, or only about $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the whole, a reduction on the trade of 1883-84, when it was 812 lakhs or 8 per cent. The trade with Italy was nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the whole, with Belgium nearly 4 per cent, with Egypt under 3 per cent, and with Austria about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The trade with Egypt, however, is largely nominal, vessels taking cargo through the Canal to Port Saïd, for orders as to their ultimate destination. With other countries in Europe the trade which passes through the Suez Canal is very small, and our trade by this route with the United States represented only 154 lakhs or about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the whole value of the trade which took that route in the year.

Shipping.

12. The total number and tonnage of the shipping which entered and cleared at Indian ports from and to foreign countries, during each of the last six years, are given below :

	Number.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1880-81	12,305	6,469,036	526
1881-82	12,742	7,368,886	578
1882-83	11,715	7,071,884	604
1883-84	11,662	7,250,603	622
1884-85	10,238	6,640,770	643
1885-86	10,562	7,294,539	691

There was an increase of 2 per cent in the year in the number of vessels and of nearly 10 per cent in the aggregate tonnage, but the tonnage was hardly in excess of that of 1883-84 and was smaller than in 1881-82. The average capacity of each vessel still keeps increasing. In 1879-80 it was only 469 tons ; last year it was 691 tons.

VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED.

13. The figures for vessels entered and cleared, which are given together in the foregoing paragraph, are shewn separately in the following table :

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880-81	6,100	3,168,973	6,205	3,300,063
1881-82	6,460	3,632,248	6,282	3,736,638
1882-83	5,964	3,538,878	5,851	3,533,006
1883-84	5,812	3,632,305	5,850	3,618,298
1884-85	5,150	3,291,009	5,188	3,358,761
1885-86	5,253	3,640,687	5,309	3,653,902

14. These tables include sailing vessels as well as steamers. The following table of steamers shews the progress made during the past six years in the substitution of steamers for sailing vessels in the carrying trade between India and other countries. The percentage of steam to total tonnage was 49 in 1879-80, 55 in 1880-81, 62 in 1881-82, 58 in 1882-83, 63 in 1883-84, and 65 in the last two years :

	Steamers entered.		Steamers cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880-81	1,468	1,742,255	1,471	1,786,542
1881-82	1,829	2,263,604	1,859	2,310,372
1882-83	1,550	2,050,515	1,544	2,050,549
1883-84	1,620	2,294,310	1,603	2,277,232
1884-85	1,495	2,157,501	1,489	2,174,680
1885-86	1,631	2,361,942	1,632	2,397,828

15. The following table contrasts the number of steamers and sailing vessels which entered in 1877-78 with the number entered in 1885-86 :

	1877-78.						1885-86.					
	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargoes.		* In Ballast.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
STEAM VESSELS, ENTERED—	970	1,124,040	153	141,841	1,123	1,265,687	1,330	1,964,393	301	397,549	1,631	2,361,942
SAILING VESSELS, ENTERED—	2,078	1,040,822	2,553	571,140	5,230	1,611,962	2,420	774,335	1,202	504,410	3,622	1,278,745

These figures shew a large increase in the number and tonnage of steamers entered with cargoes, as well as an increase in the number and tonnage of those that entered in ballast, mostly steamers that discharged coals at Aden or some other place out of India and then came hither seeking cargo. The entries of sailing vessels shew a material reduction in both number and tonnage under both heads.

STEAMERS IN BALLAST.

16. Number and tonnage of steamers entering and leaving India without cargoes in the last six years :

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880-81	189	199,274	51	51,054
1881-82	460	547,281	33	30,073
1882-83	404	485,848	56	49,371
1883-84	416	540,909	33	33,837
1884-85	272	351,429	44	61,171
1885-86	301	397,549	47	74,614

In Bombay, 53 steamers entered in ballast as against 61 in the previous year, and 36 cleared in the same condition as compared with 32 in 1884-85. In Bengal, 37 steamers entered in ballast as against 29 in the previous year, while 5 left without a cargo in the past year, 1 having done so in 1884-85. In Burma, 132 steamers entered, and 1 left in ballast as compared with 90 and 5 in the previous year. In Madras, the numbers were 44 and 5 against 49 and 4 in 1884-85; and in Sindh, 35 steamers entered without cargoes, while none left in that condition, the entries in the previous year being 43 and the clearances 2.

The proportion of clearances of steamers without cargoes to the whole number of steamers cleared was—

1879-80	2.5 per cent.
1880-81	3.47 "
1881-82	1.78 "
1882-83	3.63 "
1883-84	2.06 "
1884-85	2.96 "
1885-86	2.88 "

CANAL STEAMERS.

17. The following table shews the number and tonnage of steamers adopting the Suez Canal route, which entered at and cleared from Indian ports, with the percentage of the steam tonnage passing through the Canal to the total steam tonnage engaged in the Indian trade with foreign countries :

	Entries <i>vid</i> Suez Canal.		Clearances <i>vid</i> Suez Canal.		Total entries and clearances <i>vid</i> Suez Canal.		Percentage to total steam tonnage.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
1870-80	511	780,102	556	829,667	1,067	1,609,769	57
1880-81	686	1,018,103	773	1,115,769	1,459	2,133,872	60
1881-82	929	1,370,242	1,060	1,517,746	1,989	2,887,988	63
1882-83	711	1,152,440	934	1,433,480	1,645	2,585,920	63
1883-84	839	1,405,007	1,091	1,746,785	1,930	3,151,792	69
1884-85	726	1,264,105	923	1,553,446	1,649	2,817,551	65
1885-86	773	1,336,638	1,039	1,722,003	1,812	3,058,641	64

The proportion corresponds pretty closely with the proportion of the trade value carried by the canal route.

MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

18. The movement of shipping during the past three years between India and the principal countries with which trade is carried on is shewn in the following table, the figures representing entries and clearances combined :

	1883-84.		1884-85.		1885-86.	
	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.	Vessels	Tons.
BRITISH POSSESSIONS—						
United Kingdom	2,003	2,992,945	1,804	2,909,987	1,973	3,179,764
Malta	66	85,276	41	51,264	36	47,410
Aden	93	100,002	86	95,163	93	109,918
Australia	147	188,039	78	109,346	135	190,632
West Indies	12	10,515	12	9,905	13	11,214
Ceylon	5,094	699,998	4,589	677,597	4,367	725,161
Cape Colony	123	101,584	50	88,984	81	58,879
China—Hong-Kong	124	186,442	134	203,474	144	222,699
Mauritius	327	192,010	229	201,678	197	161,990
Straits Settlements	620	519,869	609	522,197	718	695,758
Natal	81	53,434	65	31,501	61	24,385
FOREIGN COUNTRIES—						
Austria	99	158,977	78	130,477	68	120,417
Belgium	97	151,127	62	101,034	86	136,788
France	272	445,504	205	315,269	189	277,107
Germany	31	33,375	25	28,852	23	28,457
Holland	13	15,558	16	21,518	19	28,985
Italy	54	93,020	52	96,114	70	125,684
East Coast of Africa	178	75,875	182	83,135	169	71,808
Egypt	250	327,952	139	193,140	191	260,417
United States	124	164,966	176	243,090	123	180,817
Arabia	467	110,725	451	113,655	478	123,609
China—Treaty Ports	37	75,933	39	80,600	48	88,983
Java	23	30,910	12	16,422	30	31,890
Persia	321	117,252	280	119,430	230	104,209
Turkey in Asia	241	51,294	274	60,312	248	53,809

The tonnage employed in the trade with the United Kingdom was 46 per cent of the whole in 1880-81, 42 per cent in 1881-82, 41 per cent in 1882-83 and 1883-84, and in the last two years 44 per cent.

NATIONALITIES OF VESSELS.

19. The figures for vessels under British and British Indian registry are given below :

	British.			British Indian.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	3,823	4,403,200	1,150	3,028	401,261	133
1880-81	4,368	5,119,860	1,172	2,866	408,587	142
1881-82	4,861	5,856,677	1,205	2,868	411,400	143
1882-83	5,257	5,366,770	1,261	2,525	361,189	148
1883-84	4,196	5,568,676	1,327	2,601	347,849	134
1884-85	3,791	5,208,966	1,374	2,345	287,326	123
1885-86	4,136	5,770,169	1,395	2,198	304,544	139

The proportion of British tonnage to the total tonnage of the year was 79·14 per cent in 1880-81, 79·48 per cent in 1881-82, 75·89 per cent in 1882-83, 76·8 in 1883-84, 78·3 in 1884-85, and 79·1 last year; and of British Indian tonnage for the same period 6·32, 5·58, 5·11, 4·8, 4·3, and 4·17 per cent respectively.

Foreign shipping represented of the aggregate tonnage :

in 1879-80	12·06 per cent.
1880-81	11·5 „
1881-82	12·49 „
1882-83	16·52 „
1883-84	16 „
1884-85	15·15 „
1885-86	14·69 „

The number and tonnage of the foreign vessels employed in the trade in each of the last seven years are given below :

	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	1,233	687,862	558
1880-81	1,355	743,742	549
1881-82	1,599	920,510	576
1882-83	1,834	1,168,293	637
1883-84	1,701	1,162,022	683
1884-85	1,551	1,007,674	650
1885-86	1,565	1,071,543	685

The proportion of steamers to sailing vessels in the shipping of foreign nationalities as shewn below gives a percentage of steam tonnage to total tonnage of 33 in 1879-80, 54 in 1883-84, 56 in 1884-85, and 58 in 1885-86.

	Steamers.		Sailing vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1879-80	191	226,813	1,042	461,049
1880-81	198	239,250	1,157	504,492
1881-82	249	315,871	1,350	604,639
1882-83	341	475,431	1,493	692,862
1883-84	391	623,113	1,310	538,909
1884-85	370	568,495	1,181	439,179
1885-86	413	617,187	1,152	454,356

The total number and tonnage of the shipping of the principal nationalities, other than British, engaged in the trade in the past year as compared with the four preceding years, are shewn in the following table :

		1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.
Austrian	No.	86	97	89	78	78
	Tons	112,235	138,215	130,071	136,942	137,846
Belgian	No.	16	3	12	2	...
	Tons	20,281	3,551	15,928	2,646	...
Dutch	No.	13	5	39	92	127
	Tons	9,699	7,655	42,241	95,846	150,060
French.	No.	226	219	231	183	170
	Tons	140,843	191,084	286,683	212,039	176,835
German	No.	124	238	178	156	200
	Tons	112,329	213,495	163,081	160,771	205,629
Italian	No.	247	281	217	107	126
	Tons	230,643	281,454	248,608	143,904	164,788
Norwegian	No.	80	130	74	75	78
	Tons	74,544	107,538	67,248	63,402	63,541
Russian	No.	12	17	11	3	2
	Tons	12,502	13,512	10,275	2,628	798
Swedish	No.	19	36	34	10	21
	Tons	8,988	21,045	18,729	4,069	11,480
American	No.	74	73	44	52	45
	Tons	87,346	85,452	52,033	64,538	55,236
Arab	No.	584	615	646	663	597
	Tons	85,853	79,045	102,393	102,215	92,712
Turkish	No.	20	12	11	20	9
	Tons	14,876	10,315	9,041	9,053	5,070

The great increase in the number of Dutch steamers is due to the establishment of a line of mail steamers calling regularly between Madras ports and the Straits and carrying native passengers as well as goods. These steamers have thrown native sailing vessels out of this business.

NATIVE CRAFT.

20. The number and tonnage of native craft entered and cleared in each of the last seven years are given below; the proportion to the total tonnage being—

3·7 in 1879-80.

3· in 1880-81.

2·45 in 1881-82.

2·48 in 1882-83.

2·37 in 1883-84.

2·19 in 1884-85.

2·03 in 1885-86.

	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	4,071	210,704	52
1880-81	3,716	196,847	53
1881-82	3,414	180,299	53
1882-83	3,099	175,632	57
1883-84	3,164	172,056	54
1884-85	2,651	145,804	55
1885-86	2,663	148,333	56

SHARE OF EACH PROVINCE IN MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

21. The following table shews the share of each of the maritime provinces of India in the movement of shipping with cargoes for the last seven years :

		Vessels.	Tons.
BENGAL	1879-80	1,444	1,762,589
	1880-81	1,549	1,880,142
	1881-82	1,680	2,092,975
	1882-83	1,348	1,701,359
	1883-84	1,309	1,706,140
	1884-85	1,148	1,541,764
	1885-86	1,160	1,568,322
BOMBAY	1879-80	1,661	1,212,430
	1880-81	1,981	1,567,160
	1881-82	2,171	1,842,082
	1882-83	1,967	1,775,914
	1883-84	2,030	2,055,149
	1884-85	1,947	2,027,871
	1885-86	1,969	2,049,235
SINDH	1879-80	852	264,275
	1880-81	716	302,230
	1881-82	645	217,872
	1882-83	774	281,162
	1883-84	733	352,425
	1884-85	742	384,769
	1885-86	828	504,004
MADRAS	1879-80	3,906	860,650
	1880-81	3,683	906,241
	1881-82	3,756	927,851
	1882-83	3,443	916,082
	1883-84	3,917	1,082,878
	1884-85	3,478	1,042,727
	1885-86	3,470	1,192,454
BRITISH BURMA	1879-80	1,133	960,702
	1880-81	1,194	1,012,139
	1881-82	1,351	1,118,763
	1882-83	1,334	1,136,718
	1883-84	989	868,345
	1884-85	910	820,376
	1885-86	1,014	945,842

Customs Revenue.

22. The gross sum received on imports since 1882-83, in the beginning of which year the import duties were abolished on all articles but salt and those shewn below, was as follows :

	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arms and ammunition	1,08,738	1,47,004	1,49,940	1,68,740
Malt liquor	72,933	78,575	66,090	81,283
Spirits	35,36,239	35,52,100	34,49,926	36,30,746
Wines, liquors, &c.	5,66,914	5,70,913	4,96,580	4,69,613
Opium	2,805	2,093	2,863	2,797
Imports by post, &c.	23,430	16,914	562	1,322
Total gross revenue	43,11,059	43,67,599	41,65,961	43,54,501
Total net revenue	40,95,915	43,12,143	40,95,618	42,65,513

(N.B.—Salt is excluded from these figures.)

The increase, it will be seen, was almost all due to the revenue from spirits.

The export revenue for the same years was—

	(Gross.)	(Net.)
	Rs.	Rs.
1882-83	83,23,120	80,88,024
1883-84	71,90,680	69,65,709
1884-85	58,83,936	57,06,391
1885-86	74,38,495	72,76,281

This revenue is practically all derived from rice, the trade in which revived after two very unfortunate years.

Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion.

23. The imports and exports of gold during the last five years were—

	Imports.	Exports.	Balance net imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	4,85,63,920	1,21,078	4,84,39,842
1882-83	5,09,51,354	16,42,639	4,93,08,715
1883-84	5,46,94,568	69,517	5,46,25,051
1884-85	4,77,81,724	10,62,359	4,67,19,365
1885-86	3,09,15,409	32,83,062	2,76,29,347

While gold has been leaving the country, or at least coming to it in greatly reduced quantity, silver, on the other hand, was imported in larger and exported in smaller quantity than at any time since the famine period :

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Net imports. Rs.
1881-82 . . .	6,46,63,889	1,08,73,300	5,37,90,499
1882-83 . . .	8,35,80,218	87,77,949	7,48,02,269
1883-84 . . .	7,40,85,065	1,00,33,554	6,40,51,511
1884-85 . . .	9,11,00,254	1,86,43,941	7,24,56,313
1885-86 . . .	12,38,62,599	77,96,314	11,60,66,285

It was said, in the Review of Trade for 1884-85, taking the average of that year and the five previous years, that the consumption of gold in India was as 3 to 5 of silver. Last year the proportion was only a little over 1 of gold to 5 of silver.

Trade of each Province.

24. In Bengal there is a further decrease to record in imported merchandise following on the decrease in the previous year. There was a small recovery in exports, but the sum is still very much below the level of six years ago.

In Bombay on the other hand, while imports increased substantially, exports fell off.

In Sind both imports and exports increased largely, the trade of the province—that is, of Karáchi, being now double what it was five years ago.

In Madras both imports and exports decreased, and

In Burma, while imports fell off owing to the interruption to business with Mandalay caused by the military occupation of Upper Burma, exports increased as a result of the recovery of the rice trade from its depression of two years.

25. The figures of the trade of each province stand thus :

<i>Imported Merchandise.</i>					
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	Increase or decrease compared with 1884-85.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bombay . . .	19,38,96,318	20,76,06,736	21,51,80,876	22,01,43,302	+ 2.3%
Bengal . . .	21,12,01,418	22,40,09,348	21,43,13,842	19,98,56,304	— 6.7%
Madras . . .	4,58,33,679	4,38,70,261	4,82,42,564	4,25,03,569	— 11.9%
Burma . . .	3,72,30,434	3,80,74,982	3,69,53,834	3,41,98,154	— 7.5%
Sindh . . .	1,18,68,556	1,34,77,585	1,68,21,994	2,14,14,386	+ 27.3%
<i>Exported Merchandise.</i>					
Bombay . . .	31,36,35,683	32,59,82,523	32,73,28,220	31,29,83,576	— 4.3%
Bengal . . .	34,14,53,749	36,10,22,055	32,83,21,224	33,11,20,692	+ 0.9%
Madras . . .	8,23,96,242	9,14,68,601	8,43,26,731	8,26,44,123	— 2%
Burma . . .	7,03,26,138	6,57,81,387	5,28,71,688	6,78,03,690	+ 28.2%
Sindh . . .	2,61,96,837	3,70,05,392	3,91,57,420	4,37,26,320	+ 11.7%

26. The following table shows the trade of the ten largest ports of India last year, and the proportion of the trade of shipping of each to the whole trade and shipping of India :

Ports.	TRADE.			Ports.	NAVIGATION.						
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
BOMBAY—				BOMBAY—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	21,96,64,214	8,61,49,277	30,58,12,491	Entered ...	571	925,476	444	389,907	1,015	1,315,383	
Exports ...	31,29,79,492	7,04,05,551	38,33,84,953	Cleared ...	581	932,371	467	332,300	1,048	1,264,671	
Total ...	53,26,43,616	15,65,53,828	68,91,97,444	Total ...	1,152	1,857,847	911	722,207	2,063	2,580,054	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	12,47,89,249	21,43,761	12,69,33,013	Entered ...	379	125,342	48,674	812,590	49,053	937,932	
Exports ...	90,32,183	55,15,954	1,45,48,137	Cleared ...	362	61,870	11,819	363,818	12,181	425,688	
Total ...	13,38,21,432	76,59,718	14,14,81,150	Total ...	741	187,212	60,493	1,176,408	61,234	1,363,620	
GRAND TOTAL ...	66,64,65,048 41.79%	16,42,13,546 28.51%	83,06,78,594	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,893 22.41%	2,045,059 32.67%	61,404 23.5%	1,898,615 12.87%	63,297	3,943,674	
CALCUTTA—				CALCUTTA—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	19,95,73,313	3,13,83,717	23,09,57,030	Entered ...	160	276,072	669	575,110	829	851,182	
Exports ...	32,04,68,154	4,65,40,221	36,70,08,405	Cleared ...	187	314,050	703	631,024	890	945,074	
Total ...	52,00,41,497	7,79,23,938	59,79,65,435	Total ...	347	590,122	1,372	1,206,134	1,719	1,796,256	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	2,63,77,784	23,95,335	2,92,73,119	Entered ...	283	362,044	100	34,837	383	416,881	
Exports ...	9,94,555	1,45,81,445	1,55,76,000	Cleared ...	416	501,334	100	9,674	516	511,008	
Total ...	2,74,72,339	1,74,76,780	4,48,49,119	Total ...	699	863,378	200	44,511	899	927,889	
GRAND TOTAL ...	54,74,13,836 35.97%	9,54,00,718 16.56%	64,28,14,554	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,046 12.38%	1,473,500 23.54%	1,572 0.73%	1,250,645 8.48%	2,618	2,724,145	
BANGCOON—				BANGCOON—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	3,22,57,971	2,14,45,936	5,37,03,957	Entered ...	96	94,120	392	313,393	488	407,513	
Exports ...	4,27,39,070	1,32,35,120	5,59,74,190	Cleared ...	188	222,203	371	285,576	559	507,779	
Total ...	7,49,97,041	3,46,81,106	10,96,78,147	Total ...	284	316,323	763	598,969	1,047	915,292	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	87,084	65,93,073	66,80,157	Entered ...	66	78,069	152	16,143	218	94,212	
Exports ...	2,000	34,98,436	35,00,436	Cleared ...	161	181,322	115	12,408	276	193,730	
Total ...	89,084	1,00,91,509	1,01,80,593	Total ...	227	259,391	267	28,551	494	287,942	
GRAND TOTAL ...	7,50,86,125 4.93%	4,47,72,615 7.77%	11,98,58,740	GRAND TOTAL ...	511 6.05%	575,714 9.2%	1,030 0.48%	627,520 4.25%	1,541	1,203,234	
KARACHI—				KARACHI—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	2,14,11,270	2,47,92,689	4,62,06,959	Entered ...	159	198,079	158	157,016	317	355,095	
Exports ...	4,37,26,300	1,02,97,156	5,40,23,456	Cleared ...	205	272,686	143	133,564	348	406,250	
Total ...	6,51,40,570	3,50,89,845	10,02,30,415	Total ...	364	470,765	301	290,580	665	761,345	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	4,26,604	9,86,477	14,13,081	Entered ...	244	20,138	1,574	81,476	1,818	101,614	
Exports ...	4,23,950	5,300	4,29,250	Cleared ...	218	13,091	1,180	67,863	1,398	80,954	
Total ...	8,50,554	9,91,777	18,42,331	Total ...	462	33,229	2,754	149,339	3,216	182,568	
GRAND TOTAL ...	6,59,91,124 4.94%	3,60,81,622 6.26%	10,20,72,746	GRAND TOTAL ...	826 9.78%	503,994 8.05%	3,055 1.42%	439,919 2.98%	3,881	943,913	

Ports.	TRADE.			Ports.	NAVIGATION.					
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
MADRAS—				MADRAS—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	3,69,33,281	1,26,32,294	4,95,65,575	Entered ...	141	258,442	311	493,604	452	752,048
Exports ...	3,67,40,986	45,40,921	4,12,81,907	Cleared ...	116	229,091	279	436,456	395	665,547
Total ...	7,36,74,267	1,71,73,215	9,08,47,482	Total ...	257	487,533	590	930,060	847	1,417,593
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	20,65,887	...	20,65,887	Entered ...	43	14,745	161	31,971	204	46,716
Exports ...	4,01,480	25,32,000	29,33,480	Cleared ...	18	5,027	81	20,333	99	25,360
Total ...	24,67,367	25,32,000	49,99,367	Total ...	61	19,772	242	52,304	303	72,076
GRAND TOTAL ...	7,61,41,634 5%	1,97,05,215 3.42%	9,58,46,849	GRAND TOTAL ...	318 3.76%	507,705 8.1%	832 0.39%	982,364 6.66%	1,150	1,489,669
MOULMEIN—				MOULMEIN—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	14,89,272	62,47,699	77,36,971	Entered ...	40	52,583	167	79,834	216	132,417
Exports ...	73,45,255	64,19,125	1,37,64,380	Cleared ...	53	59,029	207	131,564	260	190,593
Total ...	88,34,527	1,26,66,824	2,15,01,351	Total ...	102	111,612	374	211,398	476	323,010
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	1,000	49,24,748	49,25,748	Entered ...	2	514	234	19,531	236	20,045
Exports ...	2,500	5,71,522	5,74,022	Cleared ...	28	20,244	165	20,709	193	40,953
Total ...	3,500	54,96,270	54,99,770	Total ...	30	20,758	399	40,240	429	60,998
GRAND TOTAL ...	88,33,027 0.58%	1,81,63,094 3.15%	2,70,01,121	GRAND TOTAL ...	132 1.56%	132,370 2.11%	773 0.36%	251,638 1.71%	905	384,008
CHITTAGONG—				CHITTAGONG—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	2,27,277	90,16,818	92,44,095	Entered ...	...	...	107	65,408	107	65,408
Exports ...	80,67,395	30,76,321	1,11,43,716	Cleared ...	8	11,038	118	75,495	126	86,533
Total ...	82,94,672	1,20,93,139	2,03,87,811	Total ...	8	11,038	225	140,903	233	151,941
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	...	2,41,500	2,41,500	Entered ...	11	9,208	500	68,672	520	77,880
Exports ...	...	1,81,730	1,81,730	Cleared ...	51	49,683	152	23,464	203	73,147
Total ...	...	4,23,230	4,23,230	Total ...	62	58,891	652	92,136	723	151,027
GRAND TOTAL ...	82,94,672 0.54%	1,25,16,369 2.17%	2,08,11,041	GRAND TOTAL ...	70 0.83%	69,929 1.12%	856 0.41%	233,039 1.58%	956	302,968
AKYAB—				AKYAB—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	93,330	40,78,987	41,72,317	Entered ...	1	1,140	114	75,226	115	76,366
Exports ...	69,44,760	21,84,616	91,29,406	Cleared ...	30	37,292	121	82,008	151	119,800
Total ...	70,38,090	62,63,603	1,33,01,723	Total ...	31	38,432	235	157,234	266	195,666
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	...	48,39,360	48,39,360	Entered ...	1	1,066	156	7,158	157	8,224
Exports ...	...	13,19,813	13,19,813	Cleared ...	58	42,157	66	18,396	124	60,553
Total ...	...	61,59,173	61,59,173	Total ...	59	43,223	222	25,554	281	68,777
GRAND TOTAL ...	70,38,090 0.45%	1,24,22,876 2.16%	1,94,60,896	GRAND TOTAL ...	90 1.07%	81,655 1.3%	457 0.21%	182,789 1.24%	547	264,443

Ports.	TRADE.			Ports.	NAVIGATION.					
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
COCONADA—				COCONADA—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	1,25,011	20,29,679	21,54,690	Entered ...	4	6,432	244	327,787	248	334,219
Exports ...	70,25,858	55,23,629	1,25,49,487	Cleared ...	24	33,935	243	327,508	267	361,493
Total ...	71,50,869	75,53,308	1,47,04,177	Total ...	28	40,417	487	655,295	515	695,712
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	...	19,24,500	19,24,500	Entered ...	4	971	75	23,532	79	24,503
Exports ...	...	12,000	12,000	Cleared ...	42	17,154	81	18,006	123	35,160
Total ...	...	19,36,500	19,36,500	Total ...	46	18,125	156	41,538	202	59,663
GRAND TOTAL ...	71,50,869 0·47%	94,89,808 1·65%	1,66,40,677	GRAND TOTAL ...	74 0·88%	58,542 0·94%	643 0·3%	696,833 4·72%	717	755,375
TUTICORIN—				TUTICORIN—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	11,97,389	20,45,229	32,42,618	Entered ...	6	9,224	123	171,774	129	180,998
Exports ...	97,53,477	11,84,021	1,09,37,498	Cleared ...	6	7,899	115	163,255	121	171,154
Total ...	1,09,50,866	32,29,250	1,41,80,116	Total ...	12	17,123	238	335,029	250	352,152
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	5,05,816	2,000	5,07,816	Entered ...	433	38,785	620	16,579	1,053	55,364
Exports ...	...	46,809	46,809	Cleared ...	498	74,523	317	12,027	815	86,555
Total ...	5,05,816	48,809	5,54,625	Total ...	931	113,313	937	28,606	1,868	141,919
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,14,56,682 0·75%	32,78,059 0·57%	1,47,34,741	GRAND TOTAL ...	943 11·16%	130,436 2·08%	1,175 0·55%	363,635 2·47%	2,118	494,071

27. The trade and shipping of India have been divided during the last three years in the following proportions between the five chief ports :

	Foreign.			Coasting.		
	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.
	<i>Trade.</i>					
Bombay	41·55	43·51	43·79	30·91	30·74	28·51
Calcutta	38·45	36·97	35·97	15·33	15·68	16·56
Rangoon	5·06	4·67	4·93	8·69	7·53	7·77
Madras	5·28	5·43	5·0	3·23	3·12	3·42
Karachi	3·36	3·79	4·34	6·16	5·95	6·26
	93·70	94·37	94·03	64·32	63·02	62·52
<i>Shipping.</i>						
Bombay	33·82	34·78	32·67	12·07	13·02	12·87
Calcutta	26·41	24·77	23·54	7·15	7·73	8·48
Rangoon	8·8	9·23	9·20	4·06	3·94	4·25
Madras	7·21	7·62	8·1	6·01	6·23	6·66
Karachi	5·81	6·61	8·05	2·59	2·62	2·98
	82·08	83·01	81·56	31·88	33·54	35·24

The ports of Bombay and Karachi have now between them over 48 per cent of the whole value of the foreign trade of India and nearly 41 per cent of the tonnage engaged in that trade. Calcutta possessed 42 per cent of the whole trade in 1880-81 and about 28 per cent of the tonnage, while its share now is only 36 per cent of the trade and 23½ per cent of the tonnage.

Trade with Countries.

28. The following table exhibits the value of the trade between India and most of the countries with which India has commercial connections, and the proportion of the trade with each country to the total trade of India with all countries, for each of the last four years. The countries are enumerated according to the importance of the trade with them in 1885-86 :

Countries.	1882-83.		1883-84.		1884-85.		1885-86.	
	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom	81,77,01,060	55.31	88,76,02,400	56.09	84,11,83,775	55.3	84,03,02,210	55.04
2. China—Hong-Kong	13,85,13,407	9.37	12,95,33,055	8.37	12,32,43,226	8.1	13,30,53,033	8.74
3. France	7,75,78,188	5.25	9,22,71,574	5.97	8,89,91,513	5.84	7,40,80,554	4.87
4. Straits Settlements	5,33,04,705	3.01	4,70,81,610	3.1	5,21,00,948	3.42	5,30,82,822	3.54
5. China—Treaty Ports	3,83,36,237	2.59	4,29,55,811	2.78	4,27,38,256	2.81	5,09,77,627	3.35
6. Italy	5,40,99,044	3.06	4,32,15,025	2.79	4,03,82,433	2.65	4,54,88,201	2.99
7. United States	4,27,75,606	2.89	3,63,17,030	2.35	4,07,68,153	3.07	4,49,27,833	2.95
8. Belgium	2,23,01,618	1.51	3,57,05,887	2.31	3,30,02,058	2.21	3,09,07,531	2.03
9. Egypt	2,40,55,112	1.63	3,09,36,227	2.03	3,18,27,010	2.09	3,55,44,097	2.31
10. Ceylon	2,73,91,535	1.85	2,64,50,607	1.72	3,25,20,850	2.14	2,00,78,371	1.91
11. Austria	3,21,71,045	2.18	2,00,03,449	1.68	3,14,01,060	2.06	2,66,81,024	1.75
12. Persia	2,06,43,757	1.4	2,24,50,469	1.45	2,17,58,100	1.43	2,10,37,745	1.38
13. Mauritius	1,47,83,732	0.999	1,07,08,420	1.08	2,74,07,416	1.8	2,08,15,348	1.35
14. Arabia	1,55,84,601	1.054	1,39,23,305	0.891	1,42,44,513	0.930	1,07,00,505	1.1
15. Australia	2,99,11,923	2.02	3,07,47,500	1.99	2,52,91,724	1.66	1,54,78,303	1.03
16. Aden	72,12,008	0.484	70,82,404	0.510	1,04,17,428	0.685	93,81,900	0.618
17. Zanzibar	75,58,578	0.511	78,36,550	0.507	68,71,230	0.452	70,70,084	0.524
18. Turkey in Asia	1,05,87,771	0.718	89,12,122	0.578	96,15,435	0.632	70,87,806	0.504
19. Holland	47,12,383	0.310	34,51,090	0.223	47,11,335	0.31	54,09,717	0.355
20. Malta	70,69,118	0.510	1,04,41,860	0.675	45,34,073	0.295	53,87,830	0.354
21. Germany	60,92,129	0.412	73,81,595	0.477	66,22,001	0.435	52,92,940	0.347
22. South America	28,00,945	0.195	43,92,758	0.284	30,64,062	0.201	44,01,788	0.259
23. Japan	25,11,901	0.170	30,40,250	0.197	40,20,377	0.232	29,89,027	0.196
24. Spain, excluding Gibraltar	30,47,012	0.206	22,68,011	0.147	17,45,850	0.115	27,88,129	0.183
25. Mozambique	25,36,128	0.170	26,17,541	0.160	20,27,801	0.133	22,19,822	0.146
26. Réunion	21,41,082	0.145	20,27,148	0.13	20,72,752	0.136	19,28,954	0.127
27. West Indies	12,93,796	0.088	12,07,389	0.078	13,07,658	0.09	15,03,973	0.103
28. Spain—Gibraltar	25,72,028	0.174	7,20,248	0.047	6,17,932	0.041	12,90,140	0.085
29. Russia	13,39,307	0.089	14,96,351	0.097	12,19,917	0.08	10,05,072	0.072
30. Natal	6,70,251	0.045	9,68,554	0.059	10,27,995	0.068	10,53,292	0.069
31. Java	5,87,800	0.04	4,96,084	0.032	7,37,800	0.048	4,31,162	0.028
32. Sumatra	4,06,139	0.027	7,36,594	0.048	8,89,143	0.058	4,27,133	0.029
33. Siam	5,57,404	0.038	5,06,130	0.033	3,60,961	0.024	3,43,923	0.023

29. *United Kingdom.*—There was a small increase in the trade with England, the exports from this country giving a larger total value than in 1884-85. The trade continued to represent between 55 and 56 per cent of the whole trade of India. The value of merchandise imported was reduced by 53.88

lakhs, or about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Cotton goods which constitute about half of the whole imports declined, very slightly, in value, the quantity both of yarn and cloth being at the same time substantially larger than in 1884-85. Some other articles of importance in this trade also give reduced values—for instance, hardware and cutlery, machinery and millwork, several descriptions of iron, printing paper, locomotive engines, salt, silk piece goods, umbrellas. On the other hand, woollen goods, apparel, coal, beer, brandy and whisky, copper, and materials for railway construction, give increased values, the net result on the whole record being as stated above. The recorded value of articles imported through the post does not increase: it is still less than in 1882-83. The reason probably is that the low rate of exchange adds largely to the cost of goods bought retail, and as the fall in wholesale prices of commodities has not reached the retail trade, the public find it on the whole more advantageous to buy in this country of the retail trader who imports his goods at a much cheaper cost than by the parcel post and who, having obtained a trade discount for his goods, is able to sell as cheaply as the consumer in India can buy direct from a retail trader in England, and still obtain a good profit.

Exports of Indian merchandise increased by about 63 lakhs, or nearly 2 per cent, but the total sum is still much below the level of previous years. The decrease in the exports of cotton has now been continuous for four years, and the trade last year fell to an extremely low point. Only 1,433,392 cwt. were exported, the quantity in the previous year having been 2,134,762 cwt. The value of the exports, which in 1884-85 was 558.86 lakhs, was last year only 361 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, a decline of 35 per cent, the quantity exported having declined by a third. Jute also declined largely, and there was a smaller fall in indigo and hides as well as in some articles of smaller importance. But these reductions were balanced by increases in coffee, rice, wheat (very large), skins, linseed, tea, teakwood, and wool, with the result of an increase of a little under 2 per cent on the whole value of Indian goods exported.

Under re-exports of foreign goods also there was an increased trade in ivory and wool, the general result being a value of 71.84 lakhs, or nearly 8 per cent in excess of the value of the previous year.

30. *China*.—China follows the United Kingdom in the extent of its trade with India, 12 per cent of our whole trade having been with China last year, the bulk of it with Hong-Kong. The trade with the Treaty Ports is however increasing in much larger ratio than the trade with Hong-Kong.

Most of our imports come to India *via* Hong-Kong. Last year the imports from the Treaty Ports represented a value of less than 30 lakhs, while from Hong-Kong they were more than five times that sum (155 lakhs), and the 30 lakhs were confined almost entirely to tea and raw silk. These two articles are amongst our principal imports from China. Of tea last year we received no less than lbs. 3,226,854, worth about 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Much of this tea is re-exported from Bombay by way of the Persian Gulf, and much is also sent across the frontiers into Kabul and Kandahar, but some is also consumed in India itself; and it is certainly remarkable that tea planters in India will not or cannot compete for a trade of such dimensions when the tea is brought to India either

for consumption in the country or in its neighbourhood. The imports have already reached nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds, and they are increasing. Raw silk is also imported in large quantities, the imports last year being 1,426,163 lbs., value 57·19 lakhs. It seems tolerably clear that India cannot compete with China in the production of silk, and that we must resort regularly to that country for supplies which the country is not able itself to produce. Manufactured silk is also largely supplied to India from China. Last year we received over three million yards of piece goods, value about $33\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Of other imports from China the most important are refined sugar, unwrought copper, glassware (bangles mainly), fireworks (for the preparation of which much saltpetre is exported from India to China), camphor, and cassia lignea. The import of sugar slackened somewhat during the year, but still continues on an extensive scale, India having become almost the only large market left for Chinese, Java, and Mauritius sugar during the last two years after the practical closure of the European markets to cane sugar in consequence of the extension of the Continental beet-sugar industry, fostered by the system of State bounties.

Opium is still much the most important of the exports to China, but Indian yarns and piece goods, especially the former, have in recent years, risen to a level which makes the trade one of very real importance. Last year we exported $68\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds of yarn, value $239\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and piece goods to the value of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs more, making an aggregate value of 243 lakhs in manufactures of the Indian cotton mills taken by China. The export of raw cotton, on the other hand, has fallen off as yarns have increased. Last year it was under 54 lakhs in value: five years ago it was little short of double that sum. Of other articles shipped from India to China the most noticeable are gunny bags and cloth, saltpetre, fishmaws and sharkfins, ornamental wood for cabinet making, certain drugs, castor oil, and rice. This country formerly had a large trade in the shipment of rice to China, but for many years past it has been next to extinct, Saigon rice having superseded it. Last year there was a temporary revival in consequence of failure of crops from inundations in China, and the inability of Cochin-China to supply the deficiency.

31. *France.*—The imports of merchandise were rather larger than in the preceding year (62·4 lakhs, being an increase of 2 lakhs), but there does not seem to be any real tendency to increase. The imports from France consist mainly of millinery, watches, precious stones and jewellery, saffron, spirits and wines, and silk piece goods. These are not bulky articles which would fill a ship with freight to India, and consequently a considerable proportion of the French merchandise which comes to India is shipped from France to London and thence reshipped to India.

In exports to France of Indian merchandise there was a serious decline last year, the total value being only 668·38 lakhs, a fall of 148·46 lakhs, or more than 18 per cent. Oilseeds represent nearly half the whole value of the exports to France, and in these there was a decline in value of 68 lakhs, owing to a much diminished export of til or jinjili seed, extensively used in France for soap making. Of linseed also the exports were much smaller than in 1884-85. Cotton too fell off greatly, the value declining from 152·80 lakhs to 124·81 lakhs, with a greatly diminished quantity. Wheat decreased even more greatly, the value falling from 134 to $81\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, the decline in the quantity

exported being probably due in great measure to the protective duty imposed on wheat by the French Government. In Coffee and Indigo there was also a much smaller trade. Some comparatively less important articles did better—such as jute, hides and skins, pepper, and shell-lac, but on the whole the exports to France last year were on a much more restricted scale than has been seen for many years.

32. *Straits Settlements.*—The imports from the Straits last year were 161½ lakhs in value; in the preceding year the value was nearly 171 lakhs. Betelnuts are conspicuous in the returns as having increased very largely. Tin remained at the same figure as in the previous year, but with a smaller quantity, prices having advanced. Raw silk and silk piece goods fell to a low level, and in catch there was a smaller decline.

Exports of Indian goods increased from 316.56 to 341.15 lakhs, in consequence of a largely increased export of rice for China though the dimensions of the trade are still below the level of former years. Raw cotton and cotton piece goods also fell off, as well as gunny bags.

The Straits are in large measure, for both imports and exports, a half-way house between India and Eastern Asia. Hence the comparatively large extent of our trade with this small Colony.

33. *Italy.*—There is no apparent tendency to an increase in the imports from Italy, rather the reverse, and the whole value is small: it was under 41½ lakhs last year, corals standing for rather more than a fourth of this (12.29 lakhs) and beads and false pearls for 5.65 lakhs. The importations of Italian silks are small. The only noticeable features of the trade are that there has been a great development of the imports of coloured cottons, which have increased nearly three-fold in five years, and those of salt, which has increased in even larger proportion. Vessels bring Italian and Sicilian salt to India and carry back wheat and rice. Not much rice goes to Italy direct, but it is taken largely to Malta and thence sent on to Genoa and other Mediterranean ports.

Our exports to Italy are increasing steadily. They amounted last year to 364 lakhs, of which 206¾ lakhs represent the value of raw cotton: The export of wheat has largely increased, the trade of the year being 1,218,269 cwt., value 44.67 lakhs. During the first quarter of the current year our exports of wheat to Italy have already exceeded two million hundred-weights, owing to the failure of South Russian wheat, which has hitherto so largely supplied the demand for the Mediterranean littoral. Rice was very little taken by Italy last year, the Italian rice harvest having been good and large stocks of Indian rice remaining over from previous imports. The progress of the leather trade in Italy has resulted in a well established demand for Indian hides and this trade is now of some importance, the value being last year about 38 lakhs. Seeds did not do well, the exports of til or jinjili having fallen off as they did in the trade with France; raw silk has been doing badly for some years, and last year was worse than ever, the Italian silk-crop being well up to the mark, with a small demand in Europe; there was a material increase in jute and a smaller one in indigo.

34. *United States.*—It may be said that almost the only direct import now from the United States is mineral oil, this article representing last year a value of 80 lakhs out of a total import value of 83·30 lakhs. About 20 million gallons of this oil were imported last year, following on an import of 26 million gallons in the preceding year. The price has never been so low as in these two years, and the oil is used everywhere in the towns of India.

There was a heavy fall in export values, from 345 to 304 lakhs, largely due to the linseed trade which has fallen off by 48 lakhs. The Americans threaten to grow their own linseed instead of importing it from India, because, as they say, India has made wheat cultivation unprofitable for them. This impression is erroneous, but if the Americans find it more profitable to grow linseed than to import it they will certainly grow it without reference to wheat or anything else. Saltpetre, jute, gunny bags, catch, and indigo, also fell away in smaller degree, and though hides and skins and shell-lac, with some articles of minor importance, did well, the export trade as a whole exhibits great depression. The endeavours which have been made during the last three or four years to create a large tea trade with the States seem to have failed. The Americans prefer Japanese tea, and, large coffee drinkers, seem to take the coffee of all countries except India.

35. *Belgium.*—In five years our direct imports from Belgium have already increased from the nominal sum of Rs. 22,503 to Rs. 26,67,416, the totals increasing every year. If the trade continues to progress as it has done hitherto the totals will make a very respectable figure in a few years more.

The principal lines in which the trade runs are: candles, sheet glass and other glassware, hardware and cutlery, iron of sorts (bar, angle, bolt and rod, nails, screws, rivets, girders), steel, writing paper, and railway material—all of these articles competing for sale with similar goods of British manufacture.

The export trade has also increased very largely, from 197 lakhs five years ago to 373 lakhs. The bulk of the trade is in cotton and wheat, the steady increase in the former in five years' trade being remarkable. Belgium, like France and Italy, takes Indian oilseeds in large quantities, especially rapeseed, linseed, and til or jinjili. In poppyseed and earthnuts there is also an extensive trade.

36. *Egypt.*—This country figures ninth in the list of countries with which India traded last year. But, as has been explained in former reviews, much of the trade consists of rice and wheat nominally exported to Port Saïd where the vessels containing the grain call for orders as to their ultimate destination. The value of the rice and wheat exported in this way was last year 235 lakhs, the whole value of the export trade (Indian produce) being 322 lakhs. The other merchandise sent to Egypt from India consists of indigo, coffee, oilseeds, sugar, gunny bags, teakwood, and cotton. It is certain that a good proportion of these things is not for Egypt at all, but no returns of imports and exports are received here from that country which would assist in estimating the actual extent of its consumption of Indian goods.

The import of salt from Egypt ceased entirely last year, and the only other imports worth attention are some apparel and cigars and cigarettes.

37. *Ceylon*.—Value of imports last year 50·99 lakhs, of which betelnut represented 20 lakhs, and cocoanuts and cocoanut oil about $10\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. O Ceylon tea 11,925 lbs. were imported, a sufficiently noticeable fact from the Indian planter's point of view; of Ceylon coffee also 8,726 cwt. were imported but it is recorded that 7,035 cwt. of Indian coffee were exported to the island.

Value of exports of Indian produce and manufactures 185·77 lakhs of which 128 lakhs represent the value of rice, husked and unhusked. The export of rice was rather larger than it had been for some two or three years past. Ceylon is recovering from the depression in the coffee industry, and is now growing tea with great success. The island is therefore resuming its employment of Indian labour, and with Indian labour there is always a demand for rice with which to feed it.

The only other articles of any importance exported to Ceylon are coloured cotton cloths, the value of these last year being $11\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. There is a tolerably large and steady cattle trade also.

The bulk of the trade to Ceylon consists of the export of rice, gram, pulse, and grains of sorts, with flour, salted fish and other provisions, for the Madras coolies who keep up a constant stream of migration to the Colony from the ports of Southern India. And the rest is to a great extent what is really coasting traffic, though it must be recorded as foreign trade, Ceylon not being a part of British India.

38. *Austria-Hungary*.—The value of our imports from this country last year was 45·18 lakhs, a smaller sum than in 1884-85, but the trade has increased very largely during the last five years, mainly because of the regular communication between the two countries carried on by the subsidised mail steamers of the Austrian Lloyd Company. Some of the imports are of Italian origin, as for instance glass beads which are made in Venice, others are German, but perhaps the bulk of the imports is of Austro-Hungarian origin. The principal items are apparel, cotton twist, white and coloured cotton cloth, aniline dyes, the glass beads already mentioned, other glassware (largely what is known as Bohemian glass—cheap and flaring but attractive to natives), hardware and cutlery, jewellery (cheap things set with garnets), machinery, copper, paper, the commoner kinds of which for writing purposes are being imported to a largely increasing extent, stationery, toys (from South Germany), and woollen goods.

The total value of these imports is not large yet, but a trade which has increased by 50 per cent in five years is interesting in its development.

The value of the exports (Indian goods) was last year 200 lakhs, a much smaller sum than the returns have shewn for some time. In 1884-85 the total was 234 lakhs. The principal article of trade is raw cotton in which there has been a great decline since 1882-83. The value of the cotton exported last year was only 132 lakhs and the quantity only 503,000 cwt., a reduction of 72,000 cwt., in the year. There was also a considerable fall in the exports of hides and skins, of jute, of shell-lac, of oil and oilseeds, and only indigo, coffee, and spices shew expanded values in the year.

39. *Persia*.—Imports 61·61 lakhs, a trifling increase in the year. Raw cotton continued to be imported in increasing quantities for the Bombay mills. The Indian crops have been short for the last two or three years, and there has been an increasing resort to Persia for supplies, the quantities imported thence having doubled in five years. Horses were also imported last year in larger numbers than usual, and the recorded value of pearls is larger. There was also a larger trade in wool. The imports of madder and asafœtida declined.

Our export trade to Persia is small so far as regards Indian merchandise, the value of which last year was only 30 lakhs, but large in the re-export trade which in the same period was 98½ lakhs, Bombay being a very convenient depôt for the supply of European goods to Persia through the Gulf. Two-thirds of this trade (about 62 lakhs last year) consist of coloured, white and grey cottons, and of the other third Mauritius sugar, China tea, and Australian copper represent the bulk. There were 702,677 lbs. of China and Java tea sent forward last year from Bombay to Persia, and of Indian tea only 31,404 lbs. Indian cotton goods and twist also seem to have but a faint grasp of this market as yet, but the trade in piece goods is increasing. Our principal (Indian) exports are coffee, indigo, rice, pepper, and woollen shawls. Indigo figures again for a smaller quantity, and it is perhaps the case that the peasantry have cast off their coarse blue shirts and taken to Manchester prints.

40. *Mauritius*.—The import of sugar, the only thing imported from the island worth mentioning, fell away very much during the year, as might have been expected after the abnormally large imports of 1884-85. It was explained in the Review for that year that the collapse of the sugar trade had led to excessive imports into this country for want of a market in Europe for cane sugar from Mauritius and Java. Last year's imports amounted to 890,545 cwt., which, though small in comparison with the 1,265,362 cwt. imported the year before, was still greatly in excess of the importations of recent years.

The value of all imports from Mauritius was 110·57 lakhs, sugar representing 109·70 lakhs.

The value of all exports was 90·92 lakhs, of which Indian goods represented 85·06 lakhs, the bulk of this being rice, wheat, gram, oats, and other grain and pulse. The value of this grain trade was close on 72 lakhs. There was a great increase in the rice trade in the year. It is taken, with the other grains, and provisions of sorts, to Mauritius for the Indian coolies there.

41. *Arabia*.—Imports 29·66 lakhs, chiefly dates, gums, and pearls,—the dates and the pearls from Muscat and the Persian Gulf.

Exports last year were 69·05 lakhs in Indian goods and 21 lakhs of foreign goods, about half the latter being English cottons. Rice is the principal Indian product exported and there was a greatly increased trade done in rice, wheat and millets. There is a considerable export of Indian coffee, of which 17,413 cwt. were taken by Arabia last year, and a trade which ought to be larger in cotton twist and piece goods.

42. *Aden*.—Imports are small; ivory and gums, both chiefly brought to Aden from the East Coast of Africa through Zanzibar, being the only characteristic articles or possessing any importance. Most of the ivory imported now comes direct from Zanzibar.

Exports of Indian merchandise, about 53 lakhs last year, of which 22½ lakhs are twist and piece goods; rice, wheat, millets, flour, spices, and tobacco are the largest exports, in addition to the trade in cottons. These things are exported mainly for the garrison and population of Aden.

43. *Zanzibar*.—Imports 33·32 lakhs, nearly half of which was the value of ivory, the trade in which doubled during the year. The trade in cloves, the only other article of importance, also increased to a small extent. The value of the ivory imported was nearly 16 lakhs, of cloves 11·61 lakhs, and cowries and shells a little under 1¼ lakhs.

The exports of twist and cotton goods from Bombay to Zanzibar, whether English or Indian made, do not shew a tendency to increase, and it is probable that direct intercourse between Zanzibar and Europe is interfering with the development of this trade. Rice is the only other article largely exported. Total value of exports and re-exports 35·17 lakhs.

44. *Turkey in Asia*.—Value of imports 22·22 lakhs, of which dates 12 lakhs, ghi 2½ lakhs, horses 2½ lakhs, and wheat 1½ lakhs. The import of wheat has greatly declined owing to the prohibition of exports from time to time by the Turkish authorities. It does not signify, however, as India does not want wheat from these places and is able to supply it instead.

Re-exports 20·14 lakhs, and exports 20·68 lakhs. The bulk of the re-export trade is in English piece goods (over 12 lakhs), Mauritius sugar being the only other item worth attention. Of Indian goods the most important are indigo, coffee, gunny bags, pepper (in all of which the trade fell off much), and cotton piece goods, in which trade there has been a continuous increase year by year, though it is still by no means large.

45. *Australia*.—The value of the imports, which are chiefly copper, horses, and coal, does not increase. Last year it was only 42¼ lakhs, the year before it was 46½ lakhs. The decline was due to a heavy falling off in the imports of copper. The number of horses increases as does the quantity of coal. In flour also there is an increasing trade, and there are indications of a growing trade, still quite trifling however, in Australian wool and hops. There seems, however, to be but a limited demand in India as yet for Colonial wines.

The value of exports also is far below the level of any of the last five years, reaching only 58¼ lakhs. In 1884-85 it was 77½ lakhs. This fall is due to a greatly restricted export of gunny bags which are the largest item of our trade with Australia. The value of these exports last year was only 31 lakhs, a fall of more than 16 lakhs in the year. In tea there was some increase of trade, but it is of slow growth, considering the quality of the tea, the low prices at which it is now sold, the comfortable condition of the Colonists generally, and the fact that they drink much more tea per head than any other people in the world. The exports of Indian tea to Australia shew the following figures:

	lbs.
1881-82	906,762
1882-83	2,772,461
1883-84	379,204
1884-85	1,545,044
1885-86	1,766,447

The fact is that we ought to be exporting ten million pounds annually now to Australia. The Colonies, however, suffered last year and are still suffering under an extremely depressed condition of trade in all branches.

46. Of the trade with other countries it is unnecessary to write. The only points of which note may be taken are that there was a tolerably large export of wheat to Spain last year, that the direct shipments of Indian yarn to Japan amounted to 26·71 lakhs, the trade having risen to this point from 12·73 lakhs five years ago, and that we received about 21,000 lbs. of tea from Java, the first import of the kind. The import of sugar from that island, which commenced with 1,000 tons in 1884-85, fell last year to 434 tons.

Import Trade.

47. The whole value of the merchandise imported into India last year was 5,181·15 lakhs. This value was less than that of 1884-85 by 133·77 lakhs, or 2½ per cent, and less than the value in 1883-84 by 89·23 lakhs, or 1·7 per cent. But though the value was smaller than in either of the two preceding years, it was larger by 10 per cent than the trade of 1881-82 (five years previously), and it may be said that the average annual rate of increase in the quinquennial period has been 2 per cent.

This total value may be separated thus :

	Rs.
I.—Animals, living	25,68,295
II.—Articles of food and drink	5,85,18,660
III.—Metals and manufactures of metals	8,55,32,200
IV.—Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, dyeing and tanning materials	86,16,601
V.—Oils	96,11,298
VI.—Raw materials and unmanufactured articles	3,25,19,229
VII.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured	32,07,49,522

48. The first head—Animals, living—comprises horses almost exclusively. The horse trade increases every year, under arrangements which have been made for a steady trade with Australia. It is said that the quality of the animals has improved, the Government Remount Agency offering good prices for good horses, and certainly prices have risen.

49. The second head gives a total value of about 11½ per cent of the whole import value of the year.

This head comprises :

	Rs.
Coffee	4,71,231
Fruits and vegetables	17,34,728
Grain and pulse	2,53,917
Hops	3,84,176
Liquors :	
Ale, beer, and porter	30,06,098
Spirits	66,76,933
Wines and liqueurs	82,80,220
Provisions	1,19,18,815
Salt	59,60,478
Spices	71,86,785
Sugar	1,45,80,972
Tea	30,42,585

In *Coffee*, which comes to us from Ceylon and the Straits, there was a very large decrease in both the quantity imported and its value.

Fruits and Vegetables increased as compared with the trade of the preceding year, but are much below the level reached in 1883-84. The bulk of the imports consists of cocoanuts and cocoanut kernel, used for the expression of oil.

Grain and Pulse are imported in trifling quantities except when there is scarcity in the land.

Hops have been more largely imported than ever before—5,216 cwt. last year—the result of reduced prices and the extension of brewing operations in India. At the same time, however, the returns shew a largely increased import of *Beer and Porter*, nearly 1,300,000 gallons having been imported, and the increased trade has continued through the first quarter of the present year.

In *Spirits* also there was a large increase of trade, though the quantity is still less than in 1882-83; in these also the trade has continued on an increased scale during this year.

In *Wines and liqueurs* on the other hand the trade is manifestly declining.

It is to be hoped that the wines now being made in Kashmir may before long be placed well within the reach of consumers in India. Both the red and white wines are of excellent quality, and if the business of cultivating the vine and making the wine were allowed by the State authorities in Kashmir to be carried on upon business principles, nothing would be wanting to secure the complete and permanent success of the enterprise.

Provisions steadily increase, almost all the enumerated items giving larger returns. Last year we imported $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds of *flour* from the Straits, Hong-Kong, Australia, and even from England, Austria, and Italy. It is not easy to understand why India should continue to import this article in such quantities.

The importations of *Salt* were much smaller than in either of the two preceding years.

Spices increased greatly, the quantity of *Betelnuts* imported being nearly half as much again as in 1884-85. The trade in *Cloves* from Zanzibar has also steadily and largely increased—nearly doubled in five years—while *Pepper* has fallen to a very low point, the importations of foreign pepper being, it seems, gradually superseded by the Indian product.

In 1884-85 there was an excessively large import of *Sugar* due to the cause stated at length in the review of the trade for that year. The cause was the heavy fall in prices of sugar in the European market which followed on the extension given to the beet-sugar industry on the Continent by the system of bounties. The fall of prices occasioned a contraction of the industry, the decline in the product being estimated at about half a million tons, and prices rose a little, though they are still very low and likely to remain so. India was verstocked with imported sugar, and last year the imports were smaller, though still on a scale far exceeding the ordinary rate of import. This year there

is again a very large import, mainly from Mauritius. The imports of the last six years compare thus :

	Cwt.
1880-81	986,221
1881-82	775,982
1882-83	672,672
1883-84	736,909
1884-85	1,616,574
1885-86	1,171,186

This year in the first quarter we have already imported 382,000 cwt., and, if the trade continues at the same rate, the quantity at the end of the year will not be much short of that of 1884-85.

The imports of *Tea* exceeded four million pounds, much the largest quantity ever imported as yet. In five years the importations have increased about 41 per cent. About 3½ million pounds were brought to Bombay. It really seems that the more tea India produces the more she imports. Such a trade as this, at the very doors of India, seems to be worth competing for at least as much as the competition with China tea as far away as Australia.

50. Class III (*Metals and Manufactures of Metals*) shows a total value rather smaller than in 1884-85 (about 2½ per cent). There was a decline in *Hardware and Cutlery*, in *Brass, Iron, Lead, Steel, Tin*, and *Machinery and Millwork*, to set against which there is an increase in *Copper, Quicksilver, Spelter*, and *Railway plant and rolling stock*. Under this last head the increase is considerable, the imports of the year reaching the value of nearly 202 lakhs. The decline in machinery and millwork is correspondingly as great, the value being less than 100 lakhs, a much smaller sum than has been recorded for years.

51. In Class IV there is an entry this year for the first time of "Dynamite and other explosives" (under *Chemicals*), the recorded value of the imports being 4.61 lakhs for 3,406 cwt. The total value of *Chemicals* gives an increased sum in consequence of this entry, without which there would have been a considerable decrease, as there is under *Drugs* and under *Dyeing and Tanning Materials*. *Aniline dyes* continue to increase with most unsatisfactory rapidity. Five years ago only three million ounces were imported: last year we imported nearly 11½ million ounces, and in the first quarter of the present year the imports have already reached about 4¼ million ounces. The general use of these dyes is disastrous alike to the indigenous vegetable dyes and to the reputation of Indian fabrics.

52. In Class V (*Oils*) *Kerosine* represents 70.14 lakhs and other mineral oils 15 lakhs, being 85.18 out of a total of 96.11 lakhs. There was a diminution in the quantity of kerosine imported during the year, but imports are going on largely again this year. The natives are now quite familiar with this oil, the cheapness of which has caused its use to become quite general in the towns. The attempts to find oil in the Borongo island near Akyab have quite ceased, and the oil brought down from Upper Burma is used more for lubricating machinery than for illumination. It is not quite certain yet whether the oil-bearing region of Baluchistan will produce oil in large quantities. If it does the oil will be valuable as fuel on the railway, but for illuminating purposes American kerosine practically holds the field.

53. Class VI.—*Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles.*

Coal has increased, the imports, including coke and patent fuel, amounting to 700,000 tons, of which 533,000 tons were landed in Bombay. Western India is not yet in communication with coal-fields, and the steam shipping, railways, and cotton mills of that presidency must still depend on imported coal. Bengal imported only 100,000 tons, the Raniganj coal-fields supplying the greater part of the fuel required in Eastern India. In Burma, coal in the rice mills has given way to the husk of the rice which is now generally used for fuel. The value of the coal imported was nearly 131 lakhs.

The importation of *Cotton* continues to increase, the supplies being brought from Persia chiefly for the cotton mills in Bombay. The short crops in India for the last two or three years have influenced this trade. *Ivory* very largely increased in the year.

The importation of raw *Silk* has fallen away a good deal during the last three years, but there was a larger import of raw *Wool* for re-export.

54. Class VII.—*Articles manufactured and partly manufactured.*

This class, much the most important of the seven groups into which imported merchandise is divided and representing three-fifths of all the imports, contains the head of *Cotton Goods* which form the backbone of the Indian import trade. The value represented by these goods, including twist and yarn, does not increase sensibly, the value of the year's trade being but little more than 1 per cent in excess of the trade of five years ago :

	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	2399.41
1882-83	2481.
1883-84	2510.83
1884-85	2455.78
1885-86	2423.26

There has been a fairly large augmentation of trade in *twist and yarn*, the imports of the last five years comparing thus :

lbs.	40,761,751
„	44,859,175
„	45,378,956
„	45,790,637
„	45,915,123

The growth in quantity has been accompanied by a fall in the value, which was smaller last year than at any time during the last five years.

In *grey piece goods* there has been an equally great fall in value, the total last year being 100 lakhs smaller than in 1881-82, but the increase in quantity has not been so great as in twist. Last year's trade was in fact smaller than in 1884-85, and but little larger than it was five years ago. *White piece goods* also increase but slowly; but in *coloured piece goods* there has been a very considerable development.

In *Silk piece goods* also there has been a great decline in quantities as well as values, while *woollen goods* on the other hand have developed materially.

It is stated that the importations of cottons and silks, as well as of some other articles, was interfered with because the thirteen months which ended last November were reckoned by Hindu astrologers as a particularly inauspicious period for marriages. It may be hoped that as the people are marrying and giving in marriage this year the trade returns may exhibit better results by the end of the year.

The aggregate value of the imports of yarns and textile fabrics of all kinds for the five years stands thus :

	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	2619.26
1882-83	2695.59
1883-84	2768.29
1884-85	2721.05
1885-86	2693.84

Adding to this sum 93.17 lakhs for apparel, and deducting say 27 lakhs for sewing thread, jute bags, and canvas, and deducting also the quantities re-exported by sea and across the frontiers, we have a result of less than one rupee a head of the population annually paid for their imported clothing and yarn for conversion into clothing.

The importation of *Boots and Shoes* increases; last year nearly 311,000 pairs were imported, and they are no longer exclusively used by Europeans in this country.

The imports of *Glass and Glassware* increased very slightly during the year, sheet glass and "other ware" (that is, lamps, table ware, and such like goods) being imported in larger quantities, but there was a considerable decline in *Beads and False Pearls*. Corals have also again declined, and the trade is in a very depressed and unfortunate condition. Earthenware and Porcelain, Jewellery and Plate, Fireworks, Matches (for the manufacture of which a mill has been started in Bombay and another is proposed in the Panjab), Candles, Carriages, Cabinetware, Works of Art, Musical Instruments, Perfumery, Paper, and Umbrellas have all fallen away, umbrellas to a quite remarkable extent. Though Soap, Clocks and Watches, and one or two other articles give slightly increased returns, it seems clear from this list, and from the decline in the value of articles imported by post, that the power of the people for the purchase of luxuries has on the whole not increased or even been maintained.

55. Classing the various descriptions of merchandise imported according to their importance during the year, they stand thus :

	Rs.	
1. Cotton goods (including twist and yarn)	24,28,26,285	=46.8 % of the whole.
2. Metals (including hardware and cutlery)	5,54,36,014	=10.7 % "
3. Railway plant and rolling stock	2,01,80,654	= 3.9 % "
4. Silk, raw and manufactured	1,83,09,596	= 3.5 % "
5. Sugar	1,45,80,972	= 2.8 % "
6. Woollen goods	1,39,18,616	= 2.7 % "
7. Coal	1,30,84,148	= 2.5 % "
8. Liquors (wines, beer, and spirits)	1,29,84,973	= 2.5 % "
9. Provisions	1,19,18,815	= 2.3 % "
10. Apparel	1,03,72,599	= 2.0 % "
11. Machinery and millwork	99,15,532	= 1.9 % "
12. Oils (mainly kerosine)	96,11,298	= 1.8 % "

The first three of these heads comprise over 61 per cent of the whole trade, and the whole of the 12 heads are 83 per cent of it. None of the other heads even nearly approach in importance those specified above.

56. The following table includes all the larger imports, in the classification adopted in the trade returns, and specifies the quantities as well as values. These are also compared with the quantities and values of the same articles in 1884-85, and in the last two columns it is shewn how far the increase or decrease of trade in each item was due to an increase or decrease in quantity or in prices :

Articles.	1885-86.		MORE (+) OR LESS (-) THAN IN 1884-85.		DIFFERENCE OF VALUE DUE TO	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Prices.
<i>Goods fully manufactured—</i>		£		£	£	£
Cotton piece goods, grey ... yds.	1,105,844,908	11,896,684	-32,493,818	-379,817	350,484	29,338
" " white ... "	279,123,208	3,566,733	+1,247,758	-131,737	-16,607	148,344
" " coloured ... "	355,845,715	5,133,264	+40,499,886	+413,080	606,213	-193,133
Metals, copper, wrought ... cwt.	484,472	1,561,507	+98,541	+112,615	309,950	-257,335
" iron ... "	3,393,922	1,914,964	-112,278	-80,093	63,796	16,297
" other sorts ... "	325,763	328,547	-47,284	-64,003	49,756	14,247
Silk piece goods (including mixed piece goods) ... yds.	11,173,788	1,101,574	-906,389	-163,074	94,888	68,186
Woollen piece goods ... "	11,223,258	1,125,626	+523,130	+123,314	49,003	74,311
<i>Goods partly manufactured—</i>						
Cotton twist and yarn ... lbs.	45,915,123	3,172,083	+115,486	-188,337	-8,473	196,810
Metals, copper, unwrought ... cwt.	168,461	532,151	+1,972	-88,975	-7,357	96,332
" tin ... (block) ... "	36,723	221,404	-4,263	-423	23,553	-23,130
" other sorts ... "	288,834	206,461	+48,143	+48,665	31,562	17,103
Oils, mineral, kerosine ... gals.	17,595,663	701,443	-8,703,428	-408,608	367,361	41,247
" " other kinds ... "	3,716,279	150,385	+2,708,371	+102,214	129,441	-27,227
Silk, raw ... lbs.	1,732,559	721,917	-99,143	-25,646	40,463	-14,817
<i>Raw materials—</i>						
Coal (including coke) ... tons	770,443	1,264,271	+61,883	+59,930	105,183	-45,253
Ivory, unmanufactured ... lbs.	635,390	312,486	+248,538	+122,360	122,149	211
<i>Drugs, Liquors and Narcotics—</i>						
Liquors, malt ... gals.	1,299,403	306,610	+232,495	+50,683	54,463	-3,780
" spirits, brandy ... "	373,175	290,463	+10,880	+8,367	8,194	178
" " whisky ... "	299,066	259,111	+32,211	+24,813	23,291	-3,468
" " other sorts ... "	265,743	128,119	+35,923	+4,881	19,263	-14,382
" wines ... "	357,290	328,022	-24,051	-8,043	21,196	-13,148
Tobacco ... lbs.	1,298,543	82,194	-85,812	-2,014	5,220	-3,206
<i>Foodstuffs—</i>						
Provisions, salted fish ... lbs.	11,249,600	105,973	-904,360	+0,072	-7,210	16,282
" dates ... cwt.	621,789	287,102	+1,958	+6,247	887	5,360
Salt ... tons	363,088	596,048	-49,751	-53,185	78,239	-25,054
Spices ... lbs.	52,727,670	718,678	+12,977,957	+116,513	196,602	-80,089
Sugar (refined and unrefined) ... cwt.	1,171,186	1,458,097	-445,688	-682,741	590,118	92,623
Tea ... lbs.	4,005,637	304,258	+131,225	-21,290	-11,026	32,316

N.B.—In this table rupees have been converted into sterling at the conventional rate of 10 rupees = £1.

Re-Export Trade.

57. The total value of this trade was 309·31 lakhs, a larger sum than had been recorded in any of the previous four years, and an increase of about 20½ lakhs on the trade of 1884-85. Something less than one-half of this value (143½ lakhs) represents the value of cotton piece goods and twist, the only other noticeable items being ivory, gums, provisions, sugar, tea, raw wool, and metals.

The piece goods and twist are English, as are the metals, reshipped mainly from Bombay to Arabia, Persia, and the East coast of Africa. The ivory and gums are brought from that coast to Bombay for re-export to England. The tea comes from China and Java, and the sugar from Mauritius, to be sent up the Persian Gulf. The provisions are largely fishmaws and sharkfins brought from the Mekran coast to Bombay for shipment to China, and the wool is imported from the same littoral for shipment to England. Bombay in fact is the great depôt for such re-export trade as India carries on, as the division of the 309 lakhs which represent last year's trade shews :

Bombay	263·88 lakhs.
Sind	28·86 "
Bengal	11·56 "
Madras	2·92 "
Burma	2·08 "

Bengal, Madras, and Burma do most of their re-export trade with Ceylon and the Straits, while Bombay and Karáchi trade with all the Asiatic and African littoral westward of those ports and Bombay imports from that littoral for re-export to the United Kingdom and China.

Exports of Indian produce and manufacture.

58. The whole value of the trade was 8073·47 lakhs, which was only about one-half per cent in excess of the trade of the preceding year. During the last five years, 1881-82 to 1885-86, the value has increased from 7925·52 lakhs to the sum mentioned above, the increase being less than 2 per cent, or say an average rate of progress of 0·4 per cent yearly, a very slow rate of progress compared with that of previous periods. The general progress of the trade is dealt with, however, further on in a separate section, in which the effects of exchange on the export trade are discussed, and the details of the trade need only be considered here.

59. Adopting for exports the same classification as for imports, the figures of the year stand as follows :

	Rs.
I.—Animals, living	10,06,788
II.—Articles of food and drink	24,71,27,607
III.—Metals and manufactures of metals, including hardware and cutlery	4,59,219
IV.—Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, dyeing and tanning materials	15,51,55,727
V.—Oils	39,55,629
VI.—Raw materials and unmanufactured articles	31,24,03,756
VII.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured	8,72,38,555

60. The trade under the first of these heads is never likely to be of any particular importance, though it appears to be gradually increasing. To the extent of nearly four-fifths it consists of the export of cattle from ports in Madras to the Straits, Sumatra, and Ceylon.

61. The value of the second class was 30·6 per cent of the whole value of exported merchandise during the year. This class comprises :

	Rs.
Coffee	1,31,83,954
Grain and pulse :	
Rice	9,21,71,260
Wheat	8,00,23,504
Other sorts	35,86,368
	<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> 17,60,81,132
Tea	4,30,61,335
Sugar	52,51,124
Spices	48,62,744
Provisions	38,12,676

62. There was quite a noticeable increase in the export of *Coffee*, considering the persistent decline in the trade in recent years: the quantity shipped was 43,000 cwt. in excess of 1884-85. It was expected by the exporters that prices would rise in consequence of the failure of the coffee crop in Java, but the expectation was not realised.

63. The rice trade also increased very much, exports rising from 22 million hundredweights to 28·2 million. They were still, however, a good deal less than in 1881-82 (five years ago), and still further behind those of 1882-83, when the great quantity of 31 million hundredweight (more than 1½ million tons) was exported. The trade declined after that, owing to causes explained in the last two reviews of trade, but has now recovered, the exports in the first quarter of the present year being in excess of those in the corresponding period of last year.

Comparatively little unhusked rice is exported; of this the exports last year were 408,000 cwt. only, taken to Ceylon (397,000) and the Straits, from Madras and Burma chiefly.

Of the husked rice 19 million cwt. were exported from Burma, where it is husked before shipment in the mills which form such a prominent feature in the industrial life of the Burman ports. These mills now use the husk of the rice for fuel, and one no longer sees the surface of the rivers and creeks covered with floating masses of husk thrown there to rot, offending the laws of utility and of sanitation. The substitution of husk for coal as fuel has made an important economy in the working of the mills.

Though Bengal takes second place as a rice exporter, the exports from that province are but little more than a third of those of Burma—6,878,674 cwt. last year. Madras, Bombay, and Sindh, exported between them only about 1¼ million hundredweight.

64. The exports of *Wheat* exceeded one million tons (21,060,519 cwt.), a larger quantity than had been exported in any previous year. It may be useful to record here the exports of wheat for the last nineteen years, and appended to this paragraph is a statement shewing these exports, and side by side with them the outturn of the crops in the United States and the exports thence to the United Kingdom.

Down to 1870-71 the trade may be said not to have existed, for until then wheat had to be carried round the Cape and the high freight as well as the damage done by weevils in a voyage of three or four months made export unprofitable. In 1870-71 the opening of the Suez Canal shortened the voyage to five weeks and made a trade possible, but business in an article which gave but a small margin of profit at best was impeded by an export duty of three annas on every maund exported, and development was slow until the duty was repealed in January 1873. During the year following that repeal the exports increased more than fourfold. They fell off in 1874-75, when prices rose in India owing to the famine in Behar and at the same time fell in England but thereafter the trade rose in three years from $2\frac{1}{2}$ million hundredweight in 1875-76 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ million in 1877-78. In the two succeeding years of famine and high prices in India exports declined to a very low point, but, with a return of good harvests and a fall of prices in 1880-81, the shipments of that year reached about $7\frac{1}{2}$ million hundredweight. In the following year 1881-82 they reached nearly 20 million hundredweight, the sudden expansion being due to very bad crops in the United States and the action of a ring of speculators in that country who "cornered" wheat, hoping to make immense profits from the rise in price. The deficiency in the supply was, however, made up by the exports from India and elsewhere, the ring collapsed, and with the collapse and larger supplies our exports fell to 14 million hundredweight in 1882-83. In the following year they rose again to nearly 21 million hundredweight, then fell again to less than 16 million, the cultivators preferring to store their wheat rather than accept the low prices offered, and last year shews a recovery to 21 million hundredweight, or about 0.5 per cent in excess of the trade of two years ago. The trade may be said to have commenced in 1873-74 and to have gone on increasing after the cessation of the famine period in 1879-80 with increased railway mileage, increased irrigation, reduced rates of railway and sea freight, reduced cost of handling at the Indian ports, and good seasons during the last six years. It has been helped by the action of speculators who had an imperfect knowledge of the capacity of India to fill the vacuum they created, and also by bad harvests and a yearly diminishing acreage under wheat in the United Kingdom. The trade has been maintained under these favouring conditions in spite of the persistent fall in prices in the European markets, a fall only partially covered by the fall in exchange.

The figures show that it is difficult to maintain that the fall of prices in wheat has resulted from the market in England being flooded, as often alleged, with an overabundant supply of cheap wheat from India. It will be seen from the statements that between 1871 and 1885—in the space of fifteen years—the imports of wheat into England have increased from 43,367,000 cwt. to 77,280,000 cwt.—the increase being 78 per cent, or an average annual increase of about 5 per cent. But as the population of the United Kingdom may be taken to increase at the average rate of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent yearly, and as on the other hand the acreage under wheat in the United Kingdom has diminished by $28\frac{1}{2}$ per cent up to 1885, it can hardly be said that there has been any real increase in the supply of wheat beyond the needs of the population. If we allow for the improvement which has certainly been effected during the last twenty years in the condition of the people generally, the general elevation of the standard of comfort, and the greater consumption of food by them, it seems impossible to say that the supply of wheat has done more than keep pace with the demand.

Total exports of wheat from India.	Total outturn of wheat in the United States.	IMPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.								
		From Russia.	From United States.		From Egypt.	From India.	From other countries.	Total.		
			Atlantic Ports.	Pacific Ports.						
Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.		
1867-68	200,385									
1868-69	275,481									
1869-70	78,208									
1870-71	248,522									
1871-72	637,090	1871	230,722,400	15,682,755	12,700,608	2,470,881	906,501	220,227	11,380,770	43,367,742
1872-73	304,010	1872	240,997,100	17,922,313	8,016,591	1,434,876	2,356,879	161,865	10,623,538	46,515,862
1873-74	1,755,054	1873	281,254,700	9,674,331	14,249,712	7,120,629	1,269,681	741,267	17,012,927	50,077,577
1874-75	1,060,070	1874	309,102,700	5,784,313	20,481,078	5,901,782	297,118	1,074,300	14,225,091	47,763,682
1875-76	2,498,185	1875	292,136,000	10,127,343	16,752,193	9,050,189	2,111,252	1,334,373	18,637,221	58,012,600
1876-77	5,583,330	1876	289,356,500	8,885,550	14,632,157	7,011,176	2,244,019	3,291,707	14,340,831	50,414,478
1877-78	6,340,150	1877	304,194,146	10,968,781	13,683,138	9,469,462	2,460,773	6,165,860	18,959,089	61,647,163
1878-79	1,044,709	1878	430,122,400	9,124,450	27,828,215	4,854,475	217,991	1,820,881	13,888,545	57,734,563
1879-80	2,195,550	1879	448,756,630	8,094,007	35,433,578	7,470,406	2,062,114	889,026	16,369,026	70,320,047
1880-81	7,444,375	1880	498,549,808	2,947,071	36,079,194	6,985,449	1,604,606	3,229,925	14,973,991	65,820,236
1881-82	10,863,520	1881	380,280,000	4,089,303	31,498,568	12,278,094	1,072,182	7,337,024	12,229,238	68,505,314
1882-83	14,144,407	1882	564,180,600	9,059,079	26,035,657	16,302,322	177,115	8,463,174	16,000,805	77,293,152
1883-84	20,950,405	1883	421,080,000	13,393,047	23,982,100	13,417,060	1,173,019	11,248,988	17,248,669	80,467,943
1884-85	15,830,754	1884	512,760,000	5,496,839	22,808,570	10,168,952	1,000,764	7,080,951	14,945,372	62,401,457
1885-86	21,000,519	1885	357,110,000	11,986,359	21,899,674	14,107,513	100,983	12,101,963	17,083,501	77,288,993

If the exports of wheat during the present year should continue on the scale on which they have been effected in the first quarter of the year, there will be little short of $1\frac{3}{4}$ million tons exported. As the American crops are much below the average and the surplus for export is comparatively small (it being estimated that only 9 million quarters are available as against 16 million last year), as moreover the Continental crops are estimated to be below the average, and there is practically hardly any surplus for export from Southern Russia, while Egypt is not to be reckoned on at all as an exporter, as also the yield and the acreage in the United Kingdom are both below the average, it is likely enough that prices may harden and opportunity be given for a considerable export from India. The increased exports in the first quarter of this year have been almost entirely to the ports of the Mediterranean to supply a demand which cannot be met from Southern Russia.

65. The exports of grains other than rice and wheat are comparatively very small. For the last year they stood thus :

Rice	cwt.	28,222,595
Wheat	"	21,060,519
Gram	"	338,129
Pulse	"	331,606
Jawári and Bájra	"	275,747
Oats	"	73,516
Other sorts	"	122,852

The oats went, as usual, almost entirely to Mauritius from Bengal, the only province which exports this grain. The pulse also went very largely to Mauritius, Ceylon, the Straits, South America (Demerara and other Colonies) and Natal, to be eaten by Indian coolies with their rice. Only 72,000 cwt. were shipped to England, but the trade in this article to Europe is capable of being greatly enlarged and attention might well be given to the matter. Of the millets (jawári and bájra) about 46,000 cwt. were exported to England, France and Belgium, most of the remainder being exported to Aden and other ports in Arabia. The gram went to Mauritius, Réunion, Ceylon, and the Straits. "Other sorts," meaning I think chiefly maize, were exported to the extent of 47,000 cwt. to England and Belgium, the rest being for Mauritius, Ceylon, Arabia, and Eastern Africa. In maize, as well as in pulse, India should do a very much enlarged business with Europe. The imports of maize into England have averaged for the last three years about $29\frac{1}{2}$ million hundredweight, and last year they amounted to $31\frac{1}{2}$ million hundredweight. If it is the case, as many continue to contend, that India has displaced American wheat in the English market to a material extent (a contention however which is quite unsustainable) why cannot India also displace American corn? There are as large areas in India suitable for the growth of corn as there are for wheat, corn is now in India a most important crop, and all the conditions of cheap production, cheap transit, and "cheap silver," which apply to Indian wheat, apply in an equal degree to Indian corn.

The exports of all kinds of grains from India for the last five years have been :

	Cwt.	Rs.
1881-82	49,925,981	17,24,07,506
1882-83	46,556,755	14,86,22,667
1883-84	49,219,502	17,60,13,543
1884-85	39,217,087	13,88,74,224
1885-86	50,421,964	17,60,81,132

The quantity exported gives an increase in the five years of a little less than 1 per cent, while the declared value has increased by a little over 2 per cent. This is very slow progress in what must be considered the most important section of the export trade of India, the value of the trade of last year being nearly 22 per cent of the whole value of Indian merchandise exported. No other section of the trade nearly approaches this sum, cotton and opium, which rank next in importance, giving a value of less than 1,100 lakhs compared with the 1,760 lakhs of the grain trade.

In these exports the different provinces were thus represented in each of the last three years :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.
Bombay . . . cwt.	9,721,312	9,977,158	11,653,885
Sindh . . . "	4,846,317	4,557,501	6,531,209
Bengal . . . "	15,125,316	9,252,742	11,426,771
Madras . . . "	2,173,832	1,796,747	1,496,990
Burma . . . "	17,049,695	13,632,639	19,316,109

It will not be overlooked that Burma exports the bulk of the rice sent away from India and that practically all the exports of grain from that province consist of rice. Nearly all the exports from Madras also consisted of rice, while of the exports from Bengal nearly seven million hundredweight were rice. The exports of wheat from Calcutta have fallen away as those from Bombay and Karáchi have increased.

66. *Provisions.*—This trade has increased largely in the last five years, the value of the exports rising each successive year, until from 26·98 lakhs it has now reached 38·12 lakhs. This enlargement is due almost entirely to the creation of an export trade in *Flour*, the quantity shipped having increased nearly four-fold in this period, the increase being from 5 million pounds to nearly 19 million pounds. This is to be attributed to a special cause, however, namely, the existence of an Indian garrison on the Egyptian coast, and it cannot be said yet that there is any real indication of the commencement of such an export trade in flour to Europe as India should be capable of doing. The exports to Europe last year (England, Belgium, and Holland) were under 900,000 lbs., or about 400 tons. If that quantity were multiplied by a thousand, the result would be a closer approximation to the trade which might be carried on in this article. While India exported last year only 850 tons of flour altogether, of which a considerable portion was for garrison supplies, it continues to import flour largely, as stated elsewhere in this paper.

The other kinds of provisions exported have no special importance. They are mainly sea slugs and fishmaws and sounds for the Chinese, ghi, lard, salted fish, and dried fruits.

67. *Spices.*—These also give a largely increased export, the value having risen in five years from 24½ lakhs to 48·6 lakhs. There has been a considerable enlargement of trade in *Ginger* during this period. The export of *Pepper* is not nearly as large as it was in 1882-83, when exports were quite remarkably large, and the recovery from the decline after that year continues to be very slow. *Cardamoms* have fallen greatly in value. About seven million pounds out of the 10½ millions of ginger exported were sent to Europe, where a fine appetite for Indian ginger seems to have been developed.

68. *Sugar*.—Of refined sugar the exports amounted to less than 25,000 cwt., not half the quantity of the previous year and about a ninth of the exports in 1883-84. In unrefined sugar there was a fair increase in the year of about 12 per cent, but the trade is still in need of augmentation before it can reach the level of 1883-84. The value of the exports last year was 52½ lakhs, which was about 2 lakhs less than in 1884-85. The condition of the sugar trade generally was fully discussed in the review of the trade of 1884-85, and it is only necessary to say as a supplement to those remarks that, though the area under beet in Europe has been restricted, prices are still very low, though not quite so low as a year ago, and the markets are dull and unhopeful.

69. *Tea*.—Each year sees a larger export from India. Last year's exports amounted to 68,784,219lbs. of which as much as 66,640,947lbs. were sent to England, London continuing to be almost the sole market for Indian tea. Prices have been depressed as with all other articles, but things were better than in 1884-85, and on the whole the industry during the year cannot be said to have been unprosperous in spite of the low level to which prices have fallen. It has been necessary, however, to practise the strictest economy and to relieve the gardens of all but indispensable charges. The assumption that too much tea has been sent to Europe is quite unfounded. Europe may be taken to mean the United Kingdom where tea is concerned, for on the Continent tea is little known except in Russia. Now the imports of tea into England for the last ten years have been as follow :

	lbs.
1876	185,536,371
1877	187,515,284
1878	204,872,899
1879	184,076,472
1880	206,971,570
1881	209,801,522
1882	210,663,133
1883	222,262,431
1884	213,877,759
1885	212,375,371

That is to say, in these ten years the imports of tea have increased by only 14½ per cent, or less than 1½ per cent annually, an increase which is just about equal to the increase in population, and, during the last two years, instead of an increase there has been a continuous decline in the imports. If low prices stimulated consumption there should in fact have been a very much larger demand for tea in England; as it was, the reports of tea-brokers state that last year the consumption exceeded the supply. In any case it is quite impossible to say that for an article of such universal consumption as tea is in the United Kingdom, an average increase of imports of less than 1½ per cent yearly means an over-supply to a population which increases at quite the same rate. It may be said that smaller quantities are re-exported to the other countries which draw supplies from England, and that larger stocks remain in England. But this is not the case. Within the same period of ten years the increase in re-exports from England has amounted to 44.3 per cent,

as will be seen from the figures attached, that is to say, the increase in re-exports has been three times as large as the increase in imports:

	lbs.
1876	29,129,312
1877	35,762,420
1878	40,229,778
1879	36,521,432
1880	44,594,846
1881	40,158,725
1882	38,554,177
1883	42,733,234
1884	45,526,833
1885	42,036,599

The theory of over-production, or of over-supply to the largest tea consuming market in the world, must therefore be dismissed as quite opposed to the facts, and the cause of the persistently low course of prices, which have fallen by 17½ per cent since 1876, must be sought elsewhere.

The relative extent of production of tea provincially in India may be approximately estimated from the following statement of the quantities sold in Calcutta at the tea sales held in 1885-86:

Cachar and Sylhet	chests 122,083
Assam	„ 104,843
Terai and Duars	„ 52,515
Darjeeling and Kurseong	„ 39,710
Chittagong	„ 7,625
Kumaon and Kangra	„ 6,180
Dehra Dun	„ 3,549
Chota Nagpur	„ 3,033
Other districts	„ 1,594

70. Class IV.—*Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, dyeing and tanning materials.*

This class comprises opium, indigo, catch, myrabolams, turmeric, chinchona bark, tobacco, and other articles of smaller importance, the aggregate value of the trade amounting last year to 1,551½ lakhs, a considerable decrease in a trade which five years ago totalled 1,761 lakhs.

71. *Opium*.—The decrease in the aggregate value of the items in the class is mainly due to a fall in the value of exports of *Opium*. These have been as follow:

	Chests.	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	89,338	1243·21
1882-83	91,798	1143·13
1883-84	91,863	1129·44
1884-85	86,578	1088·26
1885-86	87,956	1073·55

72. There has also been a fall in *Indigo*:

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	150,363	450·91
1882-83	141,041	391·30
1883-84	168,590	464·10
1884-85	154,629	406·89
1885-86	132,495	378·31

The crop was small, but the quality good, and prices were well maintained, for while the quantity exported fell off by 14 per cent, the values give a diminution of only half that proportion. It has been pointed out elsewhere that Indigo is practically in the position of a monopoly; the supplies required must be obtained from India, the production in other countries being quite insufficient and moreover not of the quality required; no suitable artificial substitute has yet been discovered; and prices therefore turn almost exclusively upon supply and demand, the latter being regulated very much by fashion in colours. However, indigo blue is a good wearing colour and pleasing to the taste, and the demand is generally quite as large as the supply, often in excess of it.

Of the whole quantity, 76,109 cwt. were shipped from Bengal and 45,828 cwt. from Madras, the quality of this latter being much inferior to Bengal indigo.

73. The trade in *Myrabolams* has doubled in five years, and there is no reason to suppose that it will not further expand very materially in the future. The value of the trade last year was almost 30 lakhs. This fruit gives an excellent brown dye, and makes a good supplement of or substitute for valonia.

74. *Turmeric* has more than doubled in quantity and nearly quadrupled in value in five years :

					Rs. (lakhs).
1881-82	...	...	...	cwt. 70,783	3.66
1885-86	...	...	...	„ 156,287	13.94

75. *Cutch*, on the other hand, has hardly increased at all in the five years, and in fact last year the exports were much smaller than in any of the four preceding years: the value was only 25.28 lakhs, a smaller sum than has been known for some time. The military operations in Burma interfered with this trade, but the article is subject to great variations from time to time.

76. *Tobacco* also has fallen very greatly, the result of reductions in the garrisons on the Egyptian coasts which took large quantities of our tobacco.

77. *Chinchona bark* has again increased largely, the exports amounting to 857,040lbs. last year. The great fall in the price of quinine has rudely disturbed the golden visions of coffee planters in Ceylon and Southern India who replaced coffee with chinchona and thought they saw in it the 'potentiality of wealth beyond the dreams of avarice.' Nearly all the bark was sent from Madras, the product in Bengal (on private plantations) being for the present exhausted. The Government plantations continue to increase in productiveness, but most of the bark is manufactured locally into the febrifuge which has now so largely displaced quinine in the medical stores and hospitals."

78. Class V.—*Oils*. The oils exported are chiefly castor and coconut, the former from Bengal to England, Australia, Mauritius, China, the Straits and Ceylon; the latter from Madras to England, France, Austria, and the United States. The former is used for lubricating and to a small extent, when refined, medicinally; the latter is used in soap-making.

Jinjili, earthenut, essential, and other oils are also exported, but in trifling quantities.

There was a large decrease in the oils exported last year, the quantity being smaller than at any time in five years. The value of the exports fell also in greater proportion; the total of the year was only 39.55 lakhs compared with 53.4 lakhs in 1884-85. The depression of trade in Australia restricted the exports of castor oil to that country, and the Indian crop was also small.

79. *Class VI.—Raw Materials and unmanufactured articles.* This class, which contains the important items of cotton, jute, wool, seeds, teakwood, hides and skins, besides such relatively less important items as silk, saltpetre, horns, and animal bones, gave an aggregate value of 3,124 lakhs last year. Comparing this with 3,100 lakhs five years ago the increase is but fractional. Cotton and jute give a heavy decline, while seeds and hides have increased largely. Wool gives a fair increase.

80. *Cotton:*

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	5,627,453	1493.59
1882-83	6,168,278	1604.90
1883-84	5,979,194	1438.37
1884-85	5,066,057	1328.63
1885-86	4,189,718	1077.72

This is the smallest export India has seen since 1862-63, when the export of cotton first took a considerable extension in consequence of the War of Secession in the United States, with the exception of 1866-67 (a year in which only 11 months trade was recorded) and the three famine years of 1877-78, 1878-79, and 1879-80, when drought prevailed over Madras and Bombay and cotton was as dismal a failure as were food-grains. There is promise, however, of a larger export in the present year, over two million hundred-weight having been exported in the first quarter.

81. *Jute:*

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	7,510,314	503.03
1882-83	10,348,909	584.69
1883-84	7,017,985	459.26
1884-85	8,365,086	466.13
1885-86	7,782,435	435.53

The increase in the quantity exported during these five years is little more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, but this slow rate of increase has not prevented a heavy fall in price any more than the considerable decline in the quantity of cotton exported has prevented a great fall in the value of that fibre also.

82. *Seeds.*—The trade in Seeds last year was smaller than in either of the two years immediately preceding, but there has been a great expansion in this trade during the last five years, an expansion which has coincided with that of the wheat trade and is due to pretty much the same causes.

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	10,496,098	605.41
1882-83	13,139,206	720.03
1883-84	17,355,588	1,008.37
1884-85	18,250,688	1,074.52
1885-86	17,280,147	994.83

In *rapeseed* and *til* or *jinjili* seed there was a much smaller trade than in the preceding year, while *linseed* gave a much larger figure, and *castor* and *poppy* seed also give larger results. The linseed trade was very active in the beginning of the year in consequence of the apprehensions of war with Russia, but the activity did not continue and with the end of the year there was a reaction. The oilseed crushing trade in England has been greatly depressed. In *earlnuts* there has been some falling off in the last two years, but this trade has quite doubled in volume in the quinquennial period.

83. *Wool*:

	lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	21,580,618	81.45
1882-83	21,561,303	79.04
1883-84	20,036,196	75.58
1884-85	18,928,173	71.35
1885-86	23,148,763	87.23

The trade of the year gives an increase of more than 22 per cent, the increase in the five years being 7 per cent. The Commissioner of Customs at Bombay does not consider that the increase indicates a flourishing trade. He says that prices were so low in the European market in 1884-85 that traders restricted their shipments in the hope of better times. The better times did not come, but stocks accumulated so greatly that shipments became a necessity to clear them. Prices this year have risen somewhat from the very low level to which they had fallen.

84. *Hides and Skins*.—There has been a great enlargement in the trade during the last few years. The exports last year were:

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
Hides	783,639	263.83
Skins	48,380	35.40

The number of hides representing this weight was not less than 8,607,724 and of skins 4,947,579. They were sent mainly to England, the United States, Italy and other Continental countries, and the Straits. Now that Upper Burma has passed from under the rule of its Buddhistic monarch, it is probable that there will be a considerable increase in the export thence of hides. In *Horns* there was some decline in last year's trade, but this trade has also in recent years taken considerable proportions with the extension of the hide trade. So have *Bones* and *Bags*, of which large quantities are now exported.

85. The export of *Saltpetre* was small, comparatively, but this trade is subject to great fluctuation, war or rumours of war causing lively excitement in holders of the article, which subsides when the demand is again for the preservation of meat, its chief use in peace.

86. The *Silk* trade languishes, as usual. Last year the value of the exports was not more than 33.22 lakhs, of which about 9 lakhs was the value of waste silk (*chasam*) and cocoons. The only hope for the revival of this trade seems to lie in the establishment of an industry in the wild silks of India, but it is not clear that there is any present prospect at any rate of its development on a large scale, if indeed it has any real capacity for taking root.

87. *Feathers* continue to be exported on a considerable and increasing scale. This reprehensible trade might be suppressed by making the shooting, snaring, and trapping of small birds an offence against the law.

The trade in *Borax* and *Caoutchouc* continues to decline, and so does that in *Jadestone*, while in *Gums* and *Resins* there has been a remarkable increase the reason of which I have not been able as yet to ascertain.

88. Class VII.—*Articles manufactured and partly manufactured.*

The aggregate value of the items in this class continues to increase from year to year :

	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	660.13
1882-83	783.30
1883-84	785.44
1884-85	858.95
1885-86	872.33

and of these totals the values of *Yarns* and *Textile Fabrics* are represented by

	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	352.75
1882-83	450.22
1883-84	459.48
1884-85	532.94
1885-86	517.75

The only other items of importance are tanned hides and skins, and lac (button and shell).

89. The decline under *yarns* and *textile fabrics* is due to a very great falling off in the export of *gunny bags*, resulting in a diminution of export values to the extent of $42\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees. The number of bags exported was 19 millions less than in 1884-85. The exports in that year were excessively and unnecessarily large no doubt. The mills in and about Calcutta have added only one to their number, there being now 21 in Lower Bengal, but their working power in the last two years has been increased by numerous additional spindles, and they have been able to produce more bags than the state of trade warranted or required, with the result that they have large stocks, pay no dividends, and have now by agreement amongst themselves gone on short-time until February next, while one of them has shut up altogether and gone into liquidation.

90. Although the exports of *cotton yarn* and *cotton piece goods* have increased very largely, and the industry has expanded in a quite remarkable way during the last ten years, it is hardly possible to give a much more favourable account of its condition during the year than of the jute manufacturing industry. It has, however, been doing much better during the present year.

The statement below gives a view of the progress of the cotton industry since 1876:

*Cotton Mills in India and exports of yarn and piece goods.**

Year.	Number of mills.	Number of spindles.	Number of looms.	EXPORTS FROM INDIA.		
				Quantity.		Value.
				Yarn.	Piece goods.	
				lbs.	yds.	Rs.
1876	47	1,100,112	9,139	7,926,710	15,541,168	74,09,593
1877-78	53	1,289,708	10,533	15,600,291	17,545,464	1,05,43,629
1878-79	58	1,436,464	12,983	21,332,508	22,517,799	1,30,42,277
1879-80	58	1,470,830	13,307	25,862,474	25,800,501	1,55,35,430
1880-81	58	1,471,730	13,283	26,901,346	30,421,032	1,82,32,875
1881-82	62	1,550,944	14,386	30,786,304	29,911,016	1,92,52,311
1882-83	62	1,654,108	15,116	45,378,040	41,583,408	2,50,31,375
1883-84	74	1,895,284	16,251	49,876,606	55,613,763	2,78,80,977
1884-85	81	2,037,055	16,455	65,897,183	47,968,017	3,25,97,679
1885-86	86	2,110,817	16,455	78,241,771	51,577,727	3,56,87,405

* The figures for spindles and looms for 1885-86 are imperfect, in consequence of the absence of some local returns, and represent less than the actual number at work.

Between 1876 and the end of 1885-86 the number of mills increased 83 per cent, the number of spindles increased 92 per cent, the number of looms increased 77 per cent.

The exports of the year 1885-86 amounted to more than 78 million pounds of yarn and 51½ million yards of piece goods, and the aggregate value of the export trade to over 363 lakhs, being a large increase on the trade of 1881-85.

It also gives an increase over that of 1876-77 of 887 per cent in the quantity of yarn exported, of 232 per cent in the quantity of piece goods, and of 318 per cent in the aggregate value of the trade.

Of the yarn 68½ million pounds were sent to China. The piece goods trade is largely with the countries on the shores of the Persian Gulf, Red and Arabian Seas, and the Indian Ocean.

The following table compares the exports of yarn to China from India and the United Kingdom :

Exports to China (including Hong-Kong).

FROM INDIA.		FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.	
Year.	Yarn.	Year.	Yarn.
	lbs.		lbs.
1876-77	6,334,719	1876	12,475,335
1877-78	13,762,133	1877	17,961,820
1878-79	18,154,601	1878	11,058,200
1879-80	23,567,297	1879	14,343,400
1880-81	22,960,600	1880	19,514,100
1881-82	25,717,540	1881	19,149,400
1882-83	37,372,185	1882	15,226,700
1883-84	41,040,629	1883	13,370,700
1884-85	56,460,387	1884	15,721,300
1885-86	68,498,720	1885	20,373,900
Increase per cent in 1885-86 compared with 1876-77	981.3	Increase per cent in 1885-86 compared with 1876	63.3

In 1876 the exports of yarn from England to China were double those of India. In 1885-86 the exports from India to China were considerably more than three times larger than those from England. We export now to China above 50 per cent more yarn than England sends to India. In fact the exports of yarn from England to China and to India put together are smaller than the exports of yarn from India to China.

On page 57 of the review of the trade of 1884-85, treating of the cotton industry, it was calculated that for every pound of Bombay made twist used up in India two pounds were exported to foreign countries. This would give for the last year, with an export of 78 million pounds, a local consumption of about 39 million pounds. The calculation is only an inference, but it is believed to be approximately correct. If the other Indian mills are also taken into account, it may be said that about 42 million pounds of Indian yarn are used in the country (or nearly as much as we import from England), and that close on double that quantity is exported, mainly to China. The figures may be stated thus:

Exports from England:

To India	45 million pounds.
„ China	20 „ „
Total	65 „ „

Indian production:

Used in India	42 million pounds.
Exported—	
To China	68 „ „
„ other countries	10 „ „
Total	78 „ „
Total	120 „ „

India, it will be seen, under this calculation uses a little less yarn than China—87 million as against 88 million pounds; and China gets all its supply from foreign countries, while of India's total requirements nearly half is supplied from its own mills. In both cases the quantities spun by hand are left out of account, because they are relatively insignificant.

Although the production of the Indian mills has largely increased, and the exports also largely increase from year to year, while the number of mills also increases (it appears that mills are to be started at Delhi and Agra), it cannot be said that the condition of the mills during the year was satisfactory. On this head reference is suggested to the remarks on page 57 of the review of trade for 1884-85. To supplement those remarks, a statement is annexed, prepared from a list of shares published last April. It will be seen that 35 out of 53 Bombay mills gave no dividend for that half-year (some of them are in liquidation), and that the average dividend on the whole paid-up capital of those mills was but little more than 1 per cent, while the share value was 3.75 per cent below par. In the Bengal mills the dividend was under $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and the average value of the shares was only 70 per cent of their par value. The North-West mills only did well. The mill industry, however, is doing very well this year as far as it has gone.

Dividends of Cotton Mills.

Name of Mill.	PAID-UP CAPITAL AND HALF-YEARLY DIVIDENDS.			VALUE OF SHARES.		
	Paid-up Capital.	Rate of Dividend.	Amount of Dividends.	Value of Share.	Present value of Share.	Average value of Share per cent.
(Compiled from the <i>Bombay Gazette</i> of 22nd April 1896.)						
BOMBAY:	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ahmedabad	13,08,000	.....	...	1,000	1,375	...
Alfred Manufacture	5,00,000	.....	...	500	325	...
Alliance	18,00,000	.....	...	1,000	740	...
Albert Edward Mills	5,00,000	.....	...	500	435	...
Anglo-Indian	9,34,500	.....	...	100	110	...
Bellary S. W. Co., Limited	4,35,500	4½ per cent.	19,597½	500	490	...
Bhownuggur Mill	9,00,000	.....	...	...	...	...
Bombay United	9,00,000	4 per cent.	36,000	1,000	975	...
Bombay Cotton Manufacturing Co.	3,00,000	.....	...	500	465	...
Berar Manufacturing Co., Limited	5,50,000	.....	...	200	175	...
Central India	15,00,000	5 per cent.	75,000	500	795	...
Colaba Land and Mill	28,00,000	12½ per 700	50,000	700	695	...
Coorla Mills	13,00,000	.....	...	1,000	645	...
Dhun Mills	10,00,000	.....	...	1,000	1,075	...
Dhurrumsay	60,00,000	.....	...	...	...	...
Empress	7,50,000	5 per cent.	37,500	500	695	...
Franjoo Potit	12,50,000	.....	...	1,000	650	...
Gordon Mills	10,00,000	.....	...	...	...	...
Hindustan	10,32,000	.....	...	1,000	875	...
Hingunghat Mill	12,00,000	.....	...	1,000	700	...
Hyderabad	3,50,000	.....	...	1,000	960	...
Imperial Cotton	4,00,000	4½ per cent.	18,400	500	450	...
Indian Manufacturing	2,84,000	7½ per cent.	20,448	1,000	1,165	...
James Granves	1,00,000	3 per cent.	3,000	500	585	...
Jaffer Ali	6,70,000	14-5-7 for 500	19,227	500	400	...
Jewraj Buloo	6,50,000	5 per cent.	32,500	1,000	1,115	...
Khandeish	7,50,000	.....	...	1,000	980	...
Khntao Mackunjee	10,00,000	3 per cent.	30,000	1,000	915	...
Loopool	3,50,000	5 per cent.	17,500	1,000	151	...
Luchmidas Khimji	7,70,000	.....	...	1,000	790	...
Madras United	5,00,000	12½ per cent.	62,500	1,000	2,690	...
Mahalakshmi	6,50,000	.....	...	1,000	660	...
Manuckjee Potit	40,50,000	.....	...	1,000	1,215	...
Mazagon	12,50,000	.....	...	250	187½	...
Morarjee Goelaldas	11,50,000	5 per cent.	57,500	1,000	1,500	...
Naigam	1,00,000	.....	...	100	100	...
National	6,00,000	.....	...	1,000	575	...
New Great Eastern	15,10,000	.....	...	1,000	915	...
Oriental	35,78,125	.....	...	625	567½	...
People of India	.....	.....	...	250	210	...
Prince of Wales	5,00,000	.....	...	500	102½	...
Sarsoon	15,00,000	.....	...	1,000	1,500	...
Sholapore Mills	6,78,400	3½ per cent.	23,730	1,000	1,390	...
Soondardas	6,50,000	.....	...	1,000	750	...
Southern India	5,00,000	2½ per cent.	12,500	500	430	...
Southern Mahratta	3,03,000	.....	...	250	255	...
Victoria Mills	6,00,000	.....	...	1,000	575	...
Western India	12,00,000	.....	...	1,000	780	...
Naryan Mills	6,00,000	.....	...	1,000	600	...
Queen Mills	8,00,000	.....	...	1,000	840	...
City of Bombay Mills	5,95,000	2½ per cent.	14,875	1,000	915	...
Ripon Mills	6,41,000	2 per cent.	12,820	1,000	870	...
Connaught Mills	4,20,000	.....	...	500	675	...
Total	5,36,49,125	.....	5,43,097½	38,475	37,033½	96·25
Average dividend per cent paid on paid-up Capital.			1·01			
(Compiled from the <i>Statesman</i> of 23rd April 1896.)						
BENGAL:						
Baureah Cotton	18,00,000	.....	...	100	39	...
Dunbar Cotton	13,28,500	.....	...	100	30	...
Empress of India Cotton Mills	8,75,000	½ per cent.	4,375	500	350 to 400	...
Ghoosery Cotton Mills	15,00,000	5 per cent.	75,000	200	185 to 190	...
Total	55,03,500	.....	79,375	900	631½	70·17
Average dividend per cent paid on paid-up Capital.			1·44			
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES:						
Cawnpore Cotton	2,12,000	8 per cent.	16,960	100	100	...
Muir Cotton	10,00,000	7 per cent.	70,000	200	285	...
Total	12,12,000	.....	86,960	300	385	128·333
Average dividend per cent paid on paid-up Capital.			7·17			

91. *Silk manufactures*.—This trade has been increasing as the exports of raw silk have been falling off. Exports of piece goods:

	Yards.	Lakhs of rupees.
1881-82	2,126,635	20.57
1882-83	2,589,217	25.20
1883-84	2,781,182	26.46
1884-85	3,467,308	31.05
1885-86	3,728,213	31.12

Of the exports of last year about 3,400,000 yards were sent to England and France, all exported from Bengal.

92. In *Woollens* the trade has been persistently declining for years, owing no doubt to the fall in the demand for shawls as well as a reduction in their value, for these used to form the bulk of the exports. It is stated that the illness of the late Maharaja of Kashmir interfered with the trade in Kashmir shawls. He dealt in them largely himself, and while he was ill the business was neglected. Last year the total exports of woollens were valued at only 8 lakhs—five years ago the value was 19.66 lakhs. However, the wool weaving industry in India has not only not fallen off, but has much expanded. It has taken a different direction, however. As in cotton weaving, so in wool weaving, the handloom is giving way to machinery, and the woollen mills, though few in number yet, are developing what promises to be eventually a considerable industry in the manufacture of goods suited for use by the people of India. An export market may follow in due course.

93. *Dressed or tanned hides and skins*.—These, like raw hides and skins, make an increasing trade, the value of which last year was 234.22 lakhs. The industry has become a large one in Madras whence the skins and hides are sent to England.

94. *Lac (shell and button)*.—A heavy fall in prices in this as in other goods. The exports of the year were 151,441 cwt., a substantially larger quantity than in 1884-85, but the value (58.45 lakhs) was smaller. This trade varies much in extent within certain limits: it seems to have no capacity for continuous expansion.

95. Of other articles it is unnecessary to write anything beyond stating the value of the exports of the year for those which have any dimensions. These are:

	Lakhs of rupees.
Apparel	8.99
Cabinetware and furniture	3.46
Coir goods	17.81
Cordage and rope	3.23
Jewellery and plate	3.75
Oil cake	3.50
Articles exported by post	10.29

96. Placing the principal exports of the year in order according to their value, they stand thus:

	Lakhs of rupees.
1. Grain and pulse	1760.81
2. Cotton, raw	1077.72
3. Opium	1073.55
4. Seeds	991.83
5. Hides and skins	533.46
6. Jute, raw	435.53
7. Tea	430.61
8. Indigo	378.31
9. Cotton twist and manufactures	363.55
10. Coffee	134.84
11. Jute manufactures	113.08
12. Wool, raw	87.23

97. In the subjoined table is a comparison of the figures of quantity and value for the two years, the variations being shewn in each case as the result of a change either in quantity or in price :

	1885-86.		MORE OR LESS THAN IN 1884-85.		DIFFERENCE IN VALUE DUE TO	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Drugs and Narcotics—</i>						
Chinchona bark . . . lbs.	857,040	99,700	+ 111,310	+ 1,089	14,719	— 13,630
Opium cwt.	120,995	10,735,518	+ 2,396	— 1,47,088	— 219,856	3,66,944
Tobacco (including cigars) . lbs.	11,188,777	124,846	— 4,836,524	— 25,144	45,268	— 20,124
<i>Foodstuffs—</i>						
Coffee cwt.	371,027	1,348,395	+ 42,710	+ 102,889	162,025	— 59,136
Rice (not in the husk) . . . "	27,813,844	9,167,189	+ 6,111,708	+ 2,044,402	2,005,904	38,498
Wheat "	21,060,519	8,002,350	+ 5,229,765	+ 1,693,210	2,084,254	— 391,044
Spices lbs.	23,831,355	486,274	+ 2,851,135	+ 12,556	64,377	— 51,821
Sugar (refined and unrefined) . cwt.	1,167,540	525,412	+ 96,621	— 20,637	— 49,268	69,925
Tea lbs.	68,784,249	4,306,133	+ 4,622,194	+ 261,374	291,382	— 30,008
<i>Goods fully manufactured—</i>						
Cotton piece goods, grey . . yds.	33,323,365	370,396	+ 182,583	+ 7,810	1,993	5,812
„ coloured, &c. „	17,827,464	417,515	+ 3,218,969	— 22,182	— 96,887	119,069
Jute bags No.	63,760,546	984,695	— 19,018,661	— 425,628	324,024	101,604
Lac, shell and button . . . cwt.	150,746	582,965	+ 8,899	— 14,487	— 37,483	51,980
Silk piece goods (including mixed piece goods) . yds.	8,874,939	327,666	+ 287,228	+ 2,990	25,963	— 23,003
Woollen shawls No.	8,885	30,873	— 10,674	— 35,433	36,490	— 1,057
<i>Goods partly manufactured—</i>						
Cotton twist and yarn . . . lbs.	78,241,771	2,755,252	+ 12,344,588	+ 314,151	457,294	— 143,143
Indigo cwt.	132,495	3,783,160	— 22,134	— 285,740	582,433	— 296,693
Hides and skins, dressed or tanned cwt.	274,566	2,342,205	+ 42,982	+ 266,445	385,261	— 118,816
Oils, castor gals.	2,190,688	218,623	— 1,016,157	— 89,837	97,736	— 7,899
„ cocoanut "	1,170,177	122,167	— 383,710	— 39,846	40,007	— 161
Saltpotre cwt.	402,174	370,200	— 49,743	— 54,800	46,780	8,020
Silk, raw (including waste) . lbs.	1,438,767	332,251	— 128,334	— 131,540	97,931	93,559

	1886.		MORE OR LESS THAN IN 1884-85.		DIFFERENCE IN VALUE DUE TO	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Raw material—</i>		£		£	£	£
Caoutchouc, raw cwt.	6,553	65,620	— 1,564	— 11,709	14,900	— 3,191
Cotton, raw "	4,189,718	10,777,204	— 876,339	— 2,509,163	2,298,308	210,855
Myrabolams "	705,931	299,365	+ 152,201	+ 60,352	65,096	— 5,344
Cutch and gambier "	205,355	252,839	— 40,804	— 29,269	46,763	— 17,494
Hides and skins, raw . . . "	832,019	2,992,397	+ 53,025	+ 133,817	194,579	— 60,762
Jute, raw "	7,782,435	4,355,362	— 586,251	— 306,006	326,543	— 20,537
<i>Oilseeds—</i>						
Linseed cwt.	9,510,139	5,532,608	+ 763,543	+ 619,674	423,880	190,794
Rape "	3,721,840	2,047,448	— 800,093	— 636,143	474,824	161,319
Til or jinjili "	1,759,343	1,194,183	— 887,141	— 723,830	644,623	84,207
Other sorts "	2,241,546	1,144,656	— 44,513	— 51,232	23,237	27,995
Stone, jade "	3,842	50,005	+ 104	— 6,000	— 1,558	7,558
Teak timber cubic tons.	50,076	550,515	+ 2,520	+ 18,386	23,198	— 9,812
Wool, raw lbs.	23,148,763	872,321	+ 4,220,590	+ 158,745	159,113	— 368

Appended to this section is a paper discussing the effects of a low rate of exchange on the trade of India. This paper was published in July, and is now reprinted here, with a few unimportant changes in the figures for 1885-86 rendered necessary by corrections in the returns from which they were taken. These changes do not in any way affect the calculations and inferences based on the figures.

NOTE ON THE EFFECT OF A LOW RATE OF EXCHANGE ON THE INDIAN EXPORT TRADE.

IT has been so often stated recently that a low exchange is a benefit to India by stimulating trade, that it is desirable to examine the statement closely, and to ascertain how far it is in accordance with the facts. The argument briefly stated is this : A low exchange gives the exporter a larger number of rupees in exchange for the sterling price of his merchandise : he is therefore able to sell more cheaply in the consuming market and thus stimulates consumption there : he is also able to give a better price to the cultivator in India and thus stimulates production here. It has also been argued by some that while exports are stimulated and increased by a fall in exchange, imports are correspondingly restricted because a low rate of exchange requires that a larger number of rupees must be given for the sterling value of the goods imported.

2. It is proposed to prove in this paper that these arguments leave out of sight important factors affecting trade in a greater degree than exchange ; that the arguments are not sound in principle and are also opposed to the facts ; that, though the exporter is certainly able to sell his goods more cheaply in the consuming markets, this cheapness has not actually had the effect of specially stimulating exports ; that the exporter does not actually receive a larger rupee return now for his goods than he did when exchange was higher ; that consequently he cannot and does not give a better return to the cultivator ; and, therefore, has not specially stimulated production ; that the import trade could not be restricted while the export trade was stimulated, for that both must increase or decrease in the same ratio, unless the country is increasing its debt to other countries ; that the fall of prices in imported goods having much exceeded the fall in exchange there has been no such increase in their cost as to restrict consumption, and that in fact there has been no restriction ; that the low exchange has really operated merely to counteract partially the loss to Indian trade resulting from low prices ; that the export trade has not made such progress since exchange began to fall quickly and heavily (that is, during the last five years) as in previous years when exchange was higher and more stable ; that if the trade has not actually fallen off and has even made some though relatively slow progress, the fact is to be attributed to the extension of railways, to the completion on the main lines of through communication with the ports, to the reduction of railway rates and sea freights, and to good seasons in India.

3. The conclusion which is indicated from a consideration of all the facts is that, as the heavy fall in prices, or at any rate great part of the fall, and the low exchange, are both of them the outcome of the one cause, namely the appreciation of gold, an increase in the rate of exchange would be accompanied by a corresponding rise in gold prices, and that no restriction of the Indian export trade would result from a recovery in the rate of exchange.

4. It must be clear that, assuming all other factors in the regulation of prices and profits to remain unaffected, a low rate of exchange between India and England would work thus :

On the one hand a larger number of rupees would be obtained for the sterling price of goods exported.

On the other hand a larger number of rupees would be required for the sterling price of goods imported.

That is, while the return from the exports increases, say, ten per cent, the imports for the purchase of which the exports were shipped also increases in price by the same amount.

There is no special profit to the exporter in such a state of things, and there cannot possibly be such profit as to give a great stimulus to exports unless the price of the goods imported is diminished or not increased while the value of the exports increases.

5. The gold prices of imports into India have certainly fallen and the consumer obtains them more cheaply. If then the gold prices of exports had not fallen or if they had increased, the decline in exchange would undoubtedly have stimulated trade by making it extremely profitable, the country buying cheaply and selling dearly. But in fact the gold prices in other countries of the goods which we export in payment for what we receive have not only not increased but have fallen in quite as great proportion as the goods imported, if not in greater proportion. There has been a general fall of gold prices both in imports and in exports, and the fall in the London markets of the values of Indian produce has been so great that, notwithstanding the fall in exchange, it has certainly not been possible for the exporter to give a higher price to the producer.

Prices of wheat.

6. As so much attention has been given to the wheat trade, we may consider first the prices of wheat. The average price of wheat in the London market in 1885 was 31.67 per cent less than the average price of 1870, the average of the last three years (1883 to 1885) being 27 per cent less than the average of the 13 years from 1870 to 1882 (see table of prices on page xx). In Calcutta the average price for the last three years has been Rs. 2-7-4, and the average of the previous twelve years was Rs. 3-2-7. As the exporter has actually been paying 22 per cent less for his wheat it is clear that he cannot have given the cultivator better prices than formerly as is alleged.

In Bombay the average price of the last three periods given was Rs. 26 the kandi, while in the previous 14 years the average was Rs. 32-15-10, so that the exporter on that side of India also has been giving 21 per cent less for his wheat and cannot have given better prices to the cultivator than formerly.

At no time since 1871 was wheat so cheap in Calcutta as in 1884 and 1885, and in Bombay wheat was never so cheap as in 1885. The price there

has slightly risen since, but it is still lower than in any year since 1870, with three exceptions, as will be seen from the prices quoted below :

<i>Calcutta.</i>				<i>Bombay.</i>							
		Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.			
5th December	1871	2	10	0	per maund.	January	1870	38	12	0	per kandy.
5th	"	1872	3	0	0	"	1871	39	8	0	"
11th	"	1873	3	14	0	"	1872	29	8	0	"
3rd	"	1874	3	4	0	"	1873	34	0	0	"
9th	"	1875	2	10	0	"	1874	26	4	0	"
7th	"	1876	2	10	0	"	1875	25	4	0	"
13th	"	1877	3	8	0	"	1876	25	12	0	"
12th	"	1878	3	11	0	"	1877	30	10	0	"
4th	"	1879	3	12	0	"	1878	35	14	0	"
7th	"	1880	3	0	0	"	1879	44	6	0	"
10th	"	1881	3	2	0	"	1880	46	8	0	"
14th	"	1882	2	14	0	"	1881	28	0	0	"
3rd	"	1883	2	10	6	"	1882	27	8	0	"
8th	"	1884	2	4	0	"	1883	30	0	0	"
14th	"	1885	2	7	6	"	1884	28	0	0	"
							1885	22	8	0	"
							1886	27	8	0	"

If prices had not fallen so heavily in England, the rupee return for wheat would, with a falling rate of exchange, certainly have been larger than before, and it could have been said with perfect accuracy that the low rate of exchange had stimulated trade. The rupee outturn for wheat has however not increased: it has actually diminished. Thus in January 1882 with exchange at over 1s. 8d. and the price of wheat at 45·5s. a quarter, 1,000 tons of Indian wheat which in Calcutta the previous month cost Rs. 85,070 at Rs. 3-2 the maund, returned £10,616 = Rs. 1,27,272. In January 1886, 1,000 tons of wheat, which had cost in Calcutta the previous month, at Rs. 2-7-6 per maund, Rs. 67,205, returned £7,175 = Rs. 95,826, the price being 30·75s. the quarter, and exchange at under 1s. 6d. In the first case the difference between cost and selling price of 1,000 tons was Rs. 42,202; in the second case the difference was only Rs. 28,621.* The rupee return in the first case was at the rate of 49½ per cent on cost, in the last case at the rate of only 42½ per cent. If the price in Calcutta had not fallen from Rs. 3-2-0 to Rs. 2-7-6, the return for Rs. 85,070 would have been only Rs. 95,826, which makes a return of not more than 12½ per cent. Of course if prices in India and exchange had not fallen with prices in London the results would have been disastrous to trade. The table appended, page xxi, shews the position each year since the end of

* It should be noted here that this calculation ignores all the other factors which contribute to determine the conditions under which wheat can be profitably exported to England from India. It is intended to shew simply that at looking at actual prices in England and Calcutta, the fall in exchange has not made the profit of the exporter.

1881. It is, briefly, that in the period between December 1881 and December 1885 the price of wheat in Calcutta fell 21 per cent, in London it fell 32 per cent, while the fall in exchange was only $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Whatever profit therefore might have been made by reason of the fall in exchange was cancelled by a fall in prices in London far exceeding the fall in exchange; and ruinous loss to the exporter, and cessation of trade have only been prevented by a fall of prices in Calcutta.

7. If, then, there have in fact been increased profits and a consequent stimulus to trade as alleged, the causes of such stimulus and profits must, it is evident, be sought for elsewhere than in the condition of exchange. These causes will be considered separately further on. At present it is sufficient to draw attention to the fact indicated by the figures given, that the wheat trade has not been stimulated by exchange; that the rupee return is smaller because sterling prices have fallen greatly in excess of the fall in exchange; and that certainly the cultivator has not only not received a higher price for his produce, but has actually obtained less, because it was necessary for the exporter to give him less if trade was to be continued at all.

Prices of other exports.

8. The argument about the stimulus to the export trade has been used in such close and frequent connection with the wheat trade, though it is meant to apply to all trade, that the facts about wheat have been employed first in order to test the validity of the argument. Let us now see whether the other staples of the export trade give any greater support to the argument than wheat has done.

9. The tables of prices and exchange appended (pages xix, xx, and xxiii) shew that the average rate of exchange in 1872-73 was 22·81*d.* and in 1885-86 18·25*d.*, the difference being almost exactly 20 per cent. Bar silver in London was quoted at 59·75*d.* the ounce in March 1873 and at 46·93*d.* in December 1885, the difference being $21\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Prices in London of produce of the kind exported from India in the same period shew a fall in price as under:

Wheat	33·7	per cent.
Wool	53·3	„
Sugar	51·6	„
Coffee	42·2	„
Saltpetre	7·5	„
Tea	34	„
Jute	17·4	„
Linseed	29·3	„
Rapeseed	43·2	„
Rice (Bengal)	18·4	„
Silk (Surdah)	40·6	„
Shell lac (orange)	62·6	„
Indigo	26·2	„ (rise, not fall).
Cotton	38·6	„

These are the goods that comprise the bulk of our export trade. Except in the case of indigo (and saltpetre which is an unimportant

trade) the list proves that the fall of exchange has been neutralised by a heavier fall in prices. As regards indigo it is important to note that it is an exceptional article, substantially almost a monopoly; that the price is regulated entirely by the crop in India; and that the high prices of 1885 coincided with an extremely small export, the trade having in fact fallen greatly in the last three years. It is always subject to great fluctuations dependent on the crops, and prices in the consuming market are regulated by the abundance or deficiency of the supply from India. As the trade has actually fallen off, this article will probably not be taken by anybody as an illustration of the prosperity to trade caused by low exchange. Nor can anybody who knows the conditions of the trade contend that the exports of jute have been unusually stimulated during the last few years, or that the trade has been unusually profitable. The rice trade recovered last year after the two most depressed export seasons known for years, and the quantity exported did not equal the quantity exported in 1881-82.

The tables on pages xvi and xvii further shew that prices of most of the great export staples have fallen in Calcutta and Bombay also, though not to such an extent as in London. We find prices in Calcutta to be as follows in January 1886 compared with March 1873*:

Wheat	— 26 per cent.
Linseed	+ 1 "
Rapeseed	— 21 "
Hides	— 13 "
Indigo	+ 7 "
Jute	+ 18 "
Gunny bags	— 15 "
Lac (shell)	— 41 "
Rice (Calcutta)	+ 30 "
Rice (in Rangoon)	+ 15.2 "
Silk (Surdab)	— 21 "
Tea	— 10 "
Saltpetre	— 21 "

It will be noted that only rice and the two very exceptional articles already referred to—indigo and jute—have increased materially in price, an increase dependent on special circumstances. The price of rice has temporarily risen to a high point owing to failure of crops in Bengal. The price of Burma lac, which constitutes the bulk of our exports of that grain, has risen in the same period in only half that proportion, namely 15 per cent. It is well known that for the last two or three years the exporters of rice have lost heavily.

10. The facts so far afford little support to the argument that the low rate of exchange has stimulated production and trade by enabling the exporter to get a larger return for his exported produce and therefore to pay higher

* These are prices at the port of shipment of articles constituting the bulk of the export trade. They fluctuate a good deal from year to year in sympathy with prices in the London markets and the condition of local supply in the export market. But it should be borne in mind that the prices in London are generally higher than those in Calcutta.

prices to the cultivator. The exporter does not receive a larger return, for prices have fallen in the English markets in a greater ratio than exchange; on the other hand the corresponding fall in prices at the ports in this country has not been so great as in the English markets. The case may be stated roughly somewhat in this style:

Price in India, say 10 per cent less.

Price in London, say 30 per cent less.

Loss by fall of price, 20 per cent.

Gain by exchange, 20 per cent.

The merchant therefore practically stands where he did, the cultivator being apparently slightly worse off. (He is not really worse off, but this will be treated of further on.) If, then, the rate of exchange were the only factor in the situation, it is clear that it has had no appreciable effect on the alleged stimulus to trade.

Progress of trade : there has been no stimulus as alleged.

II. Let us now see whether there has in fact been a stimulus to trade, and if so to what cause or causes it is to be attributed.

The tables appended (pages ii to xv) give the trade year by year in the principal imports and exports for the last ten years, and shew the percentage of increase and decrease in quantity and value, year by year. The table on page i gives the aggregate imports and exports of India for the last 27 years, which years I have divided into nine periods of three years each, giving the average trade in each period. On examination of the figures of the exports it will be found that trade developed at an enormous rate of progress in the three years following 1861-62, the annual rate of increase being more than 28 per cent. This marked progress resulted from the phenomenal increase in the price of Indian cotton caused by the War of Secession in the United States. With the end of that war the prices of cotton were gradually reduced, and in the three years following 1864-65, the export trade shews a decline in consequence of the fall of price in cotton and of the great famine of 1866. The export trade after this period increased irregularly but constantly, and we find the rate of increase since 1873 (when exchange began the fall which has since continued) to be as follows:

1874-75	}	2.91 per cent. (Exchange 21.45d.)
to 1876-77		
1877-78	}	9.97 per cent. (Exchange 20.18d.)
to 1879-80		
1880-81	}	20.84 per cent. (Exchange 19.78d.)
to 1882-83		
1883-84	}	6.48 per cent. (Exchange 19.03d.)
to 1885-86		

Now, let us look at the aggregate value from year to year of the exports of Indian goods, and see whether our exports have increased, as the Lords of the

Treasury in their recent letter to the India Office on the silver question affirm, by leaps and bounds. The figures for the last ten years are as follows :

	Value.	Yearly increase or decrease.		Value.	Yearly increase or decrease.
	Rs.			Rs.	
1876-77 ...	58,93,00,693		1881-82 ...	79,25,52,431	+10.1%
1877-78 ...	63,14,35,332	+ 7.1%	1882-83 ...	80,59,81,554	+ 1.7%
1878-79 ...	58,70,79,255	- 7 %	1883-84 ...	85,08,57,205	+ 5.6%
1879-80 ...	64,95,08,331	+10.6%	1884-85 ...	80,31,32,079	- 5.6%
1880-81 ...	71,97,40,678	+10.8%	1885-86 ...	80,73,47,311	+ 0.5%

It will be seen at a glance that there is no basis in fact for the statement. The export trade increased largely after the cessation of the famine of 1877-79, the progress continuing for three years, but since 1881-82, it has remained almost stationary. But, according to the statement that a low rate of exchange stimulates the Indian export trade, the rate of increase in the exports for the last four years should have been larger than it has ever been before, putting aside the period of the war in the United States which produced phenomenal conditions. The rate of exchange was never so low, as will be seen by reference to the table on page xxiii, and the seasons have been very good. Yet the increase of trade was very much smaller than in the preceding years when exchange ruled much higher, the years 1877-78 to 1879-80 being moreover years of widespread famine as well as of war (with Afghanistan). The export trade of the last two years, when exchange was lower than it had ever been, has actually fallen off in amount instead of increasing. The increase in the import trade has also been smaller in this same period than at any period since 1873-74. There has been a slackening of progress in both.

12. Let us now look at the principal staples of the export trade. The table on pages x—xv states these and the fluctuations of trade in them from year to year from 1876-77 to 1885-86 (ten years). In the exports of cotton, the most important of them all, there has been a serious decline during the last three years, shipments having fallen thus :

1882-83	. . . . .	cwt.	6,168,278	
1883-84	. . . . .	„	5,979,494	= - 3.1%
1884-85	. . . . .	„	5,066,057	= -15.3%
1885-86	. . . . .	„	4,189,718	= -17.3%

The exports of this last year are 8 per cent less than they were ten years previously. The next most important article, opium, was also 9 per cent short of the quantity exported ten years ago, saltpetre 13.74 per cent, wool 3.77 per cent, catch 22½ per cent. Some other articles have increased so slowly that they may almost be said to have remained stationary : these are coffee, sugar, silk, teakwood, tobacco. Indigo, lac, coir, silk goods, spices, and rice have increased moderately. Certain articles on the other hand have increased very largely, such as wheat, tea, cotton yarn, and cotton piece goods.

13. Now, let us see the progress or retrogression from year to year of these articles. The figures in the following table indicate the percentage of increase

or decrease in the quantities exported each year as compared with the year preceding it :

	Rice.	Wheat.	Tea.	Cotton.	Cotton yarn.	Cotton piece goods.	Jute.	Gunny bags.	Seeds.	Opium.	Indigo.	Hides and skins.	Wool.	Teakwood.	Shell lac.	Spices.	Sugar.	Coffee.	Saltpetre.
1877-78	- 0.8	+ 13.6	+20.4	-24.1	+06.8	+12.0	+20.2	-10.0	+27.2	- 4.2	+20.1	+38.5	- 4.8	+26.3	-19.4	-10.7	-22.8	- 1.7	-16.6
1878-79	+13.2	- 83.5	+ 2.0	-14.3	+38.7	+28.3	+10.5	+71.8	-40.0	- 1.7	-12.0	-10.7	+15.1	-34.3	- 7.3	+01.2	-66.9	+14.9	- 1.7
1879-80	+ 0.2	+110.2	+10.0	+33.1	+21.2	+14.6	+10.0	+23.3	- 1.5	+15.7	- 3.0	+18.5	- 0.8	+ 3.2	-31.4	-19.2	+16.	+ 5.3	+33.2
1880-81	+22.2	+ 230.1	+21.0	+15.	+ 4.	+17.0	-13.	- 0.3	+44.2	-12.0	+15.8	-15.3	-14.3	+60.0	+43.0	- 8.5	+04.6	+ 2.8	-30.7
1881-82	+ 0.5	+ 166.8	+ 4.0	+23.0	+14.4	- 1.7	+20.3	-19.7	+ 2.3	- 3.1	+28.7	+ 0.4	- 4.5	-14.1	+38.7	-13.6	+71.8	- 6.2	+ 0.5
1882-83	+ 8.8	- 28.8	+18.0	+ 0.0	+47.4	+39.	+37.8	+44.4	+25.5	+ 2.8	- 6.2	+ 6.3	- 0.1	+ 5.	+10.5	+38.5	+43.7	+ 2.0	+12.6
1883-84	-13.5	+ 48.2	+ 3.7	- 3.1	+ 0.0	+33.7	-32.2	+ 4.8	+32.1	+ 0.2	+19.6	+ 5.7	- 7.1	-21.5	-17.1	-12.2	+23.6	- 3.8	+23.1
1884-85	-19.1	- 24.5	+ 7.1	-15.3	+32.1	-13.7	+10.2	+30.1	+ 5.2	- 5.0	- 8.3	+10.4	- 5.5	+ 2.3	+28.	+21.8	-34.3	- 3.4	- 8.1
1885-86	+28.2	+ 33.	+ 7.2	-17.3	+18.7	+ 7.5	- 7.	-23.	- 5.3	+ 1.0	-14.3	+ 9.5	+22.3	+ 5.3	+6.3	+13.0	+ 9.	+13.1	-11.

Amid all the fluctuations due to various causes to which these figures testify, the fact stands out prominently that during the last three years when, according to the theory that a low exchange stimulates trade, the exports should have increased more largely than in former years when exchange was at a much higher level, all those articles which have continued to increase have done so in a smaller ratio than in previous years, while the exports of many articles have absolutely diminished.

The theory, it is evident, cannot be maintained; and it must be admitted that if there has been a general increase of trade in the face of a fall in prices which is greater in proportion than the fall in exchange, or if trade has not actually fallen off, the fact is to be attributed to other causes than any special stimulus given by the rate of exchange.

Alleged restriction of imports.

14. The answer to the argument that while exports are stimulated and increased by a fall in exchange imports are correspondingly restricted, by reason of higher prices, is, firstly, that it ignores the fundamental principle which regulates the export trade of a country, namely, that exports pay for imports. If, then, the imports are for any reason restricted, exports must also be restricted, and if exports are augmented so must imports be augmented. If exports increase while imports diminish, the fact can only signify, either that the country is borrowing capital in foreign countries, or that it is giving away its produce for nothing. If the value of imports increases in greater proportion than the value of exports, the fact can only signify that the country has been lending money to other countries and is receiving back interest on its capital.

Imports and exports must progress or recede *pari passu*, except in so far as the rate of relative progress is affected by increased indebtedness to other countries. If, in India, exports increase in greater ratio than imports, (meaning by imports all imports for Government as well as those of ordinary trade, merchandise and treasure); then the increasing excess is due to increased borrowings in the London market, and increased drawings by the Secretary of State, as well as the increased transfer to England of private savings.

Secondly, the argument also ignores the facts; for, though exchange has fallen, prices have fallen still more heavily, and the imports into this country are sold now at a lower price in Calcutta and Bombay than when exchange ruled high. This is evident from the tables of prices on pages xvi—xvii. Grey cottons are 16 per cent cheaper than in 1873, mule twist is 33 per cent cheaper, Turkey red is 43 per cent cheaper, copper is also 43 per cent cheaper, and iron 50 per cent cheaper. Cotton goods and metals form the bulk of our import trade. To the consumer in the interior of the country prices have been still further reduced and opportunities for consumption facilitated by the extension of railway communication. As has been said before, speaking broadly, whereas exchange has fallen 20 per cent, prices all round have fallen quite 30 per cent, and imported goods can therefore be sold at least 10 per cent more cheaply at the ports than when the rates of exchange were more favourable to the importation of merchandise, and more cheaply still to the consumer far in the interior of the country.

Thirdly, the figures of the trade shew that, while exports have not been specially stimulated, imports have not been specially restricted.

True causes why Indian trade has not been greatly depressed.

15. It has been shewn in the preceding paragraphs that the argument that a low rate of exchange stimulates the export trade is not sustainable, if the argument is to be taken by itself. Qualified with the proviso that prices do not fall in the consuming market in proportion to exchange, the argument may be admitted to be sound; but it is inadmissible when prices fall, as they have done, in the same or a greater ratio. It is perfectly true that a falling exchange will give a temporary stimulus to exports, but this stimulus only lasts while prices and freights remain unaltered. They remain unaltered a very short time, for prices and freights in India rise immediately after a fall in exchange creates a demand for wheat or other merchandise and for ship space, and a fall in prices in the English market is not long in coming. Trade then again shrinks and an examination of the exports for a year or more than a year shews no trace of the brief stimulus.

Now, we have before us the following facts:

- (1) prices in Calcutta and Bombay of exported produce have not increased; if anything they have fallen. The cultivator therefore has not received from the exporter the increased return which is a stimulus to larger production;
- (2) exchange has fallen 20 per cent, which means a gain of 20 per cent to the exporter, but
- (3) prices in England have fallen at least 30 per cent all round, and this means a loss of more than 20 per cent to the exporter, allowing for the slight fall in prices in Calcutta and Bombay.

The exporter therefore has not gained directly by the fall in exchange: he has simply been saved from a certain proportion of loss.

16. If the exporter has gained anything, if the cultivator has received a stimulus to increased production, other causes for these facts must be looked for.

These causes are to be found in the reduction of cost of transport from the field to the port of shipment, and from the port of shipment to the consuming market, by the extension of railways, by reductions in railway rates of freight, and by reductions of sea freight.

The table on page xxii shews that the rate of sea freight for rice and wheat has fallen by as much as 52 per cent—more than one-half—since 1870. Now, at present prices the freight represents an addition of 20 per cent to the cost on rice in Calcutta, and of 24 per cent to that of wheat. Therefore it is possible in consequence of the reduction of freight to lay down these grains in London 20 and 24 per cent more cheaply than in 1872. The addition caused by freight to linseed is now 14 per cent, to jute 13 per cent, to cotton $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, so that for all these bulky articles, forming some of the most important items of our trade, we have a material reduction in cost of laying down effected by the reduction of rates of sea freight in recent years.*

We have further to consider the material reductions in transport by rail of the same articles effected during the last six years. Thus the charge for grain on the East Indian Railway has fallen between Delhi and Howrah, 964 miles, from 161 pies per maund per mile in December 1879 to 107 pies, a reduction of $33\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; between Cawnpore and Howrah, 684 miles, from 177 pies to 149 pies, being nearly 16 per cent, and from Jabalpur to Howrah, 783 miles, from 169 pies to 147 pies, or 13 per cent. Grain transported to Calcutta from the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway costs for freight 150 pies instead of 167 pies, a reduction of 10 per cent. From Cawnpore to Bombay, 960 miles, the freight has fallen from 208 pies to 162 pies, a reduction of $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and from Delhi to Bombay, 890 miles, the rate has been reduced since May 1883 by 2 per cent for wheat and by $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for other grain and seeds, the present rates being 145 pies and 148 pies respectively. From Delhi to Karachi, 1,160 miles, the charge has fallen from 172 pies in July 1882 to 146 pies, a reduction of 15 per cent. From Jabalpur to Bombay, 616 miles, the charge has fallen from 203 pies to 185 pies, a reduction of about 9 per cent.

At the present prices of wheat in Bombay the present charge for railway transport to that port from Delhi represents 16.3 per cent of the price; from Cawnpore $19\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and from Jabalpur $14\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Sea freight per ton.	Rs.
			£ s. d.	s. d.
Wheat, Calcutta club No. 2.	2 8 9 per maund	= 69.33 per ton	1 3 9 @ 1.5†	= 16.64 = 24 per cent of price.
Linseed	4 9 0	" = 124.2 "	1 5 0	" = 17.52 = 14.1 " "
Jute	24 0 0 per 400 lbs.	= 134.4 "	" "	" = 13.03 " "
Rice, moonghy, 1st	2 14 0 per maund	= 78.26 "	1 2 6	" = 15.8 = 20.2 " "
Cotton, Dhollerah, good (in Bombay).	174 0 0 per candy of 784 lbs.	= 348 "	1 2 6 at 17½	= 15.57 = 4.5 " "

[It is sometimes contended that it is erroneous to attribute any of the increased trade in wheat to the reduction in sea-freights because a similar reduction must have occurred in the freight of wheat from the United States. That this is not so will, however, be apparent from the following figures :

Freight per quarter of wheat from New York to London.			Freight per ton of wheat from Calcutta to London.		
	s.	d.		£	s. d.
1882	...	6 3 (highest).	December 1891	...	3 2 6 (highest).
1883	...	5 6 (").	" 1892	...	1 16 3 (").
1884	...	5 4½ (").	" 1893	...	1 7 6 (").
1885	...	5 0 (").	" 1894	...	1 5 0 (").
			" 1895	...	1 10 0 (").

The fall in freight from New York was 20 per cent, while from Calcutta it was 52 per cent.]

For linseed, at the present price, the present charge for transport to Bombay is from Delhi 10·2 per cent, from Cawnpore 12·1 per cent, from Jabalpur 8·8 per cent, of the price, and for rapeseed from Delhi to Karachi the present charge is 25·4 per cent of the price.

The large reductions in freight must have made an appreciable difference to the producer who is able to sell so much more cheaply to the exporter without receiving a smaller return.

Besides these reductions of railway freight, the increase of conveniences at the ports of Calcutta, Bombay, and Karachi have so reduced the cost of handling goods there, that the exporter is able to pay less for his goods than he did some years ago, and yet not give the cultivator a smaller return.

17. Further, let us consider the development of railway communication in India. A reference to the table on page xxiv will shew that whereas in 1873 there were only 5,880 miles of railway open for traffic, at the end of 1884-85 there were 12,005 miles. This mileage has since been increased materially. Assuming that a railway brings within reach of a port only ten miles of country on each side of the line, there were between 1873 and 1885 about 123,000 square miles of country brought within reach of the consuming markets outside India. Allowing for railways constructed on the frontier, it is well within the mark to say that cultivated and cultivable land stretching over 100,000 square miles of country has been brought within reach of a market, and that the cultivators over this area have been given the stimulus to production which is afforded by the knowledge that the produce can be conveyed easily, cheaply, and safely to the consumer in or out of India.

18. The actual increase of railway mileage would not have been of so much consequence to trade if the ports had not been linked by through communication with the heart of India. On the Rajputana-Malwa line through communication was completed in January 1881; on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway in June 1883; and Karachi was linked through with Lahore in October 1878. These completions, which brought places 1,500 miles away into uninterrupted railway communication with the sea, have had a most important effect on the development of trade.

19. Further, the great increase in the imports of the Government (mainly railway material) has led of necessity to a corresponding augmentation of the export trade. The imports on account of Government have increased from 112 lakhs in 1870-71 to 384½ lakhs in 1885-86.

20. Lastly, the seasons in India since 1879 have on the whole been very good.

These are some of the factors which have done whatever has been done, during the long period of general depression of trade all over the world, to prevent a serious diminution in the volume of Indian trade.

True effect of exchange on trade.

21. If then it is asked what effect exchange has had on trade, the answer is that it has saved the trade of India, in the face of the low

prices ruling in the European markets, from disaster. But it is admitted now by all authorities that some part, at any rate, of these low prices is certainly due to the appreciation of gold. The fall in exchange is also the result of the appreciation of gold. We have therefore the one cause, namely, the appreciation of gold, operating on the trade of India in two different directions. On the one hand it has dealt it a heavy blow by reducing the price of Indian produce; on the other hand it has lessened the force and impact of the blow by lowering the rate of exchange. It has inflicted an injury and simultaneously has prevented that injury from having its full injurious effect. It is not unreasonable to argue that it would be better if no injury at all were inflicted. If gold were not appreciated in value, prices would be regulated by the factors common to all countries and all periods, namely, cost of production, cost of transport, extent of supply and demand. If gold is appreciated in value because, by the withdrawal of silver from currency in all the great commercial countries, more work is thrown upon gold than can be efficiently done by the available stocks of the metal, it is obvious that the re-monetisation of silver will stop its further appreciation, so far as it is due to this cause, and that the injury of low prices, with its attendant partial redress in a low exchange, caused to Indian trade by the appreciation of gold will cease.

Summary.

22. To summarise now the foregoing paragraphs, it has been shewn :

- (1) That exports could not be increased from any cause, increased indebtedness excepted, without *pro tanto* increasing the imports. The admission, therefore, by some of the advocates of a low rate of exchange that such low rate of exchange may restrict imports while stimulating exports refutes their argument, for such restriction of imports and expansion of exports could not co-exist except as a consequence of the country increasing its indebtedness to other countries.
- (2) That, in fact, exchange cannot have had the effect of restricting imports; for the prices of our principal imports have been much lower in India during the last five years than they were in 1873.
- (3) That, in fact, exchange cannot have had the effect of stimulating the export trade, because the prices of almost all Indian produce in the European markets have fallen in much greater ratio than the rate of exchange, and the whole advantage resulting from a low exchange has been neutralised; a balance of disadvantage being left against the exporter, prices paid at ports of shipment in India for produce not having fallen in the same proportion as in Europe.
- (4) That in fact, looking at the returns of trade, the export trade has not thriven so well during the last four years, with an unprecedented fall in exchange, as in former periods, although in

this period there have been good seasons and generally abundant harvests in India, while in former periods trade has had to struggle under the difficulties caused by bad seasons and by war. It is true that from time to time a falling exchange does give a temporary stimulus to exports, but this stimulus is very short-lived, and there is no trace of it when the returns of a year or more than a year are examined.

- (5) That the causes why the trade of India has not been attended by depression quite equal to that experienced in most other countries are these :
- (a) that prices of Indian exports at the ports of shipment have not fallen in anything like the ratio of the fall in the consuming markets ;
 - (b) that rates of transport by rail and sea have been materially lowered during the last few years ;
 - (c) that railway extensions in the last twelve years, and the complete linking of the main lines with the ports, have assured cultivators over at least 100,000 square miles of India (one-tenth of the area of the Indian continent) of an external market for their produce, and have thus stimulated production ;
 - (d) that the low rate of exchange has counterbalanced to the extent of about two-thirds, (roughly), the disadvantage of low prices in the consuming markets ;
 - (e) that the fall of prices for imported goods being also greater than the fall in the rate of exchange has prevented that restriction of the import trade which would inevitably have been followed by a corresponding restriction of the export trade ;
 - (f) that, speaking generally, the country has had good seasons and abundant harvests for the last five years; and that, without an exception worth consideration, the disturbing elements of war or famine have not interfered with the progress of trade.
- (6) That although it is admitted that the fall of exchange has been one of the factors in preventing great depression of trade, it must be recognised that the low exchange, which is a partial remedy for low prices, has proceeded from the same cause from which those low prices have to a material extent proceeded, namely, the appreciation of gold.
- (7) That it is therefore not a good argument to say that a low exchange benefits trade, seeing that it is at best only a palliative; in other words, that it insufficiently counteracts the injury to trade occasioned by the appreciation of gold, of which a low exchange is itself a consequence.

APPENDICES.

	PAGE
<i>Table 1.</i> —Aggregate value of all imports and exports, from 1859-60 to 1885-86, shewing increases and decreases for 9 periods of 3 years each ...	i
<i>Table 2.</i> —Imports of principal articles, quantities and values, shewing increases and decreases in each, for each year from 1876-77 to 1885-86 (10 years) and in 1885-86 compared with 1876-77	ii—ix
<i>Table 3.</i> —Similar table for principal exports of Indian merchandise ...	x—xv
<i>Table 4.</i> —Variations in prices at Calcutta of certain principal articles of import and export, each year from March 1873 to January 1886, the prices of March 1873 being taken to represent 100...	xvi—xvii
<i>Table 5.</i> —Prices in Bombay of principal articles of export—cotton, cotton yarn, cotton cloth, wheat, and linseed, each year from February 1873 to January 1886 ...	xviii
<i>Table 6.</i> —Prices in London of certain staple articles from April 1873 to February 1886 ...	xix
<i>Table 7.</i> —Comparison of average prices in Calcutta and London of certain staple articles—wheat, cotton, linseed, silk, and tea, and price in London of bar silver, from 1870 to 1885 ...	xx
<i>Table 8.</i> —Return in rupees for 1,000 tons wheat, at the prices in Calcutta and London and exchange current at the beginning of each of the last five years—January 1882 to January 1886 ...	xxi
<i>Table 9.</i> —Rates of freight for rice and wheat from Calcutta to London by Canal steamer from December 1870 to December 1885 ...	xxii
<i>Table 10.</i> —Average rate of exchange (Secretary of State's drawings) from 1870-71 to 1885-86 ...	xxiii
<i>Table 11.</i> —Railway extension in India each year from 1853 to 1884-85 ...	xxiv

1.—Aggregate value of Imports and Exports from 1859-60 to 1885-86. (Average of periods of 3 years.)

<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Increase or decrease.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>		<i>Increase or decrease.</i>
	<i>Rs.</i>		<i>Rs.</i>		
1859-60 } to } 1861-62 }	... 37,35,51,050	...	33,32,65,870	...	
1862-63 } to } 1864-65 }	... 47,58,79,323	+27.39%	61,77,94,250	+85.38%	
1865-66 } to } 1867-68 }	... 48,63,77,687	+ 2.2 %	54,79,75,916	—11.3 %	
1868-69 } to } 1870-71 }	... 45,98,07,883	— 5.46 %	55,17,61,411	+ 0.69%	
1871-72 } to } 1873-74 }	... 39,90,30,790	—13.22%	59,38,14,325	+ 7.62%	
1874-75 } to } 1876-77 }	... 45,81,07,626	+14.8 %	61,10,66,898	+ 2.91%	
1877-78 } to } 1879-80 }	... 52,16,61,285	+13.87%	67,20,01,919	+ 9.97%	
1880-81 } to } 1882-83 }	... 62,69,66,690	+20.19%	81,20,54,739	+20.84%	
1883-84 } to } 1885-86 }	... 69,62,74,305	+11.05%	86,46,72,736	+ 6.43%	

Principal articles.	1870-77.		Quantity.
	Quantity.	Value.	
		Rs.	
Horses No.	2,802	8,46,250	2,425
Ale, beer, and porter gals.	1,176,922	27,06,044	1,328,077
Spirits "	654,527	62,21,840	737,714
Wines and liqueurs "	464,242	40,69,755	496,733
Provisions, fruits and vegetables, dried, salted, &c. cwt.	535,355	27,30,080	815,336
„ all other kinds value	...	38,80,511	...
Salt tons	298,776	43,08,901	254,231
Spices lbs.	29,368,456	43,29,893	33,123,137
Sugar (refined) cwt.	256,304	40,22,105	473,332
Tea lbs.	1,755,300	14,01,096	2,323,033
Coal, coke and patent fuel tons	519,749	93,17,105	601,257
Ivory, unmanufactured lbs.	546,797	24,15,514	456,662
Silk, raw "	1,461,069	45,18,954	2,102,930
„ piece goods yds.	5,075,749	56,24,627	7,080,711
Cotton, twist and yarn lbs.	33,270,208	2,73,35,136	36,194,125
„ piece goods yds.	1,186,299,856	15,72,26,133	1,358,710,852
Woollen piece goods "	6,694,322	66,48,659	7,069,693
„ shawls No.	255,262	7,55,823	271,460
Hardware and cutlery value	...	41,01,896	...
Copper cwt.	272,353	1,30,81,017	320,103
Iron "	2,251,193	1,52,84,057	2,437,721
Steel "	108,642	11,22,445	87,441
Tin "	37,296	18,07,943	48,671
Metals (total) "	2,818,281	3,56,14,078	3,090,470
Machinery and millwork value	...	88,23,734	...
Railway plant and rolling stock "	...	69,19,076	...
Apparel "	...	53,81,298	...
Leather and leather goods (including boots and shoes) "	...	8,34,405	...
Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, &c. "	...	52,95,046	...
Books cwt.	7,644	10,74,520	8,164
Building and engineering materials value	...	6,75,247	...
Candles lbs.	2,402,377	8,92,918	2,176,421
Clocks and watches No.	23,308	3,56,566	23,056
Corals (real) lbs.	48,489	7,24,458	65,527
Glass and glassware value	...	28,03,905	...
Matches "	...	7,66,483	...
Paints and colours cwt.	93,600	14,05,482	101,608
Paper (excluding pasteboard) value	...	28,02,332	...
Stationery "	...	7,33,715	...
Umbrellas No.	1,798,334	13,66,698	2,439,855
Mineral oils gals.	439,123	4,91,173	2,405,405

imports.

1977-78.			1978-79.			
Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1976-77. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.		Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1977-78. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.	
	In quantity.	In value.			In quantity.	In value.
Rs.				Rs.		
8,31,820	- 15.3	- 1.6	3,350	12,57,825	+ 38.1	+ 51.2
31,30,700	+ 12.8	+ 15.7	1,089,211	24,45,685	- 18.	- 21.6
64,70,614	+ 12.7	+ 4.1	692,384	54,07,848	- 6.1	- 16.5
43,60,198	+ 7.	+ 7.1	487,787	41,41,744	- 1.8	- 5.
38,55,403	+ 52.3	+ 41.2	654,805	40,39,315	- 19.7	+ 4.8
47,32,563	...	+ 22.	...	57,19,032	...	+ 20.8
40,13,655	- 14.9	- 6.9	274,180	59,36,119	+ 7.8	+ 47.9
48,88,837	+ 12.8	+ 12.9	36,815,063	50,90,428	+ 11.1	+ 4.1
79,67,329	+ 84.7	+ 98.1	918,202	1,47,75,653	+ 94.	+ 85.5
19,06,107	+ 32.3	+ 36.	1,822,345	13,05,185	- 21.6	- 31.5
1,00,81,547	+ 15.7	+ 8.2	475,960	88,94,770	- 20.8	- 11.8
19,39,549	- 16.5	- 19.7	405,988	16,73,742	- 11.1	- 13.7
67,80,692	+ 43.9	+ 50.	1,813,993	56,72,364	- 13.7	- 16.3
70,97,877	+ 39.5	+ 26.2	7,350,804	82,28,406	+ 3.8	+ 16.
2,85,01,034	+ 8.8	+ 4.3	33,145,651	2,77,97,723	- 8.4	- 2.5
16,95,30,649	+ 14.5	+ 7.8	1,127,596,262	13,79,70,842	- 17.	- 18.6
62,88,600	+ 5.6	- 5.4	7,611,549	70,31,993	+ 7.7	+ 11.8
7,09,037	+ 6.3	- 6.2	427,412	9,85,341	+ 57.4	+ 39.
44,82,278	...	+ 1.8	...	42,54,533	...	- 5.1
1,49,81,749	+ 17.5	+ 7.2	289,853	1,28,41,688	- 9.4	- 14.3
1,43,55,611	+ 8.3	- 6.1	2,365,306	1,41,60,151	- 3.	+ 0.7
8,10,631	- 19.5	- 27.8	71,475	6,56,711	- 18.3	- 19.
22,21,571	+ 30.5	+ 22.9	34,989	15,17,401	- 23.1	- 31.7
3,60,54,637	+ 9.7	+ 1.2	2,971,639	3,31,88,301	- 3.9	- 7.9
85,09,969	...	- 3.6	...	86,34,553	...	+ 1.5
90,70,024	...	+ 31.1	...	1,04,68,321	...	+ 15.4
57,11,646	...	+ 6.1	...	52,19,088	...	- 8.6
8,84,410	...	+ 6.	...	8,65,426	...	- 2.1
62,06,479	...	+ 17.2	...	57,79,439	...	- 6.9
11,34,270	+ 6.8	+ 5.6	9,276	12,24,268	+ 13.6	+ 7.9
6,93,747	...	+ 2.7	...	8,91,980	...	+ 28.6
8,23,728	- 9.4	- 7.7	1,929,579	7,61,674	- 11.3	- 7.5
4,19,481	+ 20.4	+ 17.6	36,634	4,83,478	+ 30.6	+ 15.3
6,99,875	+ 35.1	- 3.4	79,643	8,18,621	+ 21.5	+ 17.
29,13,765	...	+ 3.9	...	31,87,044	...	+ 9.4
9,97,609	...	+ 30.2	...	8,64,077	...	- 13.4
17,61,822	+ 8.6	+ 25.4	98,524	15,83,039	- 3.	- 10.1
36,58,422	...	+ 30.5	...	30,81,193	...	- 15.8
8,37,581	...	+ 14.2	...	7,89,502	...	- 5.7
18,85,083	+ 35.7	+ 37.9	3,214,429	23,79,578	+ 31.7	+ 26.2
22,07,582	+ 447.8	+ 361.7	3,775,674	22,17,110	...	...

2.—Principal

Principal articles.	1879-80.			
	Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON DECREASE ON 1874-79.	
			(+) INCREASE	(-) DECREASE.
			In quantity.	In value.
		Rs.		
Horses No.	3,606	11,67,950	+ 7.6	— 7.1
Ale, beer, and porter gals.	1,065,347	25,42,620	— 2.2	+ 4
Spirits "	814,334	65,91,197	+ 17.6	+ 21.0
Wings and liqueurs "	443,985	39,27,310	— 9	— 5.2
Provisions, fruits and vegetables, dried, salted, &c. cwt.	832,118	48,79,796	+ 27.1	+ 20.8
„ all other kinds value	...	56,08,526	...	— 1.9
Salt tons	352,238	76,25,321	+ 28.5	+ 28.5
Spices lbs.	33,444,205	52,63,283	— 9.2	+ 3.4
Sugar (refined) cwt.	647,630	1,06,59,414	— 29.5	— 27.9
Tea lbs.	2,534,518	21,20,624	+ 39.1	+ 62.5
Coal, coke, and patent fuel tons.	590,923	1,13,82,075	+ 24.2	+ 28
Ivory, unmanufactured lbs.	431,740	17,92,609	+ 6.3	+ 7.1
Silk, raw "	2,005,020	68,32,351	+ 10.5	+ 20.5
„ piece goods yds.	7,467,815	76,55,834	+ 1.6	— 7
Cotton, twist and yarn lbs.	33,212,952	2,74,53,060	+ 0.2	— 1.2
„ piece goods yds.	1,333,571,792	16,57,39,081	+ 18.3	+ 20.1
Woollen piece goods "	7,672,043	74,70,554	+ 0.8	+ 6.2
„ shawls No.	446,582	9,23,554	+ 4.5	— 6.3
Hardware and cutlery value	...	43,19,283	...	+ 1.5
Copper cwt.	386,173	1,62,01,547	+ 33.2	+ 26.2
Iron "	2,111,156	1,22,93,847	— 10.7	— 15
Steel "	95,953	8,45,468	+ 34.2	+ 28.7
Tin "	20,840	9,88,459	— 40.4	— 34.9
Metals-(total) "	2,831,465	3,41,32,648	— 4.7	+ 2.8
Machinery and millwork value	...	61,68,327	...	— 28.6
Railway plant and rolling stock "	...	1,03,30,492	...	— 1.3
Apparel "	...	54,61,930	...	+ 4.7
Leather, and leather goods (including boots and shoes) "	...	10,02,479	...	+ 15.8
Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, &c.... .. "	...	64,19,921	...	+ 11.1
Books cwt.	7,955	11,40,498	— 14.2	— 6.8
Building and engineering materials value	...	6,74,324	...	— 24.4
Candles lbs.	8,156,667	11,54,408	+ 63.6	+ 51.6
Clocks and watches... .. No.	40,751	5,42,083	+ 11.2	+ 12.1
Corals (real) lbs.	71,674	12,38,287	— 10	+ 51.3
Glass and glassware value	...	32,93,209	...	+ 3.3
Matches "	...	9,64,601	...	+ 11.6
Paints and colours cwt.	110,293	16,25,129	+ 11.9	+ 2.7
Paper (excluding pasteboard) value	...	31,60,733	...	+ 2.6
Stationery "	...	9,06,607	...	+ 14.8
Umbrellas No.	2,845,011	20,39,514	— 11.5	— 14.3
Mineral oils gals.	7,898,247	48,19,079	+ 108.9	+ 77.4

imports—(continued).

1880-81.				1881-82.			
Quantity.	Value. Rs.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1879-80. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE		Quantity.	Value. Rs.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1880-81. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE	
		In quantity.	In value.			In quantity.	In value.
3,475	11,18,405	- 3.6	- 4.2	5,219	20,33,870	+ 50.2	+ 82.4
1,152,678	28,49,349	+ 8.2	+ 12.1	1,199,395	28,46,121	+ 4.1	+ 0.1
848,238	66,31,842	+ 4.2	+ 0.6	842,739	61,08,267	- 0.6	- 7.9
481,153	43,53,157	+ 8.4	+ 10.8	430,200	41,01,120	- 10.4	- 5.8
601,297	34,09,179	- 16.9	- 28.9	712,689	39,06,886	+ 3.1	+ 12.6
...	57,32,636	...	+ 2.2	...	66,23,945	...	+ 15.5
373,376	66,55,174	+ 6.	- 12.7	357,224	56,90,671	- 4.3	- 14.5
37,906,768	54,28,610	+ 13.3	+ 3.1	34,734,058	50,71,379	- 8.4	- 6.6
982,262	1,60,96,243	+ 51.7	+ 51.	772,519	1,24,21,892	- 21.4	- 22.8
3,322,407	27,13,094	+ 31.1	+ 27.9	2,845,212	19,96,906	- 14.4	- 26.4
683,768	1,23,98,552	+ 16.7	+ 8.9	637,124	1,02,00,436	- 6.8	- 17.7
471,689	20,54,332	+ 9.3	+ 14.6	505,724	21,89,672	+ 7.2	+ 6.6
2,511,802	1,06,70,183	+ 25.3	+ 56.2	1,760,595	74,92,107	- 29.9	- 29.8
11,628,163	1,17,51,443	+ 55.7	+ 53.5	10,737,731	1,10,60,480	- 7.7	- 5.9
45,876,575	3,69,91,708	+ 88.1	+ 34.7	40,761,751	3,22,20,648	- 11.1	- 12.9
1,773,964,274	22,38,43,707	+ 33.	+ 35.1	1,623,115,608	20,42,22,603	- 8.5	- 8.8
11,254,429	1,10,94,611	+ 46.7	+ 48.5	8,850,816	92,22,304	- 21.4	- 16.9
499,896	9,62,998	+ 11.9	+ 4.3	395,622	7,65,278	- 20.9	- 20.5
...	55,25,561	...	+ 27.9	...	62,66,132	...	+ 13.4
381,683	1,62,00,173	- 1.2	- 0.01	338,108	1,46,74,619	- 11.4	- 9.4
2,665,604	1,54,75,409	+ 26.3	+ 25.9	2,452,507	1,41,43,838	- 8.	- 8.6
83,047	7,44,091	- 13.5	- 12.	174,789	13,20,968	+ 110.5	+ 77.5
30,957	17,73,831	+ 48.5	+ 79.5	26,977	16,97,151	- 12.9	- 4.3
3,384,493	3,77,96,775	+ 19.5	+ 10.7	3,210,545	3,51,68,734	- 5.1	- 7.
...	76,98,437	...	+ 24.8	...	1,22,10,454	...	+ 58.6
...	1,11,77,649	...	+ 8.2	...	1,07,95,093	...	- 3.4
...	67,34,361	...	+ 23.3	...	65,55,036	...	- 2.7
...	13,75,829	...	+ 37.2	...	16,95,900	...	+ 23.3
...	78,34,076	...	+ 22.	...	77,31,421	...	- 1.3
9,028	12,56,161	+ 13.5	+ 10.1	12,082	13,36,745	+ 33.8	+ 6.4
...	7,44,276	...	+ 10.4	...	10,98,465	...	+ 47.6
2,428,027	8,29,228	- 23.1	- 28.2	2,281,983	7,58,300	- 6.	- 8.6
69,271	8,20,441	+ 70.	+ 51.3	73,989	8,31,905	+ 6.8	+ 1.4
107,373	13,76,330	+ 49.8	+ 11.1	155,396	18,53,544	+ 44.7	+ 34.7
...	38,02,409	...	+ 15.5	...	45,48,024	...	+ 19.6
...	10,14,528	...	+ 5.2	...	14,43,863	...	+ 42.3
95,765	15,64,199	- 13.2	- 3.7	112,639	16,69,402	+ 17.6	+ 6.7
...	47,65,976	...	+ 50.8	...	46,86,901	...	- 1.7
...	11,42,359	...	+ 26.	...	13,31,267	...	+ 16.5
3,675,998	27,29,339	+ 29.2	+ 33.8	2,941,124	29,95,718	- 20.	- 23.2
10,060,026	48,70,580	+ 27.5	+ 1.1	9,883,049	50,40,326	- 1.7	+ 3.5

2.—Principal

Principal articles.	1882-83.			
	Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1881-82.	
			In quantity.	In value.
		Rs.		
Horses No.	5,473	18,68,150	+ 4.9	— 8.4
Ale, beer, and porter gals.	1,170,554	27,23,226	— 2.4	— 4.3
Spirits "	949,169	67,49,693	+12.6	+10.5
Wines and liqueurs "	418,169	38,45,705	— 3.	— 6.2
Provisions, fruits and vegetables, dried, salted, &c. cwt.	771,964	38,37,664	+ 8.3	— 1.8
„ all other kinds value	...	70,34,198	...	+ 6.2
Salt tons	338,065	51,51,838	— 5.4	— 9.5
Spices lbs.	33,463,969	51,08,537	— 3.7	+ 0.7
Sugar (refined) cwt.	669,348	1,08,56,003	— 13.4	— 12.6
Tea lbs.	2,751,085	19,30,515	— 3.3	— 3.3
Coal, coke, and patent fuel tons	638,824	1,01,98,835	+ 0.3	— .02
Ivory, unmanufactured lbs.	448,397	20,59,477	— 11.3	— 5.8
Silk, raw "	2,386,150	1,07,41,556	+ 35.5	+43.4
„ piece goods yds.	8,518,119	89,02,240	— 20.7	— 19.5
Cotton, twist and yarn lbs.	44,859,175	3,37,81,904	+ 10.1	+ 4.8
„ piece goods yds.	1,640,595,021	20,95,68,396	+ 1.1	+ 2.6
Woollen piece goods "	6,932,779	77,52,049	— 21.7	— 15.9
„ shawls No.	349,764	8,09,545	— 11.6	+ 5.8
Hardware and cutlery value	...	79,17,912	...	+ 26.4
Copper cwt.	450,098	1,93,83,758	+ 33.1	+ 32.1
Iron "	3,151,935	1,87,04,937	+ 28.5	+ 32.2
Steel "	212,900	16,34,147	+ 21.8	+ 23.7
Tin "	42,718	27,73,062	+ 58.3	+ 63.4
Metals (total) "	4,079,085	4,61,59,858	+ 27.1	+ 31.3
Machinery and millwork value	...	1,34,23,985	...	+ 9.9
Railway plant and rolling stock... .. "	...	1,11,61,342	...	+ 3.4
Apparel "	...	78,32,954	...	+ 19.5
Leather, and leather goods (including boots and shoes) "	...	19,58,873	...	+ 15.5
Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, &c. "	...	83,78,253	...	+ 8.4
Books cwt.	11,134	14,35,510	— 7.8	+ 7.4
Building and engineering materials value	...	10,71,658	...	— 2.4
Candles lbs.	2,704,397	8,89,749	+ 18.5	+ 17.3
Clocks and watches No.	76,300	9,23,937	+ 3.1	+ 11.1
Cornls (real) lbs.	152,372	19,59,367	— 2.	+ 5.7
Glass and glassware value	...	48,37,427	...	+ 6.4
Matches "	...	17,44,301	...	+ 20.8
Paints and colours cwt.	113,045	18,15,329	+ 0.4	+ 8.7
Paper (excluding pasteboard) value	...	33,04,784	...	— 29.5
Stationery "	...	14,75,814	...	+ 10.9
Umbrellas No.	3,353,055	23,28,292	+ 14.	+ 11.1
Mineral oils gals.	21,059,668	92,93,123	+ 113.1	+ 84.4

imports—(continued).

1933-34.			
Quantity.	Value. Rs.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1932-33. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.	
		In quantity.	In value.
5,667	20,18,950	+ 3.5	+ 8.1
1,261,444	30,32,236	+ 7.8	+11.3
894,420	68,20,983	- 5.8	+ 1.1
421,925	40,12,778	+ 0.9	+ 4.3
645,178	33,06,856	-16.4	-11.5
...	69,42,468	...	- 1.3
383,090	62,30,110	+13.3	+20.9
37,405,271	55,71,094	+11.8	+ 9.1
729,321	1,14,61,689	+ 9.	+ 5.6
3,065,170	23,76,141	+11.4	+23.1
708,358	1,16,37,904	+10.9	+14.1
463,403	22,37,213	+ 3.3	+ 8.6
2,210,893	96,95,749	- 7.3	- 9.7
9,627,673	1,04,04,154	+13.	+16.9
45,378,956	3,46,59,429	+ 1.2	+ 2.6
1,721,852,195	21,16,54,638	+ 5.	+ 1.
9,316,192	95,70,474	+34.4	+23.5
591,425	13,21,642	+69.1	+63.3
...	81,38,871	...	+ 2.8
530,226	2,20,78,413	+17.8	+13.9
3,543,662	2,14,04,911	+12.4	+14.4
253,426	18,13,790	+19.	+11.
38,988	23,54,167	- 8.7	-15.1
4,608,721	5,17,55,426	+13.	+12.1
...	1,78,90,662	...	+33.3
...	1,63,32,830	..	+46.3
...	87,67,189	...	+11.9
...	22,78,675	...	+16.3
...	87,69,884	...	+ 4.7
14,527	15,68,757	+30.5	+ 9.3
...	13,97,355	...	+30.4
2,639,234	9,92,374	- 2.4	+11.5
80,953	10,34,395	- 6.1	+12.
182,514	23,11,665	+19.8	+18.
...	56,00,615	...	+15.8
...	13,56,960	...	-22.2
144,228	18,94,439	+27.6	+ 4.4
...	36,79,994	...	+11.4
...	16,50,735	...	+11.9
3,862,510	27,59,902	+15.2	+18.5
13,883,838	56,17,163	-34.1	-39.6

Principal articles.	1884-85.			
	Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1883-84.	
			(+) INCREASE In quantity.	(-) DECREASE In value.
		Rs.		
Horses No.	5,401	20,16,894	— 4·7	— 0·1
Ale, beer, and porter gals.	1,066,913	24,99,272	— 15·4	— 17·6
Spirits "	857,970	62,96,323	— 4·1	— 7·7
Wines and liqueurs "	381,341	33,00,698	— 9·6	— 16·2
Provisions, fruits and vegetables, dried, salted, &c. owt.	692,369	36,68,631	+ 7·3	+ 8·
„ all other kinds value	...	73,64,575	...	+ 6·1
Salt tons	412,839	64,92,331	+ 7·8	+ 4·2
Spices lbs.	39,749,713	60,21,649	+ 6·3	+ 8·1
Sugar (refined) owt.	1,613,067	2,13,89,937	+121·2	+ 86·6
Tea lbs.	3,874,412	32,55,477	+ 26·4	+ 37·
Coal, coke, and patent fuel tons	741,129	1,26,72,128	+ 4·6	+ 9·
Ivory, unmanufactured lbs.	386,852	19,01,258	— 16·5	+ 15·
Silk, raw "	1,831,702	74,75,633	— 17·2	— 22·9
„ piece goods yds.	10,221,778	1,12,05,998	+ 6·2	+ 7·7
Cotton, twist and yarn lbs.	45,799,637	3,36,04,196	+ 0·9	— 3·
„ piece goods yds.	1,731,565,005	20,69,51,550	+ 0·6	— 2·2
Woollen piece goods "	10,700,128	1,00,23,119	+ 14·9	+ 4·7
„ shawls No.	481,069	9,56,196	— 22·	— 27·7
Hardware and cutlery value	...	84,45,517	...	+ 3·8
Copper cwt.	552,420	2,07,00,179	+ 4·2	— 6·2
Iron "	3,602,276	2,01,49,086	+ 1·7	— 5·9
Steel "	239,923	18,55,553	+ 14·4	+ 2·3
Tin "	41,177	22,24,538	+ 5·6	— 5·5
Metals (total) "	4,724,020	4,84,37,330	+ 2·5	— 6·4
Machinery and millwork value	...	1,48,41,238	...	— 17·
Railway plant and rolling stock "	...	1,59,26,202	...	— 2·5
Apparel "	...	86,01,352	...	— 3·
Leather, and leather goods (including boots and shoes) "	...	23,41,599	...	+ 2·9
Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, &c. "	...	87,39,470	...	— 0·3
Books cwt.	10,635	14,01,214	— 26·8	— 10·7
Building and engineering materials value	...	17,17,997	...	+ 22·9
Candles lbs.	2,800,705	10,50,227	+ 6·1	+ 5·8
Clocks and watches No.	75,319	9,44,654	— 7·	— 8·7
Corals (real) lbs.	172,504	18,24,900	— 5·5	— 21·1
Glass and glassware value	...	49,97,005	...	— 10·8
Matches "	...	20,42,854	...	+ 50·5
Paints and colours cwt.	118,894	15,77,675	— 17·6	— 16·7
Paper (excluding pasteboard) value	...	34,52,300	...	— 6·2
Stationery "	...	17,11,770	...	+ 3·7
Umbrellas No.	4,512,992	33,52,852	+ 16·8	+ 21·5
Mineral oils gals.	27,306,999	1,15,82,217	+ 90·7	+106·2

imports—(concluded).

Quantity.	Value. Rs.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE OF 1941-53. (+ INCREASE (-) DECREASE.		PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN 1883-90 ON 1876-77.	
		In quantity.	In value.	In quantity.	In value.
6,356	25,20,870	+ 17.7	+ 25.	+ 122.1	+ 198.2
1,297,408	30,06,038	+ 21.8	+ 20.3	+ 10.4	+ 11.
936,994	66,76,933	+ 9.2	+ 6.	+ 43.2	+ 7.3
357,290	32,80,220	- 6.3	- 2.4	- 23.	- 19.4
706,827	39,41,643	+ 2.1	+ 7.4	+ 32.	+ 44.4
...	79,77,172	...	+ 8.3	...	+ 105.6
363,088	59,60,478	- 12.1	- 8.2	+ 21.5	+ 38.3
62,727,670	71,86,785	+ 32.7	+ 19.3	+ 79.5	+ 66.
1,164,056	1,45,58,063	- 27.8	- 31.9	+ 354.2	+ 261.9
4,005,637	30,42,585	+ 3.4	- 6.5	+ 128.2	+ 117.2
790,930	1,30,84,148	+ 6.7	+ 3.3	+ 52.2	+ 40.4
635,390	81,24,861	+ 64.2	+ 64.4	+ 16.2	+ 29.4
1,732,559	72,19,166	- 5.4	- 3.4	+ 18.6	+ 59.8
8,999,359	94,42,414	- 12.	- 15.7	+ 77.3	+ 67.9
45,915,123	3,17,20,832	+ 0.3	- 5.6	+ 38.	+ 16.
1,740,813,831	20,59,66,806	+ 0.5	- 0.5	+ 46.7	+ 31.
11,223,258	1,12,56,264	+ 4.9	+ 12.3	+ 67.7	+ 69.3
616,782	12,18,054	+ 33.8	+ 27.4	+ 141.6	+ 61.2
...	77,65,418	...	- 8.1	...	+ 76.4
652,933	2,09,36,583	+ 18.2	+ 1.1	+ 139.7	+ 49.7
3,493,219	1,93,48,880	- 3.	- 4.	+ 55.2	+ 26.6
278,788	17,45,722	- 3.8	- 5.9	+ 156.6	+ 55.5
36,826	22,18,132	- 10.6	- 0.3	- 1.2	+ 22.7
4,705,006	4,76,70,596	- 0.4	- 1.6	+ 66.9	+ 33.9
...	99,15,532	...	- 33.2	...	+ 12.4
...	2,01,80,654	...	+ 26.7	...	+ 191.7
...	93,17,317	...	+ 9.6	...	+ 73.1
...	23,94,600	...	+ 2.1	...	+ 187.
...	86,16,601	...	- 1.4	...	+ 62.7
11,103	16,59,741	+ 4.4	+ 17.	+ 45.3	+ 52.6
...	14,22,895	...	- 17.2	...	+ 110.7
2,522,597	9,42,717	- 9.9	- 10.2	+ 5.	+ 5.6
99,212	10,98,566	+ 31.7	+ 16.3	+ 325.7	+ 203.1
145,721	13,43,124	- 15.5	- 26.4	+ 200.5	+ 85.4
...	50,53,011	...	+ 1.1	...	+ 80.2
...	19,61,560	...	- 4.	...	+ 155.9
125,133	17,31,323	+ 5.2	+ 9.7	+ 33.7	+ 23.2
...	32,79,733	...	- 5.	...	+ 17.
...	18,77,916	...	+ 9.7	...	+ 155.9
2,499,117	18,43,879	- 44.6	- 45.	+ 39.	+ 34.9
21,311,942	85,18,279	- 22.	- 26.5	+ 4,753.3	+ 1,634.3

3.—Principal

Principal articles.	1876-77.		1877-78.		PERCENTAGE OF IN- CREASE OR DECREASE ON 1876-77. (+) INCREASE (-) DE- CREASE.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	In quantity.	In value.
Coffee owt.	302,489	1,34,58,217	297,327	1,33,84,992	- 1·7	- 0·5
Rice (not in the husk)	19,548,741	5,74,25,397	18,211,358	6,88,93,618	- 6·8	+ 20·
Wheat	5,583,336	1,95,63,325	6,340,150	2,85,69,899	+ 13·6	+ 46·
Sugar, refined and unrefined ..	1,093,625	92,51,961	844,125	74,58,513	- 22·8	- 19·4
Spices lbs.	17,198,466	26,57,800	13,805,035	22,65,150	- 19·7	- 14·8
Tea	27,784,124	2,60,74,251	33,450,075	3,04,45,713	+ 20·4	+ 16·8
Cotton, raw owt.	4,557,914	11,74,61,836	3,459,077	9,38,35,340	- 24·1	- 20·1
" yarn lbs.	7,926,710	36,73,028	15,600,291	68,20,585	+ 96·8	+ 85·7
" piece goods yds.	15,514,168	37,36,565	17,545,464	37,23,044	+ 12·9	- 0·4
Hides and skins (all kinds) owt.	654,115	2,99,86,835	905,835	3,75,68,878	+ 38·5	+ 25·3
Jute	4,533,255	2,63,66,466	5,450,276	3,51,81,137	+ 20·2	+ 33·4
" gunnybags (power-loom and hand-loom) No.	32,859,545	64,64,808	26,406,539	72,96,686	- 19·6	+ 12·9
Saltpetre owt.	466,218	38,17,080	389,002	37,90,017	- 16·6	- 0·7
Seeds—Linseed	5,614,617	3,01,54,374	7,198,918	4,22,44,293	+ 28·2	+ 40·1
" Rapeseed	2,088,760	1,14,29,244	3,193,488	1,91,84,378	+ 52·2	+ 67·9
" Til seed	1,307,815	86,82,937	1,168,802	84,82,262	- 11·4	- 2·3
Silk (including chasam and cocoon) lbs.	1,417,893	77,69,036	1,512,819	70,35,493	+ 6·7	- 9·4
Silk piece goods yds.	2,376,126	22,26,985	1,481,256	14,71,697	- 37·7	- 33·9
Teak wood cub. ton	45,108	33,27,644	56,939	40,66,524	+ 26·2	+ 22·2
Wool lbs.	24,056,767	1,07,73,720	23,075,323	94,36,448	- 4·8	- 12·
Woollen goods (shawls) No.	28,385	16,69,132	32,970	15,08,535	+ 16·2	- 9·6
Opium chests	96,870	12,40,47,483	92,820	12,37,43,554	- 4·2	- 0·2
Tobacco, unmanufactured lbs.	10,508,720	7,51,375	10,594,604	7,47,675	+ 0·8	- 0·5
Cutch and gambier owt.	264,933	25,07,515	195,320	18,27,563	- 26·3	- 27·1
Indigo	100,384	2,96,27,855	120,605	3,49,43,340	+ 20·1	+ 17·9
Myrobolam	361,217	13,58,225	537,055	23,05,265	+ 48·7	+ 69·7
Coir, manufactured (exclud- ing cordage)	150,350	16,67,511	114,212	12,37,880	- 24·	- 25·8
Lac, shell and button	109,206	49,78,410	87,982	31,28,923	- 19·4	- 37·2
Oils, vegetable	194,518	6,70,935	181,950	8,27,026	- 6·5	+ 23·3
" } gals.	2,590,756	28,54,997	2,029,580	26,90,153	- 21·7	- 5·8

exports.

1878-79.				1879-80.			
Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON DECREASE ON 1877-78. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.		Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON DECREASE ON 1878-79. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.	
		In quantity.	In value.			In quantity.	In value.
	Rs.				Rs.		
341,186	1,51,36,427	+ 14·8	+ 15·3	359,313	1,62,67,465	+ 5·3	+ 5·4
20,621,712	8,81,01,214	+ 13·2	+ 27·9	21,908,045	8,34,16,852	+ 6·2	- 5·3
1,044,709	51,37,785	- 83·5	- 82·	2,195,550	1,12,10,148	+ 110·2	+ 118·2
279,756	20,43,600	- 66·9	- 72·6	321,579	20,58,713	+ 16·	+ 0·7
22,247,517	85,28,337	+ 61·2	+ 55·8	17,971,063	29,55,317	- 19·2	- 16·2
34,432,573	3,13,84,235	+ 2·9	+ 3·1	38,173,521	3,05,10,200	+ 10·9	- 2·8
2,966,060	7,91,30,458	- 14·3	- 15·7	3,948,476	11,14,54,528	+ 33·1	+ 40·8
21,332,508	88,64,812	+ 36·7	+ 30·	25,862,474	1,10,92,336	+ 21·2	+ 25·1
22,517,799	41,77,465	+ 28·3	+ 12·2	25,800,501	44,43,094	+ 14·6	+ 6·4
809,233	3,09,68,471	- 10·7	- 17·6	958,679	3,73,60,052	+ 18·5	+ 20·7
6,021,382	3,80,04,263	+ 10·5	+ 8·	6,680,670	4,37,00,325	+ 10·9	+ 15·
45,351,044	1,01,26,891	+ 71·8	+ 42·9	55,908,731	1,13,21,779	+ 23·3	+ 8·6
382,405	36,17,660	- 1·7	- 4·5	509,372	46,97,968	+ 33·2	+ 30·
3,503,795	2,18,92,113	- 51·3	- 48·2	3,105,058	2,03,06,023	- 11·4	- 7·2
2,165,475	1,36,67,869	- 32·2	- 28·8	1,380,572	85,37,717	- 36·2	- 37·5
1,039,687	79,96,210	- 10·3	- 5·7	1,670,185	1,19,79,042	+ 60·6	+ 49·8
1,329,599	57,02,291	- 12·1	- 18·9	1,401,506	51,61,570	+ 5·4	- 9·5
1,740,003	16,90,098	+ 17·5	+ 14·8	2,203,971	21,78,937	+ 26·7	+ 28·9
37,413	26,89,566	- 34·3	- 33·9	38,620	28,19,590	+ 3·2	+ 4·8
26,568,518	1,05,81,574	+ 15·1	+ 12·2	26,368,794	1,09,59,723	- 0·8	+ 3·5
26,113	12,40,116	- 20·8	- 17·8	21,378	8,88,382	- 18·1	- 28·4
91,200	12,99,39,787	- 1·7	+ 5·	105,507	14,32,33,143	+ 15·7	+ 10·2
13,279,158	11,11,260	+ 25·3	+ 48·6	10,874,623	11,67,025	- 18·1	+ 5·
217,194	18,79,265	+ 11·2	+ 2·8	222,123	28,13,994	+ 2·3	+ 49·7
105,051	2,96,04,625	- 12·9	- 15·3	100,923	2,94,72,265	- 3·9	- 0·4
541,346	23,45,740	+ 0·8	+ 1·8	354,977	15,80,818	- 34·4	- 32·6
175,755	17,76,571	+ 53·9	+ 43·5	122,328	10,86,738	- 30·4	- 38·8
81,612	27,70,904	- 7·2	- 11·4	56,009	34,67,641	- 31·4	+ 25·1
62,685	2,69,678	- 65·5	- 67·4	85,526	2,97,175	+ 36·4	+ 10·2
3,291,028	49,72,501	+ 62·2	+ 84·8	4,173,052	51,52,549	+ 26·8	+ 3·6

Principal articles.	1880-81.				1881-82.	
	Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1879-80. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.		Quantity.	Value.
			In quantity.	In value.		
		Rs.				Rs.
Coffee cwt.	369,357	1,59,96,688	+ 2·8	- 1·7	346,364	1,44,74,650
Rice (not in the husk)	26,769,344	8,97,16,609	+ 22·2	+ 7·6	28,519,422	8,24,95,769
Wheat	7,444,375	3,27,79,416	+239·1	+192·4	19,863,520	8,60,40,815
Sugar, refined and unrefined ;;	534,174	31,17,508	+ 64·6	+ 51·4	917,493	59,82,317
Spices lbs.	16,444,766	30,38,813	- 8·5	+ 2·8	14,167,472	24,58,900
Tea	46,413,510	3,05,42,400	+ 21·6	+ 0·1	48,691,725	3,60,91,363
Cotton, raw cwt.	4,541,539	13,24,17,341	+ 15·	+ 18·8	5,627,453	14,93,59,595
" yarn lbs.	26,901,346	1,28,25,764	+ 4·	+ 15·6	30,786,304	1,36,88,362
" piece goods yds.	30,424,032	54,07,111	+ 17·9	+ 21·7	29,911,016	55,63,949
Hides and skins (all kinds)... cwt.	811,989	3,73,35,653	- 15·3	- 0·1	815,210	3,94,87,924
Jute	5,809,815	3,93,40,296	- 13·	- 10·	7,510,314	5,03,03,023
" gunnybags (power-loom and hand-loom) ... No.	52,386,227	1,07,66,189	- 6·3	- 4·9	42,072,819	1,08,40,812
Saltpetre cwt.	352,995	35,17,283	- 30·7	- 25·1	354,860	35,94,367
Seeds—Linseed	5,997,172	3,69,81,265	+ 93·1	+ 82·1	5,146,110	3,00,91,066
" Rapeseed	1,255,580	67,10,338	- 9·1	- 21·4	1,935,621	1,03,19,272
" Til seed	1,907,008	1,31,26,933	+ 14·2	+ 9·6	1,917,854	1,21,77,307
Silk (including chasam and cocoons) lbs.	1,302,576	54,82,018	- 7·1	+ 6·2	1,117,026	38,82,631
" piece goods yds.	21,27,576	20,04,065	- 3·5	- 8·	2,126,635	20,57,722
Teak wood cub. ton	65,626	50,00,466	+ 69·9	+ 77·3	56,377	50,67,917
Wool lbs.	22,602,690	1,01,41,371	- 14·3	- 7·5	21,580,618	81,45,513
Woollen goods (shawls) ... No.	26,601	15,01,786	+ 24·4	+ 69·	16,652	12,41,640
Opium chests	92,190	13,60,01,477	- 12·6	- 5·	89,338	12,43,21,418
Tobacco, unmanufactured ... lbs.	13,267,325	12,21,853	+ 22·	+ 4·7	9,791,392	9,55,659
Cutch and gambier cwt.	320,756	42,66,415	+ 44·4	+ 51·6	198,897	25,30,840
Indigo	116,870	3,57,15,814	+ 15·8	+ 21·2	150,363	4,50,90,802
Myrobolam	315,628	12,37,087	- 11·1	- 21·7	391,566	14,44,925
Coir, manufactured (excluding cordage)	119,586	9,82,644	- 2·2	- 9·6	214,660	18,21,136
Lac, shell and button	80,602	56,24,839	+ 43·9	+ 62·2	111,827	70,84,358
Oils, vegetable	51,612	1,19,883	- 39·7	- 59·7	49,380	1,07,298
	gals.	4,967,475	+ 19·	+ 5·4	4,269,279	42,86,969

exports—(continued).

PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE OF 1932-33. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.		1932-33.				1933-34.			
		Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.		Value.	
		In quantity.	In value.	In quantity.	In value.	In quantity.	In value.	In quantity.	In value.
			Rs.				Rs.		
- 6.2	- 9.6	3,53,324	1,39,22,040	+ 2.0	- 3.8	340,025	1,43,88,634	- 3.8	+ 3.4
+ 6.5	- 8.0	31,029,721	8,44,00,909	+ 8.8	+ 2.3	26,831,715	8,32,88,786	- 13.5	- 1.3
+166.8	+162.5	14,144,407	6,06,89,341	- 23.8	- 29.5	20,956,495	8,97,75,610	+ 48.2	+ 46.3
+ 71.8	+ 91.9	1,318,698	80,87,759	+ 43.7	+ 35.2	1,630,520	94,32,185	+ 23.6	+ 16.6
- 13.8	- 19.1	19,615,627	37,69,109	+ 39.5	+ 53.3	17,227,202	36,54,367	- 12.2	- 3.0
+ 4.9	+ 18.2	57,766,225	3,69,94,965	+ 18.6	+ 2.5	59,911,703	4,08,38,805	+ 3.7	+ 10.4
+ 23.9	+ 12.8	6,168,278	16,04,90,174	+ 9.6	+ 7.5	5,979,494	14,38,37,278	- 3.1	- 10.4
+ 14.4	+ 6.7	45,378,040	1,81,68,185	+ 47.4	+ 32.7	49,876,606	1,92,61,625	+ 9.9	+ 6.0
- 1.7	+ 2.9	41,583,408	68,63,190	+ 39.0	+ 23.4	55,613,763	86,19,352	+ 33.7	+ 25.6
+ 0.4	+ 5.8	886,164	4,44,37,703	+ 6.3	+ 12.5	915,450	4,66,37,363	+ 5.7	+ 4.9
+ 29.3	+ 27.9	10,348,909	5,84,69,259	+ 37.8	+ 16.2	7,017,985	4,59,26,353	- 32.2	- 21.5
- 19.7	+ 0.7	60,737,651	1,43,15,841	+ 44.4	+ 32.1	63,645,984	1,25,62,589	+ 4.8	- 12.2
+ 0.5	+ 2.2	399,565	38,87,662	+ 12.6	+ 8.2	491,668	46,44,099	+ 23.1	+ 19.5
-14.2	- 18.6	6,737,114	3,52,84,813	+ 30.9	+ 17.3	8,543,766	4,58,40,234	+ 82.6	+ 29.9
+ 54.2	+ 53.8	2,821,420	1,57,05,233	+ 45.7	+ 52.2	3,945,727	2,44,14,331	+ 39.8	+ 55.5
+ 0.6	- 7.2	2,305,414	1,46,23,753	+ 20.2	+ 20.1	2,853,382	1,97,97,536	+ 23.8	+ 35.4
- 14.2	- 29.2	1,359,433	54,41,432	+ 21.7	+ 40.1	1,602,814	62,76,117	+ 17.9	+ 15.3
- 0.04	+ 2.7	2,589,217	25,19,997	+ 21.7	+ 22.5	2,781,182	26,46,187	+ 7.4	+ 5.0
- 14.1	+ 1.3	59,187	61,12,597	+ 5.0	+ 20.6	46,471	52,54,475	- 21.5	- 14.0
- 4.5	- 19.7	21,561,303	79,04,058	- 0.1	- 3.0	20,036,196	75,58,409	- 7.1	- 4.4
- 37.4	- 17.3	12,090	7,71,718	- 27.4	- 37.8	12,754	5,42,675	+ 5.5	- 29.7
- 3.1	- 8.6	91,798	11,48,13,764	+ 2.8	- 7.6	91,963	11,29,44,601	+ 0.2	- 1.6
- 26.2	- 21.8	10,653,549	9,89,358	+ 8.8	+ 3.5	18,577,276	14,88,773	+ 74.4	+ 50.5
- 38.0	- 40.7	246,506	30,52,434	+ 23.9	+ 20.6	302,302	35,32,000	+ 22.6	+ 15.7
+ 28.7	+ 26.2	141,041	3,91,29,970	- 6.2	- 13.2	168,590	4,64,09,906	+ 19.5	+ 18.6
+ 24.1	+ 16.8	471,167	18,46,976	+ 20.3	+ 27.8	447,719	18,41,059	- 5.0	- 0.3
+ 79.5	+ 85.3	161,030	14,26,779	- 25.0	- 21.7	153,978	13,71,970	- 4.4	- 3.8
+ 38.7	+ 25.9	133,620	69,17,354	+ 19.5	- 2.4	110,816	55,33,318	- 17.1	- 20.0
- 4.3	- 10.5	47,270	98,729	- 4.3	- 8.0	70,115	1,38,375	+ 48.3	+ 40.2
- 14.1	- 21.0	3,609,075	37,11,154	- 15.5	- 13.4	4,291,629	45,57,536	+ 18.9	+ 22.8

Principal articles.	1881-85.				
	Quantity.	Value.	PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE OF 1883-84. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.		
			In quantity.	In value.	
		Rs.			
Coffee cwt.	328,317	1,24,55,061	— 3·4	— 13·4	
Rice (not in the husk)	21,702,136	7,12,27,870	— 19·1	— 14·5	
Wheat	15,830,754	6,30,91,402	— 24·5	— 28·9	
Sugar, refined and unrefined	1,070,919	54,60,695	— 34·3	— 42·1	
Spices lbs.	20,980,220	47,37,176	+ 21·8	+ 29·6	
Tea	64,162,055	4,04,47,592	+ 7·1	— 1·	
Cotton, raw cwt.	5,066,057	13,28,63,673	— 15·3	— 7·6	
„ yarn lbs.	65,897,183	2,44,11,008	+ 32·1	+ 26·7	
„ piece goods yds.	47,968,017	81,86,671	— 13·7	— 5·	
Hides and skins (all kinds)	1,010,578	4,93,43,401	+ 10·4	+ 5·8	
Jute	8,368,686	4,66,13,684	+ 19·2	+ 1·5	
„ gunnybags (power-loom and hand-loom) No.	82,779,207	1,41,03,226	+ 30·1	+ 12·3	
Saltpetre cwt.	451,917	42,50,004	— 8·1	— 8·5	
Seeds—Linseed	8,746,596	4,91,29,344	+ 2·4	+ 7·2	
„ Rapeseed	4,521,933	2,68,35,906	+ 14·6	+ 9·9	
„ Tilseed	2,646,484	1,92,30,128	— 7·3	— 2·9	
Silk (including chasam and coccons) lbs.	1,567,101	46,37,913	— 2·2	— 26·1	
Silk piece goods yds.	3,467,308	31,05,116	+ 24·7	+ 17·3	
Teak wood cub. ton	47,556	53,21,295	+ 2·3	+ 1·3	
Wool lbs.	18,928,173	71,35,760	— 5·5	— 5·6	
Woollen goods (shawls) No.	19,759	6,63,057	+ 54·9	+ 22·2	
Opium chests	86,578	10,88,26,060	— 5·9	— 3·7	
Tobacco, unmanufactured lbs.	15,620,864	13,09,789	— 15·9	— 12·	
Cutch and gambier cwt.	246,159	28,21,085	— 18·6	— 20·1	
Indigo	154,629	4,06,88,906	— 8·3	— 12·3	
Myrobolam	553,730	23,90,133	+ 23·7	+ 29·8	
Coir, manufactured (exclud- ing cordage)	221,554	20,22,480	+ 43·9	+ 47·	
Lac, shell and button	141,847	59,74,619	+ 28·	+ 8·	
Oils, vegetable	52,813	1,20,876	— 24·7	— 12·6	
	gals.	4,962,774	49,44,839	+ 15·6	+ 8·5

exports—(concluded).

1885-86.		PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OR DECREASE ON 1884-85. (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE.		PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN 1885-86 OR 1870-77.	
Quantity.	Value.	In quantity.	In value.	In quantity.	In value.
	Rs.				
371,027	1,34,83,954	+ 13·1	+ 8·3	+ 22·66	+ 0·19
27,813,844	9,16,71,897	+ 28·2	+28·7	+ 42·28	+ 59·64
21,060,519	8,00,23,504	+ 33·	+26·8	+ 277·2	+309·05
1,167,540	52,54,124	+ 9·	- 3·8	+ 6·76	- 43·21
23,831,355	48,62,744	+ 13·6	+ 2·7	+ 38·57	+ 82·96
68,781,249	4,30,61,335	+ 7·2	+ 6·5	+147·56	+ 65·15
4,189,718	10,77,72,041	- 17·3	-18·9	- 8·08	- 8·25
78,241,771	2,75,52,522	+ 18·7	+12·9	+887·06	+650·13
51,577,727	81,34,883	+ 7·5	- 0·6	+231·81	+117·71
1,106,585	5,33,46,025	+ 9·5	+ 8·1	+ 69·17	+ 77·9
7,782,435	4,35,53,625	- 7·	- 6·6	+ 71·67	+ 65·18
63,760,548	98,46,947	- 23·	-30·2	+ 94·04	+ 52·32
402,174	37,02,004	- 11·	-12·9	- 13·74	- 3·01
9,510,139	5,53,26,079	+ 8·7	+12·6	+ 69·38	+ 83·48
3,721,840	2,04,74,476	- 17·7	-23·7	+ 78·2	+ 79·14
1,759,343	1,19,41,829	- 33·5	-37·9	+ 34·53	+ 37·53
1,438,767	33,22,512	- 8·2	-28·4	+ 1·47	- 57·23
3,728,213	31,12,554	+ 7·5	+ 0·2	+ 56·9	+ 39·77
50,076	55,05,155	+ 5·3	+ 3·5	+ 11·02	+ 65·44
23,148,763	87,23,211	+ 22·3	+22·2	- 3·77	- 19·03
8,885	3,08,731	- 55·	-53·4	- 68·7	- 81·5
87,956	10,73,55,180	+ 1·6	- 1·4	- 9·2	- 13·46
10,752,397	10,65,835	- 31·2	-18·6	+ 2·32	+ 41·85
205,355	25,28,394	- 16·6	-10·4	- 22·49	+ 0·83
132,495	3,78,31,601	- 14·3	- 7·	+ 31·99	+ 27·69
705,931	29,93,647	+ 27·5	+25·3	+ 95·43	+120·41
198,229	17,81,460	- 10·5	-11·9	+ 31·85	+ 6·83
150,746	68,29,651	+ 6·3	- 2·4	+ 38·04	+ 17·1
51,289	1,00,966	- 2·9	-16·5	- 73·63	- 84·95
3,566,687	36,51,156	- 28·1	-26·2	+ 37·67	+ 27·89

4.—Variations in prices of staple imports and exports

	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.
	March.	March.	March.	March.	January 4th.
IMPORTS.					
Grey Shirtings (8½ lbs.)	100	93	86	86	78
Mule Twist, white, good, No. 40	100	95	92	90	90
„ Turkey red, No. 40-12 lbs.	100	112	102	92	85
„ Orange, Nos. 40-60	100	102	93	87	90
Copper, Sheathing	100	100	103	99	92
„ Braziers	100	98	103	99	92
„ Australian	100	115	108	107	100
Iron, flat, bolt, bar and square	100	122	93	79	67
Spelter, hard	100	100	148	151	143
EXPORTS.					
Hides, buffalo, slaughtered, Patna	100	96	83	71	94
Indigo, good	100	Nom	...	Nom	110
Jute, ordinary	100	123	119	119	142
Gunny bags (a)	100	89	111	84	95
Shell lac, fine orange	100	149	183	102	68
Linseed, fine, bold, clean	100	123	96	88	102
Rapeseed (yellow, mixed, 2 ^o / _o)	100	89	83	...	104
Rice, moonghy	100	153	Nil.	114	150
Saltpetre, 2-4 per cent refraction	100	81	75	70	80
Silk, raw, Surdahs	100	87	60	54	100
Tea, Fine Pekoe	100	119	126	142	148
Wheat, Doodiah	100	107	87	74	87

(a) The figures against this line are for
(b) 25th January 1886.
(c) 28th December 1885.

at Calcutta ; taking the prices of March 1873 as = 100.

1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.
January 10th.	January 9th.	January 13th.	January 6th.	January 7th.	January 15th.	January 14th.	January 5th.	January 11th.
73	76	81	82	77	82	75	76	84
78	75	84	82	81	74	...	72	67
87	78	75	69	...	54	62	58	57
83	73	87	88	85	80	83	76	73
86	80	83	81	90	80	77	64	57
86	80	83	81	90	80	77	64	57
94	90	89	...	91	83	80	70	60
60	56	73	56	71	60	62	54	50
134	105	114	97	...	79	81	84	97
75	69	96	93	83	87	71	...	87
88	114	112	105	117	107	117	103	107
149	142	163	144	130	87	155	101	118 (b)
101	99	89	111	118	98	106	94	85 (c)
49	63	157	124	93	80	98	56	59
106	Nom	...	...	91	85	96	98	101
110	108	104	Nom	...	93	107	87	79 (e)
155	189	136	89	83	101	142	...	130 (d)
89	84	88	95	90	82	78	66	79 (e)
77	62	85	74	82	79	62	56	79
135	129	126	135	126	110	116	90	...
106	109	...	91	96	84	75	72	74

January, not March, of each year.

(d) 22nd March 1886.

(e) 22nd February 1886.

5.—Prices in Bombay.

	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1886 on 1873.
	February (24th).	January (19th).	January (21th).	January (10th).	January (8th).	January (14th).	January (13th).	January (17th).	January (8th).	January (12th).	January (19th).	January (18th).	January (9th).	January (1st).	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Cotton, Broach, per candy ...	255 0 0	225 0 0	204 0 0	216 0 0	222 0 0	214 0 0	200 0 0	251 0 0	243 0 0	229 0 0	200 0 0	216 0 0	229 0 0	207 0 0	- 18.8
„ Yarns 20s, per lb. (a) ...	...	...	...	...	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	- 20.2*
„ T. Cloth 44 inch 24 yards, 8 lbs. per lb. (a) ...	...	...	...	...	8.5	7.8	7.25	7.67	8.35	8.	7.42	7.125	6.85	7.1	-16.47*
Wheat, Khundwa, Seoni, per candy ...	34 0 0	26 4 0	25 4 0	25 12 0	30 10 0	35 14 0	44 6 0	46 8 0	28 0 0	27 8 0	30 0 0	22 8 0	22 8 0	27 8 0	- 19.6
Wheat No. 1 soft, white, per candy ...	...	...	...	29 0 0	32 0 0	41 0 0	40 0 0	39 12 0	33 0 0	33 8 0	30 0 0	29 8 0	25 8 0	27 9 0	- 4.7†
Linseed (ungorbled) per cwt. ...	6 2 0	6 0 0	5 13 0	5 9 6	6 3 0	6 8 0	6 2 0	7 2 0	6 8 0	6 4 0	5 3 0	5 11 0	5 15 0	5 15 0	- 3.1

* On 1877. | † On 1876.

(a) I am indebted for these prices to the courtesy of Mr. J. Marshall, Secretary to the Bombay Millowners' Association.

G.—Prices in London during the last week of the month in each year.

		1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1886 on 1873.
		April.	April.	April.	February.	February.	February.	February.	February.	February.	February.	February.	February.	February.	February.	
Copper, Chili, bars	... Per ton ... £	90-5	74-6	81-6	78	71	65-10	55	71	61-5	6-315	65-5	55-5	47-2-6	39-17-6	-55-8
Strait tin	... " ... £	138	98	85-10	76	72	63-15	60-10	93-10	86-17-6	111-5	93-10	82-2-6	78-18-9	92	-33-3
Wheat (British)	... Per quarter s.	40	60	42-6	43-3	51-1	51-3	37-7	43	40-9	45-7	41-9	36-11	32	32-6	-33-7
Cotton (No. 40 mule)	... " lb. ... d.	14½	13	12½	11½	10½	9½	8½	12½	10½	10½	9½	9½	9½	8½	-35-6
Wool (S. D. Hogs)	... " " ... d.	22½	16½	16½	16½	17	15½	12½	15½	14½	13½	12	12	10½	10½	-53-3
Sugar (Manilla)	... " cwt. ... s.	23-3	20-3	19-3	13-6	20	15-3	14-3	16-9	14-6	13-9	12	12	8-9	11-3	-51-6
Coffee (Ceylon)	... " " ... s.	97-9	99	106-0	89	85-3	80	64	68-6	59	64	74	69	51-6	56-6	-42-3
Saltpetre (British)	... " " ... s.	23-3	27-6	23-6	22-9	24-6	27	23-9	29	28	29	24-9	23-9	22-6	21-6	-7-5
Tea, Congou	... " lb. ... d.	...	12½	11½	10	10½	10½	10½	12½	6½	8	6½	8	7½	8½	-34
Indigo (Bengal)	... " " ... s.	5-3	6-3	5-7½	4-10½	6-1½	6-4	6-3	8-1	7-1½	7-2½	6-8½	7-3	6-5½	6-7½	+26-2
Jute	... " ton ... £	17-5	17-5	17-5	17-5	17-5	16-15	13-15	18-10	16-15	16-15	15-15	18-15	14-5	14-5	-17-4
Linseed (Bombay)	... " qr. ... s.	62-3	61-0	58-6	60	51-7½	60	49	60	50	48-3	45	44-9	46	44	-29-3
Rapeseed (Calcutta)	... " " ... s.	59	48-6	49-9	53-3	56-9	52-9	43-6	44-9	43	48-4½	56-6	51-9	37-9	33-6	-43-2
Rice (Bengal)	... " cwt. ... s.	12-3	15	11-6	12	12-3	12-6	14-3	12	10-6	9	9-10½	10-3	10-4½	10	-18-4
Silk (Surdah)	... " lb. ... s.	24	20	14	12-6	25-9	18-9	14-6	18-3	16-9	17-4½	16-6½	15-6	13	14-3	-40-6
Shell lac, orange (good to fine).	... " cwt. ... s.	190	196-9	150	110	95	79	84-3	155	158-9	132-6	117-6	116-6	75	71	-62-6

7.—Comparison of average prices in Calcutta and London of certain staple articles.

	WHEAT.		COTTON.		LINSEED.		SILK.		TEA.		SILVER.
	Calcutta Club, No. 2 (average of maximum prices).	British (Gazette average prices).	Dhollera Fair (average prices)	Upland Middling (average prices).	Calcutta (Fine, Bold clean) (average of maximum prices).	Black Sea, Russian, Azov (average prices).	Surdahs (average of maximum prices).	Italian Trams (average prices).	Indian Pekoe (average of maximum prices).	China Souchong (average prices).	Bar (in London).
	Per B. maund. Rs. A. P.	Per quarter. s. d.	Per candy. Rs. A. P.	Per lb. d.	Per B. maund. Rs. A. P.	Per quarter. s. d.	Per Factory sgr. Rs. A. P.	Per lb. s. d.	Per lb. Rs. A. P.	Per lb. s. d.	Per oz., standard. s. d. d.
Average of 1870	3 4 6	46 10	284 14 0	9½	4 9 10	58 11½	21 9 3	41 9	(Not available).	1 9	60½ = 60.56
" 1871	2 5 9	56 8	210 15 0	8½	4 7 4	61 9½	22 8 0	35 0	1 1 3	1 8½	60½ = 60.5
" 1872	2 13 1	57 0	207 1 0	10½	4 11 11	61 6½	22 8 8	39 8	1 1 11	1 9	60½ = 60.31
" 1873	3 8 3	58 8	199 10 0	9	4 11 3	60 6½	21 7 8	36 4	1 2 0	1 10½	59½ = 59.25
" 1874	3 8 0	55 8	171 14 0	8	4 14 10	55 1½	17 4 4	31 11	1 2 10	2 1	58½ = 58.31
" 1875	2 11 9	45 2	174 3 0	7½	4 1 7	53 9½	13 2 2	28 0	1 4 0	2 0½	56½ = 56.87
" 1876	2 9 9	46 2	174 10 8	6½	4 8 1	51 8½	22 0 10	30 0	1 6 7	1 9½	52½ = 52.75
" 1877	3 5 3	56 9	193 2 6	6½	4 9 3	54 11½	22 7 5	30 5	1 4 4	1 7½	54½ = 54.81
" 1878	3 11 5	46 5	193 5 1	6½	4 12 4	49 1	17 11 5	26 5	1 5 1	1 4½	52½ = 52.56
" 1879	3 12 3	43 10	212 2 6	6½	4 15 11	49 10	17 7 6	24 9	1 4 4	1 3½	51½ = 51.25
" 1880	3 3 1	44 4	203 0 1	6½	4 10 3	53 0	17 7 11	26 0	1 3 5	1 3½	52½ = 52.25
" 1881	3 0 3	45 4	189 7 0	6½	4 4 7	48 7	18 0 10	23 3	1 4 8	1 6	51½ = 51.69
" 1882	2 15 8	45 1	192 10 8	6½	3 13 2	42 11	18 12 5	24 0	1 0 11	1 4½	51½ = 51.62
" 1883	2 12 6	41 7	171 7 3	5½	3 14 6	41 6	16 4 11	22 9	1 1 8	1 4½	50½ = 50.56
" 1884	2 7 2	35 8	185 8 9	6	4 4 5	43 1	14 11 9	22 6	0 15 3	1 5	50½ = 50.62
" 1885	2 6 10	32 0½	194 14 5	5½	4 4 6	43 10	13 6 9	22 6	1 0 7	1 4½	48½ = 48.62
Decrease per cent in prices in 1885, compared with those in 1870.	-26.03	-31.67	-31.59	-42.98	-7.22	-25.63	-45.30	-46.11	-3.86 on 1871.	-22.62	-19.71

8.—Rupee return for 1,000 tons of wheat at prices and exchange current at the beginning of each of the last five years.

Prices in Calcutta.	Rise or fall in prices each year compared with December 1881.	Prices in London.	Rise or fall in prices and exchange compared with January 1882.
<p><i>Rs. A. P.</i> 1.—1,000 tons Calcutta wheat (December 1881), @ Rs. 3-2 per maund = 85,070 12 10</p>		<p>£ s. d. Selling price (January 1882), @ 45·5s. per quarter = 10,616 13 4 @ 20·02d. (January 1882) = R 1,27,272 11 7</p>	
<p>2.—1,000 tons Calcutta wheat (December 1882), @ Rs. 2-14 per maund = 78,265 2 4</p>	—8 per cent	<p>£ s. d. Selling price (January 1883), @ 41·87s. per quarter = 9,769 13 4 @ 19·27d. (January 1883) = R 1,21,677 3 8</p>	<p>Price —8 per cent. Exchange —3·746 per cent.</p>
<p>3.—1,000 tons Calcutta wheat (December 1883), @ Rs. 2-10·6 per maund = 72,310 2 10</p>	—15 per cent	<p>£ s. d. Selling price (January 1884), @ 35·5s. per quarter = 8,283 6 8 @ 19·59d. (January 1884) = R 1,01,480 5 11</p>	<p>Price —22 per cent. Exchange —2·148 per cent.</p>
<p>4.—1,000 tons Calcutta wheat (December 1884), @ Rs. 2-4 per maund = 61,250 15 7</p>	—28 per cent	<p>£ s. d. Selling price (January 1885), @ 32·75 per quarter = 7,641 13 4 @ 19·09d. (January 1885) = R 96,071 3 0</p>	<p>Price —28 per cent. Exchange —4·645 per cent.</p>
<p>5.—1,000 tons Calcutta wheat (December 1885), @ Rs. 2-7·6 per maund = 67,205 14 11</p>	—21 per cent	<p>£ s. d. Selling price (January 1886), @ 30·75s. per quarter = 7,175 0 0 @ 17·97d. (January 1886) = R 95,826 6 0</p>	<p>Price —32 per cent. Exchange —11·238 per cent.</p>

9.—Rates of freight of rice and wheat from Calcutta to London by steamer via Canal.

Year—date.			Rise or fall per cent each year.
		£ s. d. to £ s. d.	
1870 (Decr. 13th) ...	...	2 15 0 @ 3 5 0	
1871 („ 5th) ...	...	3 10 0 „ 3 12 6	+ 18.75
1872 („ 5th) ...	...	3 10 0	— 1.75
1873 („ 11th) ...	...	3 0 0	— 14.29
1874 („ 3rd) ...	...	1 15 0	— 41.66
1875 („ 9th) ...	...	2 8 9 „ 2 11 3	+ 67.66
1876 („ 7th) ...	...	3 17 6 „ 4 0 0	+ 34.04
1877 („ 13th) ...	...	1 10 0 „ 1 15 0	— 53.73
1878 („ 12th) ...	...	1 0 0 „ 1 5 0	— 30.77
1879 („ 4th) ...	...	3 10 0 „ 3 15 0	+ 222.22
1880 („ 7th) ...	...	2 16 3 „ 2 18 9	— 20.69
1881 („ 10th) ...	...	3 0 0 „ 3 2 6	+ 6.52
1882 („ 4th) ...	...	1 13 9 „ 1 16 3	— 42.85
1883 („ 3rd) ...	...	1 5 0 „ 1 7 6	— 25.
1884 („ 8th) ...	...	1 5 0	— 4.76
1885 („ 14th) ...	...	1 7 6 „ 1 10 0	+ 15.
			<i>Fall since 1870, 52.03 per cent.</i>

10.—Rates of exchange.

Official year.	Average S. of S.'s drawings.	Rise or fall per cent each year.
	<i>s. d.</i>	
1870-71	1 10-28	
1871-72	1 11-12	+3-77
1872-73	1 10-81	-1-34
1873-74	1 10-35	-2-02
1874-75	1 10-22	-0-58
1875-76	1 9-64	-2-61
1876-77	1 8-49	-5-31
1877-78	1 8-79	+1-47
1878-79	1 7-76	-4-95
1879-80	1 8	+1-21
1880-81	1 7-95	-0-25
1881-82	1 7-89	-0-3
1882-83	1 7-52	-1-86
1883-84	1 7-54	+0-1
1884-85	1 7-31	-1-18
1885-86	1 6-25	-5-49

*Fall since 1870-71,
18-09 per cent.*

11.—Progress of Railway extension in India.

Number of miles open for traffic in :

1853	...	...	20½	1869	...	...	4,401½
1854	...	...	71	1870	...	...	4,915
1855	...	...	170	1871	...	...	5,262½
1856	...	...	272¾	1872	...	...	5,555½
1857	...	...	288¼	1873	...	...	5,880
1858	...	...	426½	1874	...	...	6,414¾
1859	...	...	626¼	1875	...	...	6,705½
1860	...	...	839¼	1876	...	...	7,020
1861	...	...	1,587¾	1877	...	...	7,509¼
1862	...	...	2,460¼	1878	...	...	8,411
1863	...	...	2,687½	1879	...	...	8,692
1864	...	...	3,101½	1880	...	...	9,614¼
1865	...	...	3,510½	1881	...	...	10,225
1866	...	...	3,706¼	1882	...	...	10,498¼
1867	...	...	4,074¼	1883-84	...	...	11,006½
1868	...	...	4,156¼	1884-85	...	...	12,005¼

Average annual rate of extension for the last 30 years :

10 years, 1855 to 1864	...	...	...	...	303 miles.
10 years, 1865 to 1874	...	...	...	...	331 miles.
10 years, 1875 to 1884-85	...	...	...	...	559 miles.

During the last five years the average annual rate has been 602 miles,

Coasting trade.

98. In 1884-85 the coasting trade was smaller than that of 1883-84 by nearly 5 per cent. Last year there was a further decline but of smaller extent, the trade being less than that of 1884-85 by 1.4 per cent.

Burma and Sindh are alone exceptions to the decline, the trade having fallen off in all the other provinces.

The general features of the trade were stated in the review for 1884-85, and as there has been no special feature to record in the year it is sufficient to attach here the figures giving the totals of the trade for each of the last five years :

		1881-82	1882-83	1883-84	1884-85	1885-86
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
IMPORTS—						
Merchandise	{ Country	19,30,40,859	20,20,25,003	22,07,06,009	21,41,29,064	20,41,05,867
	{ Foreign	5,12,62,066	5,21,73,285	6,00,62,646	6,05,15,467	5,90,01,263
	Total	24,43,02,925	25,41,98,318	28,07,68,655	27,46,47,531	26,31,07,130
Treasure		2,58,70,031	4,06,65,571	3,49,46,082	2,46,23,995	3,09,20,818
	TOTAL IMPORTS	27,01,73,956	29,48,63,889	31,57,14,737	29,92,71,526	29,40,27,948
EXPORTS—						
Merchandise	{ Country	16,58,31,963	18,48,85,632	19,43,41,877	18,71,48,092	18,47,26,408
	{ Foreign	5,79,54,285	6,93,56,774	6,76,33,665	7,02,55,802	6,67,79,548
	Total	22,37,86,248	25,42,42,406	26,19,75,542	25,74,03,894	25,15,06,956
Treasure		2,96,25,325	3,31,61,251	3,69,28,082	2,73,40,133	3,04,48,955
	TOTAL EXPORTS	25,34,11,573	28,74,03,657	29,89,03,624	28,47,44,027	28,19,55,911
GRAND TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS		52,35,85,529	58,22,67,546	61,46,18,361	58,40,15,553	57,59,83,859

99. Appended is also a statement giving the imports and exports of merchandise into and from each province for the last three years :

	1883-84	1884-85	1885-86
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<i>Bengal:</i>			
Imports	5,05,58,195	5,33,26,755	4,84,87,382
Exports	6,32,40,573	6,14,54,993	6,07,16,194
<i>Bombay:</i>			
Imports	12,50,60,203	12,24,55,957	11,06,03,519
Exports	12,21,31,544	11,57,75,133	11,42,25,865
<i>Sindh:</i>			
Imports	2,25,09,743	2,44,21,332	2,51,10,593
Exports	1,59,59,435	1,03,59,271	1,13,99,069
<i>Madras:</i>			
Imports	4,36,45,013	4,31,73,582	4,59,41,867
Exports	4,11,42,752	4,60,10,375	4,24,31,812
<i>Burma:</i>			
Imports	3,50,59,531	3,12,69,845	3,29,63,354
Exports	2,14,68,173	2,07,74,122	2,27,26,416

Coasting shipping.

100. The following table gives the number and tonnage of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade during the last six years :

	<i>Entered.</i>					
	STEAMERS. No.	Tons.	SAILING VESSELS. No.	Tons.	NATIVE CRAFT. No.	Tons.
1880-81	4,713	4,675,190	3,643	613,532	147,194	2,415,710
1881-82	4,956	4,769,040	3,725	485,262	155,319	2,482,129
1882-83	5,547	5,543,702	4,687	551,206	160,160	2,514,625
1883-84	5,518	5,925,198	4,635	607,635	169,090	2,669,128
1884-85	5,484	5,547,657	4,503	495,284	174,701	2,781,479
1885-86	6,144	5,726,991	3,987	541,316	172,025	2,759,724
	<i>Cleared.</i>					
1880-81	4,665	4,614,583	3,607	549,113	137,583	2,267,075
1881-82	4,918	4,718,283	3,576	396,803	144,583	2,327,081
1882-83	5,541	5,520,468	4,023	518,749	147,663	2,408,344
1883-84	5,574	5,975,597	4,629	458,240	156,429	2,553,672
1884-85	5,461	5,487,561	4,600	477,806	158,453	2,616,385
1885-86	6,127	5,679,231	3,992	506,052	156,694	2,612,819
	<i>Entered and Cleared.</i>					
1880-81	9,378	9,289,773	7,250	1,162,645	284,777	4,682,765
1881-82	9,874	9,487,323	7,301	882,065	299,902	4,809,209
1882-83	11,088	11,064,170	9,310	1,069,955	307,823	4,922,969
1883-84	11,092	11,900,795	9,264	1,065,875	325,519	5,222,800
1884-85	10,945	11,035,218	9,103	973,090	333,154	5,397,864
1885-86	12,271	11,406,222	7,979	1,047,368	328,719	5,372,543

Trans-frontier Trade.

101. The imports from foreign territory last year were valued at 519·34 lakhs, this total being less than that of 1884-85 by 32·12 lakhs, or nearly 6 per cent.

The exports were valued at 721·01 lakhs, a sum larger than the value of 1884-85 by 108·78 lakhs, or close on 18 per cent.

The whole trade, imports and exports, amounted to 1240·35 lakhs, which sum exceeded the trade value of 1884-85 by 76·66 lakhs, or a little over 6 per cent.

This increase was due entirely to exports across the frontier over the Sind-Peshin Railway of railway material for the construction of that line. These exports give an increase in the year of 102·37 lakhs, so that if they are left out of the account, as they may be so far as a record of actual trade is concerned, the results of the year are a good deal worse than those of 1884-85.

There was a large diminution, as might have been expected, in the trade with Upper Burma and the Karen country, and the trade with Kashmir also declined materially.

102. *Khelat*.—In imports a small increase arising out of a larger import of raw wool.

In exports a considerable decrease of trade in manufactured cottons.

103. *Kabul*.—A decline in imports, the larger articles of trade with India, horses, madder, and fruits and nuts, all giving smaller returns. There was some little improvement in raw silk, though the imports still continue on a much smaller scale than formerly, and in asafœtida, charas, and ghi.

The whole value of the imports was less than 23 lakhs, the total having declined by about a lakh in each of the last two years.

The export trade has increased from 46·91 lakhs to 53·67 lakhs, the trade of 1883-84 being 52·11 lakhs, a small increase in the three years following on a larger trade in Indian cottons. We find also a larger trade in wheat, leather, salt, with a decline in indigo and sugar.

The returns shew that while the export of China tea has fallen off a little, that of Indian tea has increased, but much doubt attaches to the accuracy of the distinction made at the posts of registration in regard to the origin of the tea that passes through. Taking all tea together, the exports are a good deal smaller than they were two years ago.

104. *Kashmir*.—Imports fell from 53·05 lakhs to 49·06 lakhs, the decrease being the result of the depression in the shawl trade which fell in value by nearly 7 lakhs. There was also some restriction in the timber trade, raw silk, fruits, dyeing materials, and charas. Woollen goods (not shawls) increased considerably, and it may be inferred that as the weaving of shawls declines the manufacture of other fabrics takes its place to some extent. Ghi, hides, and drugs also give larger returns.

Exports have fallen off, though not much. The piece goods trade does not seem to increase and was smaller than in the preceding year, as was the trade in metals. The exports of sugar and salt were larger.

105. *Thibet*.—The value of the import trade did not reach 7 lakhs. Borax, the most important of the imports, can hardly be profitably brought across the Himálayas for export to Europe now that Tuscany and California supply unlimited quantities at very cheap rates, and the use of Thibetan borax will probably in a short time be entirely limited to India, so that the trade can hardly be expected to rise much higher than the present level. The import of salt was a little smaller than in the preceding year: it is now able to compete with Indian salt only in the inner ranges of the Himálayas. The imports of wool have also slightly fallen off in quantity.

The exports also have fallen off, the total value of last year being less than 2½ lakhs. The bulk of this trade is grain of sorts, mainly rice and wheat.

106. *Nipal*.—Imports increased from 138·71 lakhs to 153·62 lakhs. A large proportion of the trade consists of rice, which was imported last year to the value of over 50 lakhs. Wheat and other grains represented about 10 lakhs more. Oilseeds are also an important item: these stand for about 18 lakhs last year. Next to the grain trade, that in timber is the most important however: the value of this was 30·3 lakhs, a smaller sum than in the preceding year. Ghi is imported in fairly large quantity, with opium, hides, saltpetre, drugs, and spices, and there is a fairly large cattle trade.

Exports have fallen from 98·14 lakhs to 85·55 lakhs this year. Close on 40 lakhs out of this total are the value of cotton twist and piece goods exported. There was a slight decline in this trade last year, as there was in the trade in brass, copper, and iron. Spices, sugar, tobacco, and fruits also give smaller returns; but these things are not of any real importance. The trade in woollen goods improved.

107. *Upper Burma*.—The record of this trade will not appear in the returns after the present year, the country having become British territory. China will be substituted for it, the registering posts being transferred to Bamaw. The trade of last year was materially reduced in consequence of the military operations and the employment of the steamers of the Irrawaddy Flotilla, which convey practically the whole trade, on the transport of troops and munitions of war.

It seems unnecessary, under the altered political condition of this country, to give space to an examination of the details of trade with it.

108. *Karennee*.—The import trade is really limited to teak, in which there was a material decline last year. The export trade is very small, and hardly existed last year.

From *Zimmé* there was a larger import of teak.

109. *Sind-Peshin Railway*.—Value of imports:

1883-84	20·16 lakhs.
1884-85	17·23 „
1885-86	20·18 „

The principal importation was raw wool, 40,141 cwt. having been imported, value 5.46 lakhs. Fruits and nuts, value 3.40 lakhs, grain and pulse over 2 lakhs, railway materials about 2 lakhs, madder 1.10 lakhs. The railway does not carry much trade inwards as yet, but it may shew good results after its completion to Quetta.

The exports look large, but if from the 316.43 lakhs of last year are deducted railway materials to the value of 172.15 lakhs, the balance of 144.28 lakhs is not very considerable, and a very large proportion of this value arises out of the needs of the British garrison and camp followers located in those parts. The trade, however, putting railway material aside altogether, has more than doubled between 1883-84 and 1885-86. Cotton piece goods (37.7 lakhs), woollen goods (5 lakhs), timber (4.83 lakhs), coal (2.7 lakhs), fruits and vegetables (6 lakhs), grain and pulse (about $20\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs), liquors (8 lakhs), metalware (5 lakhs), ghi and provisions ($4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs), and sugar (5 lakhs), make the bulk of the trade.

Government of India.
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1886-87:

- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
 - II.—Coasting Trade.
 - III.—Trans-Frontier Trade.
-

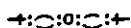
J. E. O'CONNOR,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
Honorary Member of the Royal Statistical Society, Member of the International Statistical Institute.

SIMLA :
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1887.

CONTENTS.



GENERAL.

	PARAS.
Totals of imports and exports for last eight years and rate of increase or decrease each year—average yearly rate for these years—imports of merchandise last year exceptionally large, while imports of treasure decreased—exports of merchandise and treasure increased .	1—6

GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS.

A somewhat considerable decline, chiefly in imports of railway material.	7—8
Excess of exports generally, including Government transactions as well as ordinary trade, over imports—drawings of Secretary of State .	9—10

TRADE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

Totals of the trade and percentage to the whole trade of India during last five years—imports and exports—proportion of the Canal trade with England	11—13
--	-------

SHIPPING.

Total number and tonnage of all shipping, entries and clearances for all vessels and for steamers separately—increase in steam as compared with sailing tonnage—steamers in ballast—Canal steamers—movement of shipping between India and other countries—nationalities of vessels—native craft—provincial share in movement of shipping	14—22
--	-------

GOLD AND SILVER COIN AND BULLION.

Imports and exports of gold for each of last six years—same for silver—table of net imports of gold and silver from 1859-60 to 1872-73 (14 years) and from 1873-74 to 1886-87 (14 years)—decrease in both in second period—diminution of coinage in same period—supplies probably met from hoards in the country	23—28
--	-------

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Gross and net revenue on imports and exports for each of last five years .	29—30
--	-------

TRADE OF PROVINCES AND PRINCIPAL PORTS.

Imports and exports for last five years for each province, and rate of increase or decrease—trade and shipping of the ten largest ports of India—proportion of the whole trade of India for last four years at each of the five chief ports, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Rangoon, and Karáchi	31—34
---	-------

TRADE WITH COUNTRIES.

Table shewing trade for each of the last five years with 24 foreign countries, and the proportion taken by each of the whole trade—increases or decreases in imports and exports of merchandise last year for United Kingdom and other principal countries with which trade is carried on	35—67
---	-------

IMPORT TRADE IN MERCHANDISE.

Total values for each of the last fifteen years do not give support to the theory that low exchange restricts imports—most of the increase last year due to cotton goods—trade of five years under each group of classification—Animals—Coffee—Fruits and vegetables—Hops—Malt liquor,—brewing in India—Spirits, Wines and liqueurs—Provisions, dates, ghi, salted fish, flour—Salt—Spices—Sugar—Tea—Metals, Hardware, Machinery, and Railway material—Chemicals, Drugs, Aniline dyes, Saffron—Kerosine oil—Coal—Cotton—Ivory—Pearls—Cotton goods—Silk piece goods—Woollen goods—Apparel—other articles of minor importance—table of quantities and values compared with 1885-86	68—92
--	-------

RE-EXPORT TRADE.

Total value—general description of the trade—share of each province in it	93
---	----

EXPORTS OF INDIAN PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURE.

Total value—general classification—Coffee—Rice—Wheat—other grain and pulse—Flour—Spices—Sugar—Tea—Chinchona bark—Opium—Indigo—Myrabolams—Tobacco—Oils—Cotton—Hides and Skins—Jute—Saltpetre—Seeds—Silk—Teak timber—Wool; Manufactured goods : Cotton yarn and piece goods, Indian cotton mills, Jute goods—Silk goods—Tanned or dressed Hides and Skins—Lac—Principal exports of the year arranged according to their importance, and table comparing quantities and values with 1885-86	94—124
--	--------

COASTING TRADE AND SHIPPING	125—128
--	----------------

TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE	129—131
---------------------------------------	----------------

THE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH
FOREIGN COUNTRIES

for the official year ending March 31, 1887.

— — — — —
Sea-borne Trade.
— — — — —

THE aggregate value of the trade under all heads for the last eight years was as follows :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	<i>Percentage of increase or decrease each year compared with preceding year.</i>	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1879-80	51,39,75,610	69,10,19,860	1,20,49,95,470	+	11.15
1880-81	59,29,70,482	75,94,06,850	1,35,23,77,332	+	12.23
1881-82	58,31,48,651	82,99,93,464	1,41,31,42,115	+	4.49
1882-83	63,45,61,977	84,38,17,237	1,47,83,79,214	+	4.62
1883-84	65,58,18,545	89,10,28,679	1,54,68,47,224	+	4.63
1884-85	67,02,81,588	85,08,78,583	1,52,11,60,171	—	1.66
1885-86	67,28,93,373	84,91,56,777	1,52,20,50,150	+	0.05
1886-87	69,71,47,812	90,11,31,715	1,59,82,79,527	+	5

2. The trade of last year was 32.6 per cent larger than that of 1879-80; the average yearly rate of increase in this period has been about 4.08 per cent, and, during the five years 1882-83 to 1886-87, 8.19 per cent, or an annual average increase of 1.64 per cent. Last year's trade was exceptionally large, and it is unlikely that the trade of the present year will shew any appreciable advance on it.

3. The imports of the precious metals were comparatively small. Last year's imports were only 1105.33 lakhs against 1547.78 lakhs in the year before. The increase in the aggregate sum entered in the foregoing table under imports is therefore due to merchandise in which there was an augmented value of 685. lakhs, being 13.2 per cent.

Exports of Indian goods did not increase in nearly the same proportion, the augmented value being only 417.43 lakhs, or 5.17 per cent.

Re-exports of foreign goods increased by 42.66 lakhs, or 13.8 per cent.

Exports of the precious metals increased by 59.67 lakhs, or nearly 55 per cent.

4. Two-thirds of the increase in imported merchandise are due to a sudden and what has proved a temporary activity in the imports of cotton manufactures. For three or four years previously the imports of yarns and cloths had given no indication of progress, and had, in fact, at any rate as far as cloths were concerned,

rather declined in quantity, and stocks had run low in India. It became necessary to replace these stocks and to supply a demand which arose out of the year being regarded as auspicious for marriages. The condition of the manufacturing industry in Lancashire also had been so unprosperous for a long time that great eagerness was displayed to comply with all orders received and to regard India as being in a position to buy goods in much greater quantity than was specified in the orders. Hence shipments of cotton manufactures following on each other's heels through the year. The markets having been in consequence supplied in excess of consuming capacity, the trade has fallen off again, and the Lancashire industry has relapsed into the dullness and depression from which it was hoped that it had been separated by the active trade of the year.

The increase in the export trade is mainly due to raw cotton and cotton goods, which account for three-fourths of the whole increase. The Indian cotton crop was a good one, and the exports of cotton goods to China continue to increase every year.

5. In the last five years the increase in the import trade has been 9·86 per cent, and in the export trade only 6·8 per cent. If we go further back and look at the progress of the trade during the last eight years, we find that since 1879-80 imports have increased by 35·6 per cent and exports by only 30·4 per cent. And if Government transactions are added to the totals on which these percentages are based, which represent general trade only, then the imports will be found to have increased still more largely in proportion to the exports.

6. Two conclusions may be drawn from these facts: (1) that trade generally has not been stimulated by low exchange, for the rate of progress since exchange declined acutely, or say in the last five years, has been slower than in the years immediately preceding, and (2) that the export trade in particular has not been stimulated: it is rather the import trade which would seem to have felt the effects of any stimulus there may have been in the condition of exchange.

Government Transactions.

7. In these there was a somewhat considerable decline, the total value of the imports of stores having been 311·58 lakhs, or about 73 lakhs less than 1885-86. Exports of stores, which are relatively quite trifling, also fell from 5·34 lakhs to 4·14 lakhs, but there was some increase in silver exported. The whole value of imports and exports of Government stores and treasure was 319·33 lakhs, which was about 72½ lakhs less than in the year previous.

8. The largest part of this decline was in Railway material, an item which forms more than one-third of the whole imports effected by the State. The import of Beer has also fallen away to an insignificant figure, the beer of the country having superseded it in most parts of the country where troops are stationed. It may now confidently be expected that in a few more years the Government will no longer import beer for the consumption of the soldier. Last year no Quinine at all was imported by Government. Here also no doubt the manufacture of the country has superseded the imported article. But in respect of other stores it cannot be said that local manufacture has developed to any considerable degree; but perhaps it might be more correct to say that Government has relaxed its endeavours to procure what it wants of local manufacture and that heads of departments, to whom it is sometimes a trouble and vexation of spirit to seek out local sources of supply, take little interest in the matter.

However this may be, it must be said that there is no real progress in the manufacture in the country of the various classes of stores required by the Government.

9. The excess of exports over imports, including Government transactions as well as general trade, and treasure as well as merchandise, for each of the last eight years was :

	Rs.
1879-80	16,42,61,126
1880-81	13,91,60,585
1881-82	22,63,20,427
1882-83	18,97,83,137
1883-84	21,02,90,856
1884-85	15,63,46,525
1885-86	13,85,58,350
1886-87	17,35,99,630

The average annual excess in these eight years comes to about 1,748 lakhs.

10. In the same period of eight years the drawings of the Secretary of State in Council Bills have been—

	£	@	Pence.	
1879-80	15,261,810		19·961	= 18,34,99,544
1880-81	15,239,677		19·956	= 18,32,79,339
1881-82	18,412,429		19·895	= 22,19,14,197
1882-83	15,120,521		19·522	= 18,58,88,999
1883-84	17,599,805		19·536	= 21,62,13,821
1884-85	13,758,909		19·308	= 17,10,23,827
1885-86	10,292,692		18·254	= 13,53,25,000
1886-87	12,136,278		17·44	= 16,70,13,000

the average being £14,727,765 or 1,830 lakhs annually.

Trade through the Suez Canal.

11. The value of the trade to and from India carried through the Canal was, in—

	Rs.			
1881-82	88,09,27,887	...	being 61·4	per cent of the whole trade.
1882-83	93,42,60,084	...	" 62·2	" "
1883-84	1,03,55,59,326	...	" 65·8	" "
1884-85	1,01,54,01,135	...	" 65·6	" "
1885-86	1,03,28,31,652	...	" 66·2	" "
1886-87	1,07,83,20,389	...	" 66·15	" "

or about the same proportion as last year.

12. The proportion of imports into India carried through the Canal has always been much larger than that of the exports—

Imports—

	Rs.			
1883-84	53,17,13,129	...	being 78·01	per cent of all imports.
1884-85	53,93,80,958	...	" 77·51	" "
1885-86	55,00,18,010	...	" 77·32	" "
1886-87	58,04,77,792	...	" 79·7	" "

Exports—

	Rs.			
1883-84	50,38,46,197	...	being 56·49	per cent of all exports.
1884-85	47,60,20,177	...	" 55·85	" "
1885-86	48,28,13,642	...	" 56·81	" "
1886-87	49,78,42,597	...	" 55·19	" "

13. Out of the total of 10,783 lakhs, 8,085 lakhs represented the value of trade with England, being nearly 75 per cent of the whole. With France the trade was about 761 lakhs, or only a little over 7 per cent of the whole. The percentage of the trade with other countries carried through the Canal was still smaller.

Shipping.

14. The total number and tonnage of the shipping which entered and cleared at Indian ports from and to foreign countries, during each of the last seven years, are as follow :

	Number.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1880-81	12,305	6,469,036	526
1881-82	12,742	7,368,886	578
1882-83	11,715	7,071,884	604
1883-84	11,662	7,250,603	622
1884-85	10,338	6,649,770	643
1885-86	10,562	7,294,589	691
1886-87	10,581	7,171,863	678

While the number of vessels very slightly increased the total tonnage fell off as well as the average tonnage, a remarkable circumstance looking at the constant increase hitherto in the average tonnage capacity of vessels year after year.

VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED.

15. The table printed above includes sailing vessels as well as steamers. The following table is for steamers only. The percentage of steam to total tonnage was :

In 1879-80	49
1880-81	55
1881-82	62
1882-83	58
1883-84	63
1884-85 }	65
1885-86 }	
1886-87	66

	Steamers entered.		Steamers cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880-81	1,468	1,742,255	1,471	1,786,542
1881-82	1,829	2,263,604	1,859	2,310,372
1882-83	1,550	2,050,515	1,544	2,050,549
1883-84	1,620	2,294,310	1,603	2,277,232
1884-85	1,495	2,157,501	1,489	2,174,680
1885-86	1,631	2,361,942	1,632	2,397,828
1886-87	1,602	2,342,690	1,620	2,398,164

16. The number and tonnage of steamers entering and leaving India without cargoes in the last seven years were :

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880-81	189	199,274	51	51,054
1881-82	460	547,281	33	30,073
1882-83	404	485,848	56	49,371
1883-84	416	540,909	33	33,837
1884-85	272	351,429	44	61,171
1885-86	301	397,549	47	74,614
1886-87	223	277,187	52	66,924

The proportion of clearances of steamers without cargoes to the whole number of steamers cleared was—

1879-80	2.5 per cent.
1880-81	3.47 "
1881-82	1.78 "
1882-83	3.63 "
1883-84	2.06 "
1884-85	2.96 "
1885-86	2.88 "
1886-87	3.21 "

On the average of the last eight years it may be said that about 2.8 per cent of the steamers coming to India leave it again without cargoes.

CANAL STEAMERS.

17. The following table shews the number and tonnage of steamers adopting the Suez Canal route, which entered at and cleared from Indian ports, with the percentage of the steam tonnage passing through the Canal to the total steam tonnage engaged in the trade between India and foreign countries :

	Entries.		Clearances.		Total entries and clearances.		Percentage to total steam tonnage.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
1879-80	511	780,102	556	829,667	1,067	1,609,769	57
1880-81	686	1,018,103	773	1,115,769	1,459	2,133,872	60
1881-82	929	1,370,242	1,060	1,517,746	1,989	2,887,988	63
1882-83	711	1,152,440	934	1,433,480	1,645	2,585,920	63
1883-84	839	1,405,007	1,091	1,746,785	1,930	3,151,792	69
1884-85	726	1,264,105	923	1,553,446	1,649	2,817,551	65
1885-86	773	1,336,638	1,039	1,722,003	1,812	3,058,641	64
1886-87	726	1,310,269	945	1,636,381	1,671	2,946,650	62

The proportion corresponds pretty closely with the proportion of the trade value carried by the canal route.

MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

18. The movement of shipping during the past three years between India and the principal countries with which trade is carried on is shewn in the following table, the figures representing entries and clearances combined :

	1883-84.		1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
BRITISH POSSESSIONS—								
United Kingdom	2,003	2,992,945	1,804	2,908,987	1,973	3,179,764	1,756	2,963,478
Malta . . . . .	.66	85,276	41	51,264	36	47,410	25	32,201
Aden	93	106,002	86	95,163	93	109,918	58	70,745
Australia	147	188,039	78	109,346	135	190,632	136	196,018
West Indies	12	10,515	12	9,905	13	11,214	10	11,190
Ceylon	5,094	699,998	4,589	677,597	4,367	725,161	4,651	725,067
Cape Colony	123	101,584	50	38,984	81	58,879	44	31,645
China—Hong-Kong	124	186,442	134	203,474	144	222,699	160	262,857
Mauritius	327	192,010	229	201,678	197	161,990	204	181,217
Straits Settlements	620	519,869	609	522,197	718	695,758	775	711,308
Natal	81	53,484	65	31,501	61	24,385	39	19,835
Total	8,690	5,136,164	7,697	4,850,096	7,818	5,427,810	7,858	5,205,561
FOREIGN COUNTRIES—								
Austria	99	158,977	78	130,477	68	120,417	68	123,946
Belgium	97	151,127	62	101,034	86	136,788	82	134,312
France	272	445,504	205	315,269	189	277,107	176	274,641
Germany	31	33,375	25	28,852	23	28,457	35	49,398
Holland	13	15,558	16	21,518	19	28,985	17	27,433
Italy	54	93,020	52	96,114	70	125,684	149	267,795
East Coast of Africa	173	75,875	182	83,135	169	71,808	170	64,073
Egypt	250	327,952	139	193,140	191	260,417	128	170,361
United States	124	164,066	176	243,090	123	180,817	140	198,806
Arabia	467	110,725	451	113,655	478	123,609	628	178,789
China—Treaty Ports	37	75,933	39	80,600	48	88,983	67	113,858
Java	23	30,910	12	16,422	30	31,890	17	17,847
Persia	321	117,252	280	119,430	230	104,209	213	112,988
Turkey in Asia	241	51,294	274	60,342	248	53,809	186	49,774
Total	2,202	1,852,468	1,991	1,603,078	1,972	1,632,980	2,076	1,784,021

The tonnage employed in the trade with the United Kingdom was 46 per cent of the whole in 1880-81, 40 per cent in 1881-82, and since 1882-83 it has been 41 per cent.

NATIONALITIES OF VESSELS.

19. The figures for British, British Indian, and foreign vessels are given below :

	BRITISH.			BRITISH INDIAN.			FOREIGN.		
	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	3,828	4,403,260	1,150	3,028	401,261	133	1,233	687,862	558
1880-81	4,368	5,119,860	1,172	2,866	408,587	142	1,355	743,742	549
1881-82	4,861	5,856,677	1,205	2,868	411,400	143	1,599	920,510	576
1882-83	5,257	5,366,770	1,261	2,525	361,189	143	1,834	1,168,293	637
1883-84	4,196	5,568,676	1,327	2,601	347,849	134	1,701	1,162,022	683
1884-85	3,791	5,208,966	1,374	2,345	287,326	123	1,551	1,007,674	650
1885-86	4,136	5,770,169	1,395	2,198	304,544	139	1,565	1,071,543	685
1886-87	3,892	5,633,776	1,448	2,618	271,750	135	1,516	1,102,725	727

The proportion in each case to the total tonnage has been as follows :

	British.	British Indian.	Foreign.
1880-81	79'14 %	6'32 %	11'5 %
1881-82	79'48 "	5'58 "	12'49 "
1882-83	75'89 "	5'17 "	16'52 "
1883-84	76'8 "	4'8 "	16' "
1884-85	78'3 "	4'3 "	15'15 "
1885-86	79'1 "	4'17 "	14'69 "
1886-87	78'55 "	3'79 "	15'38 "

20. The following table gives the principal nationalities of the foreign vessels employed in the Indian trade :

		1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
Austrian	{ No.	86	97	89	78	78	111
	{ Tons	112,235	138,215	130,071	136,942	137,846	182,786
Dutch	{ No.	13	5	39	92	127	99
	{ Tons	9,699	7,655	42,241	95,846	150,060	115,304
French	{ No.	226	219	231	188	170	111
	{ Tons	140,843	191,084	286,683	212,039	176,835	107,393
German	{ No.	124	238	178	156	200	266
	{ Tons	112,329	213,495	163,081	160,771	205,629	263,779
Italian	{ No.	247	281	217	107	126	116
	{ Tons	230,643	281,454	248,608	143,904	164,788	183,422
Norwegian	{ No.	80	130	74	75	78	89
	{ Tons	74,544	107,538	67,248	63,402	63,541	72,882
Swedish	{ No.	19	36	34	10	21	8
	{ Tons	8,988	21,045	18,728	4,069	11,480	3,903
American	{ No.	74	73	44	52	45	52
	{ Tons	87,346	85,452	52,033	64,538	55,236	67,994
Arab	{ No.	584	615	646	663	597	504
	{ Tons	85,853	79,045	102,393	102,215	92,712	78,827
Turkish	{ No.	20	12	11	20	9	46
	{ Tons	14,876	10,315	9,041	9,053	5,070	14,026

It was explained in last year's review that the increase in the number of Dutch steamers was due to the establishment of a line of mail steamers calling regularly between Madras ports and the Straits. The only other point of interest in the table is the increase in German and decrease in French vessels.

NATIVE CRAFT.

21. The number and tonnage of native craft entered and cleared in each of the last seven years are given below; the proportion to the total tonnage being—

3.7 in 1879-80.	2.37 in 1883-84.
3. in 1880-81.	2.19 in 1884-85.
2.45 in 1881-82.	2.03 in 1885-86.
2.48 in 1882-83.	2.28 in 1886-87.

	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1879-80	4,071	210,704	52
1880-81	3,716	196,847	53
1881-82	3,414	180,299	53
1882-83	3,099	175,632	57
1883-84	3,164	172,056	54
1884-85	2,651	145,804	55
1885-86	2,663	148,333	56
1886-87	3,155	163,612.	52

SHARE OF EACH PROVINCE IN MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

22. The following table shews the share of each of the maritime provinces of India in the movement of shipping with cargoes for the last eight years :

		Vessels.	Tons.
BENGAL	1879-80	1,444	1,762,589
	1880-81	1,549	1,880,142
	1881-82	1,680	2,092,975
	1882-83	1,348	1,701,359
	1883-84	1,309	1,706,140
	1884-85	1,148	1,541,764
	1885-86	1,160	1,568,322
	1886-87	1,145	1,646,208
BOMBAY	1879-80	1,661	1,212,430
	1880-81	1,981	1,567,160
	1881-82	2,171	1,842,082
	1882-83	1,967	1,775,914
	1883-84	2,030	2,055,149
	1884-85	1,947	2,027,871
	1885-86	1,969	2,049,235
	1886-87	2,025	2,139,483
SIND	1879-80	852	264,275
	1880-81	716	302,230
	1881-82	645	217,872
	1882-83	774	281,162
	1883-84	733	352,425
	1884-85	742	384,769
	1885-86	828	504,004
	1886-87	712	419,899
MADRAS	1879-80	3,906	860,650
	1880-81	3,683	906,241
	1881-82	3,756	927,851
	1882-83	3,443	916,082
	1883-84	3,917	1,082,878
	1884-85	3,478	1,042,727
	1885-86	3,476	1,192,454
	1886-87	3,537	1,170,488
BURMA	1879-80	1,133	960,702
	1880-81	1,194	1,012,139
	1881-82	1,351	1,118,763
	1882-83	1,334	1,136,718
	1883-84	989	868,345
	1884-85	910	820,376
	1885-86	1,014	945,842
	1886-87	1,052	959,417

Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion.

23. The imports and exports of gold during the last six years were—

	Imports.	Exports.	Balance net imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	4,85,63,920	1,24,078	4,84,39,842
1882-83	5,09,51,354	16,42,639	4,93,08,715
1883-84	5,46,94,568	69,517	5,46,25,051
1884-85	4,77,81,724	10,62,359	4,67,19,365
1885-86	3,09,15,409	32,86,062	2,76,29,347
1886-87	2,83,35,581	65,64,929	2,17,70,652

The imports and exports of silver in the same period have been—

	Imports.	Exports.	Net imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	6,46,63,889	1,08,73,390	5,37,90,499
1882-83	8,35,80,218	87,77,949	7,48,02,269
1883-84	7,40,85,065	1,00,33,554	6,40,51,511
1884-85	9,11,00,254	1,86,43,941	7,24,56,313
1885-86	12,38,62,599	77,96,314	11,60,66,285
1886-87	8,21,97,613	1,06,40,232	7,15,57,381

The imports of gold have again decreased, as might indeed have been expected, seeing how it has appreciated in value.

The imports of silver also have fallen off this year as compared with the unusually and excessively large imports of the previous year.

24. It may be of some interest, with reference to the remarks which have so often been made on the practically unlimited capacity of India to absorb the precious metals, to shew what that capacity has actually been, and attached to this paragraph is a statement of the imports of gold and silver for the period from 1859-60 to 1872-73 and from 1873-74 to 1886-87, being 14 years in each case.

Gold.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.
1859-60	4,28,80,370	38,030	4,28,42,340	1873-74	1,64,88,073	26,61,695	1,38,26,378
1860-61	4,24,24,410	98,720	4,23,25,690	1874-75	2,08,92,363	21,57,009	1,87,35,354
1861-62	5,19,04,320	60,070	5,18,44,250	1875-76	1,83,63,811	29,12,496	1,54,51,315
1862-63	6,88,15,660	3,34,100	6,84,81,560	1876-77	1,44,37,115	1,23,63,617	20,73,498
1863-64	8,92,54,120	2,71,060	8,89,83,060	1877-78	1,57,89,273	1,11,07,983	46,81,290
1864-65	9,87,50,320	3,50,680	9,83,99,640	1878-79	1,46,30,495	2,35,92,228	—89,61,733
1865-66	6,37,28,940	64,84,180	5,72,44,760	1879-80	2,05,03,929	29,98,893	1,75,05,036
1866-67	4,58,14,721	73,91,433	3,84,23,288	1880-81	3,67,20,576	1,68,586	3,65,51,990
(11 months).							
1867-68	4,77,59,243	16,64,575	4,60,94,668	1881-82	4,85,63,920	1,24,078	4,84,39,842
1868-69	5,17,09,758	1,76,238	5,15,33,520	1882-83	5,09,51,354	16,42,639	4,93,08,715
1869-70	5,69,03,999	9,82,826	5,59,21,173	1883-84	5,46,94,568	69,517	5,46,25,051
1870-71	2,78,25,741	50,04,525	2,28,21,216	1884-85	4,77,81,724	10,62,359	4,67,19,365
1871-72	3,57,37,779	84,340	3,56,53,439	1885-86	3,09,15,409	32,86,062	2,76,29,347
1872-73	2,62,23,712	7,90,086	2,54,33,626	1886-87	2,82,85,611	65,64,929	2,17,20,682
Total	74,97,93,093	2,37,30,863	72,60,62,230		41,90,18,221	7,07,12,091	34,83,06,130

Average annual import, 518'61 lakhs.

Average annual import, 248'79 lakhs.

Silver.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.
1859-60 ...	12,06,89,260	92,13,630	11,14,75,630	1873-74 ...	4,14,37,263	1,64,79,016	2,49,58,24
1860-61 ...	6,43,46,360	1,10,66,270	5,32,80,090	1874-75 ...	6,05,18,103	1,49,96,082	4,64,22,02
1861-62 ...	9,76,15,450	67,50,890	9,08,64,560	1875-76 ...	3,46,43,413	1,90,89,867	1,55,53,54
1862-63 ...	13,62,74,010	1,07,72,440	12,55,01,570	1876-77 ...	9,99,24,083	2,70,35,361	7,19,88,72
1863-64 ...	14,03,71,690	1,24,04,500	12,79,67,190	1877-78 ...	15,77,65,323	1,10,01,973	14,67,63,351
1864-65 ...	11,48,83,200	1,40,95,220	10,07,87,980	1878-79 ...	5,59,36,991	1,62,30,055	3,97,06,936
1865-66 ...	20,18,44,070	1,51,57,340	18,66,86,730	1879-80 ...	9,60,50,019	1,73,52,586	7,86,97,433
1866-67 ...	8,65,54,323	1,69,23,598	6,96,30,725	1880-81 ...	5,31,61,563	1,42,35,822	3,89,25,741
(11 months).							
1867-68 ...	6,99,94,497	1,40,54,887	5,59,39,610	1881-82 ...	6,46,63,889	1,08,73,390	5,37,90,499
1868-69 ...	9,97,89,786	1,37,79,559	8,60,10,227	1882-83 ...	8,35,80,218	87,17,949	7,48,62,269
1869-70 ...	8,26,44,073	4,40,702	8,22,03,371	1883-84 ...	7,40,85,065	1,00,23,525	6,40,61,540
1870-71 ...	3,66,22,490	1,72,03,121	94,19,369	1884-85 ...	9,11,00,254	1,86,43,941	7,24,56,313
1871-72 ...	8,00,00,350	1,46,76,595	6,53,23,755	1885-86 ...	12,38,62,599	77,96,314	11,60,66,285
1872-73 ...	1,93,42,138	1,21,90,704	71,51,434	1886-87 ...	8,21,97,613	1,06,30,332	7,15,58,281
Total ...	1,34,09,71,697	16,87,29,456	1,17,22,42,241		1,11,89,26,396	20,31,15,213	91,58,11,183

Average annual import, 837.31 lakhs.

Average annual import, 654.15 lakhs.

These statements are for a period of 28 years, which has been divided into two equal periods, the second commencing with the time when the divergence between the relative values of gold and silver first became strongly marked.

25. In regard to gold it appears that in the 14 years, from 1859-60 to 1872-73, the average imports annually (net) amounted to 518.6 lakhs (say in conventional terms at 2 shillings to the rupee) £5,186,000. In the second period, from 1873-74 to 1886-87, they amounted to only 248.8 lakhs, say £2,488,000, which is less than half the annual imports of the first period. It may be noted, however, that the average of the second period was greatly affected by the remarkable diminution in imports during the famine period of the three years 1876-77 to 1878-79. In these years the imports fell to the lowest point ever known, in 1878-79 the exports largely exceeding the imports. In former years of distress in India such an occurrence was unknown, and it may be taken as indicating the extreme severity and widespread nature of the distress. Even, however, if allowance were made for this exception, the average imports of the second period are much below those of the first.

26. The annual average import (net) of silver into India for the 14 years previous to 1873-74 was 837.3 lakhs; in the 14 years from 1873-74 to 1886-87 the net annual import was 654.15 lakhs. The capacity of India, therefore, for the absorption of silver does not seem to have been nearly so great in the period since 1873-74 as before that period. Yet with a largely increased population and vastly increased progress in railways and other public works, and in the volume of commercial transactions, it might have been supposed that to maintain an adequate currency, the supplies of silver should have also largely increased,

especially if it is true, as some think, that silver has depreciated in value and that therefore India can afford to buy more of the metal. The fact that India has not been able to buy as largely of gold as it wishes, owing to the appreciation in value of that metal, is clear enough from the figures above given, and the converse result would have taken place no doubt with silver if it had really fallen in value and if the wants of India in respect of the metal had not been fully satisfied. It is difficult to say indeed that those wants have been fully satisfied, for the value of the rupee in India is still not much less than it was twenty years ago over the greater part of the country. Prices and wages have materially risen locally where a large and sudden demand for labour or commodities has arisen, or where railways have tapped regions which previously had no external markets; but, taking a general view of the whole country, it does not seem that there has been any such general or considerable rise in prices as to indicate that the currency is redundant. On the other hand, there has been an enormous increase of manufacturing industry, of railways and other public works, of transactions in both the internal and external trade; and it seems reasonable to conclude that, making all allowances for the displacement of metal by currency notes, bills, drafts, and cheques, the employment of silver must have increased in at least double the ratio of increase of the population. That is to say, that assuming the population to have increased 14 per cent in 14 years, the requirements of silver for currency must have increased 28 per cent.

27. The imports of silver, however, have actually not increased in the last 14 years since 1873 when the relative values of gold and silver began to diverge considerably and increasingly. Therefore the theory that, there being no place for silver in Europe and the United States, the increased production of the mines and the unusable stock withdrawn from currency would be fully taken up by the East has not been verified by the facts. The coinage of the Indian mints too has not increased, the average coinage for the 14 years preceding 1873-74 having been 700·3 lakhs a year, and in the 14 years since then, 621·7 lakhs, thus:

Silver Coinage.

Lakhs of Rupees.

1859-60	1,068	1873-74	237
1860-61	519	1874-75	490
1861-62	707	1875-76	255
1862-63	925	1876-77	627
1863-64	1,148	1877-78	1,618
1864-65	1,036	1878-79	721
1865-66	1,451	1879-80	1,025
1866-67 (11 months)	612	1880-81	425
1867-68	431	1881-82	219
1868-69	421	1882-83	651
1869-70	747	1883-84	366
1870-71	172	1884-85	579
1871-72	169	1885-86	1,029
1872-73	398	1886-87	462
	Total		Total
	9,804		8,704
	Annual average		Annual average
	700·3		621·7

28. It is evident then that the increased supplies of money required for the increasing needs of the country have been met from internal sources of supply, and the only inference that can be drawn from the facts is that old hoards have diminished, metal having been taken from them for circulation as coin, and that new hoards are neither quite so large nor quite so common as they used to be,—in fact, that the practice of hoarding is gradually though slowly falling into disuse, and that the silver imported into India goes every year more largely into circulation. India is no longer such an abyss as it was in former days for the absorption of silver and for its withdrawal from currency.

Customs Revenue.

29. The gross sum received on imports (excluding salt) since 1882-83, in the beginning of which year the import duties were abolished on all articles but salt and those shewn below, was as follows :

	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arms and ammunition	1,08,738	1,47,004	1,49,940	1,68,740	2,17,107
Malt liquor	72,933	78,575	66,090	81,283	2,17,104
Spirits	35,36,239	35,52,100	34,49,926	36,30,746	42,97,083
Wines and liqueurs	5,66,914	5,70,913	4,96,580	4,69,613	4,77,766
Opium	2,805	2,093	2,863	2,797	4,282
Imports by post, &c.	23,430	16,914	562	1,322	1,640
Total gross revenue	43,11,059	43,67,599	41,65,961	43,54,501	51,05,002
Total net revenue	40,95,915	43,12,143	40,95,618	42,65,513	49,92,553

The export revenue for the same years was—

	(Gross.)	(Net.)
	Rs.	Rs.
1882-83	83,23,120	80,88,024
1883-84	71,90,680	69,65,709
1884-85	58,83,936	57,06,391
1885-86	74,38,495	72,76,281
1886-87	70,84,224	69,64,719

30. The duties on imports increased by about 17 per cent in consequence chiefly of large importations of spirit, perhaps caused by some apprehension that an increase in the rate of duty was in contemplation. The export duties on the other hand fell off by over 4 per cent, the rice trade (from which these duties are derived) having much to contend with since the fall in prices of all the other material used for distillation and starch, such as potatoes, rye, barley, maize. Even wheat has been used for the manufacture of starch, so low has its price fallen.

Provincial Trade.

31. The figures of the trade of each province stand thus :

(In lakhs of Rupees.)

	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	Increase or decrease per cent compared with 1885-86.
<i>Imported Merchandise.</i>						
Bombay	1,938'96	2,076'06	2,151'60	2,201'43	2,348'14	+ 6'6
Bengal	2,112'01	2,240'09	2,143'13	1,998'56	2,333'80	+ 16'7
Madras	458'33	438'70	482'42	425'03	531'81	+ 25'1
Burma	372'30	380'74	369'53	341'98	371'	+ 8'4
Sindh	118'68	134'77	168'21	214'14	281'37	+ 31'3
<i>Exported Merchandise.</i>						
Bombay	3,136'35	3,259'82	3,273'28	3,129'83	3,422'05	+ 9'3
Bengal	3,414'53	3,610'22	3,283'21	3,311'20	3,559'83	+ 7'5
Madras	823'96	914'68	843'26	826'44	913'13	+ 10'4
Burma	703'26	657'34	528'71	678'03	658'66	- 2'8
Sindh	261'96	370'05	391'57	437'26	289'17	- 33'8

In imported merchandise every province gives a large increase, Madras and Sindh being relatively larger than the others.

In exported merchandise Burma and Sindh shew a decline, a heavy one in Sindh owing to the failure of the wheat trade from Karáchi, for two reasons, (1) that crops in the Punjab failed and there were practically no exports after October, all the surplus stocks in the province having been exhausted in the large exports of the previous year, and (2) that as the lines of railway are now arranged it is cheaper to send the wheat of the north-eastern and south-eastern Punjab to Bombay than to Karáchi.

The decline in Burma was due to the rice trade, which after a temporary revival again fell off.

Bombay continues to run Bengal very close in both imports and exports of merchandise, especially in imports in which Bombay has kept ahead of Bengal for the last three years. In exports Bombay is still second to Bengal.

The trade of Burma, both in imports and exports, has been much interfered with and disturbed by the events which succeeded the annexation of Upper Burma in 1885, and by the disastrous condition of the rice trade resulting from speculation and the fall of prices in Europe. These low prices have enabled manufacturers to use even wheat in the manufacture of starch in place of rice, and for distillation all the inferior grains and potatoes are able to compete with rice.

Trade of principal Ports.

32. The following table shews the trade and shipping of the ten principal trading ports of India and the proportion per cent of the trade and shipping of each to the whole trade and shipping of India. The foreign trade is practically concentrated at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Rangoon, and Karáchi, these between them taking between 93 and 94 per cent of the import and export trade.

Ports.	TRADE.			Ports.	NAVIGATION.						
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
(1) BOMBAY—				BOMBAY—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	23,43,25,186	8,80,61,472	32,23,86,658	Entered ...	568	955,158	428	403,736	996	1,358,924	
Exports ...	34,22,03,057	6,69,22,333	40,91,25,390	Cleared ...	578	969,646	400	315,431	978	1,285,127	
Total ...	57,65,28,243	15,49,83,805	73,15,12,048	Total ...	1,146	1,924,804	828	719,167	1,974	2,644,051	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	9,47,41,187	20,58,377	9,67,99,584	Entered ...	499	127,677	52,770	814,408	53,179	942,085	
Exports ...	1,24,86,366	47,33,704	1,72,20,070	Cleared ...	403	82,824	11,882	368,732	12,285	451,556	
Total ...	10,72,27,553	67,92,101	11,40,19,654	Total ...	512	210,501	64,652	1,183,140	65,464	1,393,641	
GRAND TOTAL ...	68,37,55,796 42.7%	6,17,75,906 28.8%	74,55,31,702 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,938 23.11%	2,135,385 33.7%	65,480 29.67%	1,902,397 11.98%	67,438 ...	4,037,692 ...	
(2) CALCUTTA—				CALCUTTA—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	23,27,16,769	3,11,69,029	26,38,85,798	Entered ...	162	288,993	649	587,667	811	876,660	
Exports ...	34,50,04,132	5,51,28,506	40,01,32,728	Cleared ...	218	376,565	693	658,596	911	1,035,161	
Total ...	57,77,20,901	8,62,97,625	66,40,18,526	Total ...	380	665,558	1,342	1,246,263	1,722	1,911,821	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	1,07,42,452	40,41,449	1,47,83,901	Entered ...	239	321,196	63	27,382	302	348,578	
Exports ...	13,59,380	67,69,942	81,29,322	Cleared ...	432	566,807	58	5,065	490	571,872	
Total ...	1,21,01,832	1,08,11,391	2,29,13,223	Total ...	671	888,003	121	32,447	792	920,450	
GRAND TOTAL ...	58,98,22,733 36.1%	9,71,09,016 17.2%	68,69,31,749 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,051 12.41%	1,553,561 24.52%	1,463 0.66%	1,278,710 8.06%	2,514 ...	2,832,271 ...	
(3) RANGOON—				RANGOON—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	3,52,46,793	2,81,79,552	6,34,26,345	Entered ...	152	147,899	451	364,178	603	512,077	
Exports ...	4,43,84,654	1,23,80,464	5,67,65,118	Cleared ...	200	212,807	423	345,399	623	558,206	
Total ...	7,96,31,447	4,05,60,016	12,01,91,463	Total ...	352	360,706	874	709,577	1,226	1,070,283	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	4,51,500	65,10,040	69,61,540	Entered ...	80	91,830	244	17,526	324	109,356	
Exports ...	...	15,12,973	15,12,973	Cleared ...	130	140,741	144	9,437	274	150,178	
Total ...	4,51,500	80,23,013	84,74,513	Total ...	210	232,571	388	26,963	598	259,534	
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,00,82,947 5.01%	4,85,83,029 8.05%	12,86,65,976 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	562 6.63%	593,277 9.36%	1,262 0.57%	736,540 4.64%	1,824 ...	1,329,817 ...	
(4) MADRAS—				MADRAS—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports ...	4,68,13,400	1,35,48,331	6,03,61,731	Entered ...	145	270,073	366	558,620	511	828,693	
Exports ...	3,83,95,286	50,78,158	4,34,73,444	Cleared ...	117	224,055	335	514,338	452	738,393	
Total ...	8,52,08,686	1,86,26,489	10,38,35,175	Total ...	262	494,128	701	1,072,958	963	1,567,086	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports ...	19,08,613	...	19,08,613	Entered ...	26	10,531	98	19,120	124	29,651	
Exports ...	20,02,919	5,44,500	25,47,419	Cleared ...	27	6,540	66	21,461	93	28,001	
Total ...	39,11,532	5,44,500	44,56,032	Total ...	53	17,071	164	40,581	217	57,652	
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,91,20,218 5.58%	1,91,70,089 3.41%	10,82,91,207 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	315 3.72%	511,100 8.07%	865 0.39%	1,113,539 7.01%	1,180 ...	1,624,738 ...	

Ports.	TRADE.			Ports.	NAVIGATION.					
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
(5) KARACHI—				KARACHI—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	2,81,37,352	2,28,51,221	5,09,88,573	Entered ...	154	203,776	144	145,255	298	349,031
Exports ...	2,89,17,329	97,46,529	3,86,63,858	Cleared ...	135	180,426	152	153,614	287	334,040
Total ...	5,70,54,681	3,25,97,750	8,96,52,431	Total ...	289	384,202	296	298,869	585	683,071
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	10,96,656	5,57,426	16,54,082	Entered ...	229	23,287	1,478	81,996	1,707	105,283
Exports ...	7,06,980	45,000	7,51,980	Cleared ...	187	12,339	1,196	70,477	1,383	82,816
Total ...	18,03,636	6,02,426	24,06,062	Total ...	416	35,626	2,674	152,473	3,090	188,099
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,88,58,317 3'68%	3,32,00,176 5'91%	9,20,58,493 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	705 8'32%	419,828 6'62%	2,970 1'35%	451,342 2'84%	3,675 ...	871,170 ...
(6) MOULMEIN—				MOULMEIN—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	14,61,581	64,60,969	79,22,550	Entered ...	45	60,139	216	110,337	261	170,476
Exports ...	53,62,486	64,41,949	1,18,04,435	Cleared ...	53	71,733	265	153,241	318	224,974
Total ...	68,24,067	1,29,02,918	1,97,26,985	Total ...	98	131,872	481	263,578	579	395,450
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	...	27,11,716	27,11,716	Entered ...	3	1,306	220	16,351	223	17,657
Exports ...	...	10,22,979	10,22,979	Cleared ...	21	13,853	197	23,549	218	37,402
Total ...	...	37,34,695	37,34,695	Total ...	24	15,159	417	39,900	441	55,059
GRAND TOTAL ...	68,24,067 0'43%	1,66,37,613 2'96%	2,34,61,680 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	122 1'44%	147,031 2'32%	898 0'41%	303,478 1'91%	1,020 ...	450,509 ...
(7) CHITTAGONG—				CHITTAGONG—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	5,78,742	1,11,85,899	1,17,64,641	Entered ...	...	...	111	62,114	111	62,114
Exports ...	91,16,764	16,40,383	1,07,57,147	Cleared ...	2	2,641	115	66,426	117	69,067
Total ...	96,95,506	1,28,26,282	2,25,21,788	Total ...	2	2,641	226	128,540	228	131,181
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	...	29,300	29,300	Entered ...	16	12,538	646	86,597	662	99,135
Exports ...	...	5,22,225	5,22,225	Cleared ...	46	56,720	187	26,606	233	83,326
Total ...	...	5,51,525	5,51,525	Total ...	62	69,258	833	113,203	895	182,461
GRAND TOTAL ...	96,95,506 0'61%	1,33,77,807 2'38%	2,30,73,313 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	64 0'75%	71,899 1'13%	1,050 0'48%	241,743 1'52%	1,123 ...	313,642 ...
(8) AKYAB—				AKYAB—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports ...	56,547	39,98,926	40,55,473	Entered ...	...	...	115	70,440	115	70,440
Exports ...	73,34,183	15,11,769	88,45,952	Cleared ...	26	34,982	118	72,263	144	107,245
Total ...	73,90,730	55,10,695	1,29,01,425	Total ...	26	34,982	233	142,703	259	177,685
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports ...	7,500	45,76,960	45,84,460	Entered ...	2	2,310	233	7,690	235	10,000
Exports ...	...	16,61,710	16,61,710	Cleared ...	58	46,619	64	10,375	122	56,994
Total ...	7,500	62,38,670	62,46,170	Total ...	60	48,929	297	18,065	357	66,994
GRAND TOTAL ...	73,98,230 0'46%	1,17,49,365 2'09%	1,91,47,595 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	86 1'01%	83,911 1'32%	530 0'24%	160,768 1'01%	616 ...	244,679 ...

Ports.	TRADE.			Ports.	NAVIGATION.						
	Foreign.	Coasting.	Total.		Foreign.		Coasting.		Total.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
(9) TUTICORIN—				TUTICORIN—							
Merchandise—				Steam—							
Imports ...	21,46,956	17,28,219	38,75,175	Entered ...	2	2,282	146	197,508	148	199,790	
Exports ...	1,21,19,546	12,01,029	1,33,20,575	Cleared ...	2	2,282	144	196,437	146	198,719	
Total ...	1,42,66,502	29,29,248	1,71,95,750	Total ...	4	4,564	290	393,945	294	398,509	
Treasure—				Sailing—							
Imports ...	9,45,900	...	9,45,900	Entered ...	364	32,817	523	13,310	887	46,127	
Exports ...	2,40,000	9,915	2,49,915	Cleared ...	371	37,490	306	11,170	677	48,660	
Total ...	11,85,900	9,915	11,95,815	Total ...	735	70,307	829	24,480	1,564	94,787	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,54,52,402 0.97%	29,39,163 0.52%	1,83,91,565 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	739 8.72%	74,871 1.18%	1,119 0.51%	418,425 2.04%	1,858 ...	493,296 ...	
(10) TELlichERRY—				TELLICHERRY—							
Merchandise—				Steam—							
Imports ...	16,489	34,28,329	34,44,818	Entered ...	...	...	162	224,574	162	224,574	
Exports ...	67,29,018	33,09,133	1,00,38,151	Cleared ...	...	...	162	224,574	162	224,574	
Total ...	67,45,507	67,37,462	1,34,82,969	Total ...	...	...	324	449,148	324	449,148	
Treasure—				Sailing—							
Imports ...	...	14,000	14,000	Entered ...	...	...	702	23,997	702	23,997	
Exports ...	...	...	...	Cleared ...	4	1,812	393	12,443	397	14,255	
Total ...	...	14,000	14,000	Total ...	4	1,812	1,095	36,440	1,099	38,252	
GRAND TOTAL ...	67,45,507 0.42%	67,51,462 1.2%	1,34,96,969 ...	GRAND TOTAL ...	4 0.05%	1,812 0.03%	1,419 0.64%	485,588 3.12%	1,423 ...	487,400 ...	

33. The total foreign trade of Bombay is really much in excess of that of Calcutta, amounting last year to 6,837.55 lakhs while that of Calcutta was 5,898.22 lakhs, or 13.7 per cent less. Bombay imported more merchandise than Calcutta last year and her exports were only 0.8 per cent less. As the port to which is brought most of the gold and silver imported, Bombay takes the first place in India in the total trade, and it would seem that it must take first place in merchandise too very soon, for it is already practically on a level with Calcutta.

34. The trade and shipping of India have been distributed during the last four years in the following proportions between the five chief ports :

	Foreign.				Coasting.			
	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Trade.							
Bombay	41.55	43.51	43.79	42.78	30.91	30.74	28.51	28.8
Calcutta	38.45	36.97	35.97	36.9	15.33	15.68	16.56	17.3
Rangoon	5.06	4.67	4.93	5.01	8.69	7.53	7.77	8.65
Madras	5.28	5.43	5.0	5.58	3.23	3.12	3.42	3.41
Karachi	3.36	3.79	4.34	3.68	6.16	5.95	6.26	5.91
	93.70	94.37	94.03	93.95	64.32	63.02	62.52	64.07
Shipping.								
Bombay	33.82	34.78	32.67	33.7	12.07	13.02	12.87	11.98
Calcutta	26.41	24.77	23.54	24.52	7.15	7.73	8.48	8.06
Rangoon	8.8	9.23	9.20	9.36	4.06	3.94	4.25	4.64
Madras	7.24	7.62	8.1	8.07	6.01	6.23	6.66	7
Karachi	5.31	6.61	8.05	6.62	2.59	2.62	2.98	2.84
	82.08	83.01	81.56	82.27	31.88	33.54	35.24	34.52

The bulk of the trade with foreign countries and of the shipping coming from and leaving for foreign ports is concentrated at these five ports, about 94 per cent of the whole trade being recorded at them and 82 per cent of the shipping. The coasting trade and shipping are much more widely distributed amongst the ports of India, these five principal ports having only 64 per cent of the former and between 34 and 35 per cent of the latter.

It will be noticed that the relative proportions of the trade and shipping at each port do not vary very materially from year to year.

Trade with Countries.

35. The following table exhibits the value of the trade between India and the countries with which India has considerable commercial connections, and the proportion of the trade with each country to the total trade of India with all countries, for each of the last five years. The countries are enumerated according to the importance of the trade with them in 1885-86 :

Countries.	1882-83.		1883-84.		1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.	
	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom	81,77,01,060	55'31	86,76,92,490	56'09	84,11,83,775	55'3	84,63,92,210	55'61	87,70,84,052	54'88
2. China—Hong-Kong	13,85,13,467	9'37	12,95,33,955	8'37	12,32,43,226	8'1	13,30,53,633	8'74	14,16,23,423	8'86
3. France	7,75,78,186	5'25	9,22,71,674	5'97	8,88,94,543	5'84	7,40,80,554	4'87	8,59,46,981	5'38
4. Italy	5,40,98,044	3'66	4,32,15,025	2'79	4,03,82,433	2'65	4,54,88,206	2'99	5,86,65,981	3'67
5. Straits Settlements	5,33,04,705	3'61	4,79,81,610	3'1	5,21,00,948	3'42	5,39,02,822	3'54	5,83,96,495	3'65
6. United States	4,27,75,606	2'89	3,63,17,930	2'25	4,67,68,153	3'07	4,48,17,813	2'95	5,13,55,002	3'21
7. Belgium	2,23,01,618	1'51	3,57,95,887	2'31	3,36,92,058	2'21	3,99,67,531	2'63	3,90,38,983	2'44
8. China—Treaty Ports	3,83,36,257	2'59	4,29,55,811	2'78	4,27,38,256	2'81	5,09,77,627	3'35	3,54,63,633	2'22
9. Austria	3,21,71,045	2'18	2,90,03,449	1'88	3,14,01,969	2'06	2,66,81,624	1'75	3,44,46,327	2'16
10. Ceylon	2,73,91,585	1'85	2,64,50,697	1'72	3,25,20,869	2'14	2,90,78,371	1'91	3,09,60,033	1'94
11. Egypt	2,40,55,112	1'63	3,09,36,227	2'58	3,18,27,010	2'09	3,55,44,097	2'34	3,03,63,864	1'89
12. Mauritius	1,47,82,752	0'999	1,67,08,420	1'08	2,74,67,416	1'8	2,06,15,318	1'35	2,64,55,074	1'64
13. Persia	2,06,43,757	1'4	2,24,89,489	1'45	2,17,58,100	1'43	2,10,37,245	1'38	2,15,46,466	1'35
14. Arabia	1,55,84,661	1'054	1,38,23,395	0'894	1,42,44,543	0'936	1,67,60,595	1'1	1,97,73,992	1'24
15. Australia	2,99,11,923	2'03	3,07,47,590	1'99	2,52,91,724	1'66	1,56,78,303	1'03	1,15,48,727	0'72
16. Zanzibar	75,58,578	0'511	78,36,550	0'507	68,21,230	0'452	79,79,084	0'524	1,03,90,058	0'65
17. Aden	72,12,608	0'488	79,82,404	0'516	1,04,17,426	0'685	93,81,909	0'616	97,23,453	0'61
18. Germany	60,92,129	0'412	73,81,595	0'477	66,22,091	0'435	52,82,940	0'347	94,49,355	0'59
19. Turkey in Asia	1,05,87,771	0'718	89,12,122	0'576	96,15,435	0'632	76,67,866	0'504	83,60,711	0'52
20. Holland	47,12,383	0'319	34,51,699	0'223	47,11,335	0'31	54,09,717	0'355	49,11,244	0'31
21. Japan	25,11,901	0'170	30,49,259	0'197	49,20,377	0'323	29,89,027	0'196	43,16,041	0'27
22. Malta	76,69,418	0'519	1,04,41,869	0'675	45,24,073	0'298	53,87,930	0'354	39,98,796	0'25
23. Russia	13,39,307	0'089	14,96,351	0'097	12,19,917	0'08	10,95,972	0'072	28,10,884	0'14
24. South America	28,00,945	0'198	43,92,258	0'284	30,64,082	0'201	44,01,788	0'289	35,64,864	0'22

36. Comparing the imports and exports of merchandise of last year with those of 1882-83, it appears that in that period of five years our trade with England has increased 6'96 per cent, the average annual increase being 1'39 per cent; Austria 17 per cent; Belgium 75 per cent; Holland 21'36 per cent; France 10'88 per cent; Italy 49 per cent; and the United States only 3'29 per cent. In the same period our trade with China gives an increased value of only 2'56 per cent; Japan 58'7 per cent; Persia 6'96 per cent; the Straits 9'73 per cent; Ceylon 23'48 per cent; while our trade with the Australian Colonies has actually fallen off by 41 per cent.

37. The United Kingdom still keeps nearly 55 per cent of the whole trade of India, but the proportion apparently is gradually diminishing, other countries slowly taking a larger proportionate share of the trade. To the remarkable increase in the imports of cotton goods from England last year, the value of which rose from 2,086 lakhs to 2,555 lakhs, is due the fact that the proportion of the trade is not smaller than it has been. This increase is temporary and abnormal, due to causes stated elsewhere; it has not been sustained, so far, during the present year which will probably shew a material falling off in the trade before it ends. The activity of this trade accounts for most of the increase in the total imports of merchandise from England. That increase amounts to 511 lakhs, and the increase in cotton goods and twist accounts for about 483 lakhs of that sum. In malt liquor and spirits there was an increase of about 13½ lakhs, making altogether in these items of cotton twist and goods, malt liquor and spirits, a total increase of about 496 lakhs, leaving only 15 lakhs as the net increase in the rest of the trade.

Although the United Kingdom possesses only about 55 per cent of the whole trade of India, it should be observed that in the matter of imports of merchandise into India, that country has, it may be said, almost a practical monopoly of the trade. For whereas India last year imported altogether merchandise to the value of 5,866 lakhs, the United Kingdom represented 4,677 lakhs out of this, or nearly 80 per cent. Five years ago the proportion was 80·7 per cent. There has, therefore, been but an insignificant decline, though there is no tendency to gather up any larger share of the trade. The United Kingdom, in fact, is still alone able to supply the bulk of the needs of India, which are cotton goods, metals, machinery, railway material, coal, woollen goods, hardware and cutlery, beer and spirits.

Exports of Indian produce and manufactures to the United Kingdom were slightly smaller in value last year than the year before and much smaller than in former years. Their total value amounted to 3,340 lakhs, and but for a very large recovery in the exports of raw cotton, which shew a great augmentation with a good season after a period of short crops, this total would have given a further diminution. In jute and tea also there was some increase, but the exports of rice, wheat, and indigo, as well as linseed and rapeseed, fell off materially.

The exports to England last year were 39 per cent of the total exports of India (goods of Indian origin); five years ago the proportion was 43 per cent. It is in the export trade that the tendency to trade direct with other countries instead of through England manifests itself. One chief reason for this is that ships leaving India fill their holds with bulky cargo, such as cotton, jute, seeds, wheat, rice, and this can conveniently be dropped at a continental port, the ship then going on to England to obtain a return cargo which is not obtainable at continental ports, for the reasons stated above. Another cause for the diminishing proportion of the export trade which goes to England lies in the large expansion which has occurred quite recently in the exports to China and Japan of Indian twist and cottons. Briefly, the expansion of the Indian export trade is much more largely with China and with European continental countries than with England. In the former case it is quite a new trade; in the latter case it is to some considerable extent a diversion, England not being so largely used since the opening of the Suez Canal as an entrepôt for the storage and supply of Indian goods to the continent.

38. *Austria*.—The regular employment in trade with Bombay and Calcutta of the subsidised line of the Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's steamers has certainly largely developed the trade with that country. Last year saw a remarkable expansion in the import values which rose from 45 to 72 lakhs, the trade of five years ago being no more than 27 lakhs. The imports are of a varied character, chief among them being cotton twist and coloured cotton cloths, aniline dyes, beads and false pearls (Venetian, sent to Trieste for shipment) and other glassware, hardware and cutlery, copper and lametta, paper for printing and writing, stationery, silks, sugar, toys, woollen goods, besides many other articles of smaller importance.

Exports of Indian produce were valued at 263 lakhs last year, a large increase on the previous year's trade when they were valued at only 200 lakhs, but hardly in excess of the trade of five years ago (260 lakhs). Cotton is the principal article exported, and last year there was a recovery from the depression which had marked the trade for the three previous years, the result of short crops in India. The only other articles exported to Austria in important quantities are indigo, hides and skins, and jute.

39. *Belgium*.—Imports from Belgium continue to increase. Last year's value was 29½ lakhs, that of the year before having been 26·6 lakhs and of five years ago only 7·8 lakhs. The imports are numerous and separately of small importance, candles, glassware, hardware and cutlery, iron and steel, railway material, paints, paper, silks and woollens, being the most noticeable. The trade in iron, steel, and railway material is developing, but its dimensions so far are quite trifling, and unless much Belgian manufacture is imported through England (when it would be recorded as English in the trade returns) the alarm of those who are interested in British industry is not easily understood.

Export values have risen from 215 lakhs five years ago to 359 lakhs, but they were rather less than in the year previous to the year of report. Cotton is the largest article exported, and there is also a considerable trade in wheat, linseed, sesame, rape, poppy, and earthnuts. There is a smaller export of hemp and of jowári and bájra, the purpose for which these grains are required being unknown to me.

40. *France*.—Imports were largely in excess of previous years, the values for the last five being :

48·43 lakhs.
66·66 "
60·42 "
62·40 "
80·35 "

The development was mainly under the heads of apparel, coloured cottons, saffron, copper, and silks.

Export values are as follow :

719·23 lakhs.
831·63 "
816·85 "
668·38 "
770·88 "

The trade in cotton increased for the reasons stated already, and so did that in wheat in spite of the efforts made by the protectionists to keep it out and the heavy duty (equal to two shillings the hundredweight) levied on it. The trade is still, however, much smaller than it used to be. There was also a substantial increase in the exports of castor seed, linseed, and sesame, and in mowa or mowra seed (*Bassia latifolia*) a new trade has been created. Two or three years ago what seemed a promising trade in the export of the flowers of this tree was created, but the French authorities on sanitary grounds forbade their importation and the inventor of the process for producing liquor from the flowers which would be capable of consumption (suitably flavoured) by Europeans has not made anything out of the business. The seeds are now being exported for a different purpose, the extraction of oil, and as sanitary objections do not apply to them it may be hoped that there will be no administrative interference with the trade. In pepper and raw silk there was also some renewal of activity.

41. *Germany*.—Direct imports from Germany are still quite trifling, their value last year having reached only 16 lakhs, though much larger than in previous years. The only articles of importance are salt and woollen goods, with beer and matches. Most of the small and cheap German wares so often seen in India must come through England still.

Exports have increased much :

51·62	lakhs.
60·71	„
56·52	„
39·66	„
77·13	„

Two-thirds of the increase were due to the activity in the cotton trade before mentioned, and there was also an increased trade in indigo, rice, and jute. No wheat has been sent to Germany for the last three years. In fact North Germany now supplies South Germany with wheat from her own surplus. To Germany a good deal of East African ivory is sent from Bombay.

42. *Holland*.—No imports worth mention. Exports last year 48·8 lakhs, which was a smaller value than in the year previous though larger than in former years. Linseed was the principal export of the last three years, with wheat and cotton in smaller quantities.

43. *Italy*.—

Imports. Lakhs.	Exports (Indian goods). Lakhs.
44·44	337·31
51·87	350·88
41·81	348·51
41·46	363·81
42·55	526·94

Imports do not give any indications of progress. The articles are mainly of small importance, the most noticeable items being corals, white and coloured cottons, beads and false pearls, salt, silks, and marble. Beads have fallen off, but this is probably merely a transference of shipment from Trieste instead of from Venice. Corals have increased, but they are an unprofitable trade, shippers sending their goods to India in large quantities to reduce their accumulated and unsaleable stocks, India being, it is said, practically the only market left for corals now. There was a great decline in coloured cottons, and a substantial increase in silks.

The feature of the export trade of the year was the sudden and vast expansion in the exports of wheat. The trade reached such dimensions, Italy having taken nearly one-fourth of the whole exports of Indian wheat, that the figures are of interest :

Cwts.	Rs. (lakhs).
	₹
176,063	7.27
445,522	17.88
700,875	25.25
1,218,269	44.67
5,212,305	207.81

If it had not been for this great demand from Italy the record of the total exports of wheat would have given a great decline in the trade of the year instead of an increase, for the whole increase in exports to all countries amounted to 1,203,000 cwt., while the increase in the exports to Italy was as much as 3,994,000 cwt. This development of trade was not at the expense of the United States but of Russia, from which Italy has hitherto drawn regular supplies which were not forthcoming last year, the exports of cereals from Russia in 1886 having fallen off by 21 per cent in consequence of bad harvests. Whether the demand will continue on this scale is problematical, though undoubtedly the hard wheats of India are in favour in Italy for the manufacture of maccaroni and other *pâtes alimentaires* which are such a large industry in that country and it is stated by British consular authorities in Italy that Indian wheats can be delivered at such a low price in Italian ports as to render wheat-growing in that country unprofitable. The consumption of these pastes has largely taken the place of maize, formerly consumed by the peasantry, and while the manufacturers of them are said to be making fortunes our Indian growers of the raw material are also making money by the elevation in the Italian peasant's standard of comfort. Since he goes shod instead of barefoot, our exports of hides to Italy have increased, and since he eats maccaroni instead of maize our exports of wheat have increased. As India, however, is certainly not able this year to export as much as last year, not having the grain, the question whether the demand will continue is not of immediate interest.

Of the other articles exported, cotton, hides, jute, castor seed, rape and sesame, give a smaller trade; while indigo, rice, shell lac, linseed, and raw silk, increased more or less largely. Many foreign products were imported largely into Italy in 1885 in the expectation of increased customs duties and the trade correspondingly declined in 1886. Rice is not an article which is largely exported direct to Italy, though it is very largely used there. It is taken to Malta and thence reshipped to Italy as wanted.

44. *Malta*.—Last year the exports of rice to Malta fell off considerably, and as this is the only article sent in large quantity to that island, the aggregate value of the trade shews an almost corresponding reduction. The trade in both rice and wheat to that island has declined materially. Total export values have fallen thus :

Lakhs.
75.35
103.23
44.11
52.99
35.93

45. *Russia*.—From European Russia, no imports last year and nothing worth mention in any previous year. Exports thither, consisting mainly of cotton, have largely increased. Their value five years ago was 12·37 lakhs, in 1885-86, 10·40 lakhs, last year 31·33 lakhs. Last year too there was a comparatively large export of seeds.

From Asiatic Russia, that is to say from Batoum, were received last year some consignments of kerosine oil. These were the first and trial consignments of the Baku oil to India: quantity 1,577,392 gallons, value Rs. 6,70,428. This is trifling compared to the enormous quantities annually received from the United States, and it is said that in Karáchi at any rate the importations met with no special favour. But it is the beginning of what may prove a formidable competition with American oil, and perhaps the creation of an extensive trade with Russia. The only other competitor in the supply of mineral oil to India which Russia has is India herself, and here the conditions are such that it will be difficult for Indian oil (if it should be found in large quantities) to compete with foreign oil struck near the seaboard of the United States and Russia.

46. *Spain* (excluding Gibraltar).—No imports for the last four years. Exports last year 20·86 lakhs, a large reduction in the trade of previous years. The exports are chiefly cotton, wheat, jute, hides, and linseed, all of which, hides excepted, have fallen off during the year.

From Gibraltar we import a small quantity of wines (Gibraltar sherry) exports thither consisting of wheat, linseed, and some teak. The trade is hardly worth mention.

Nor is it necessary to mention the trifling trade with other countries in Europe.

47. *Abyssinia*.—Practically the only trade consists of the export of Indian and European cottons to a small extent.

48. *Cape Colony*.—Small exports of rice and gunny bags.

49. *Mozambique*.—Imports of ivory, which seem to be increasing, value nearly six lakhs.

Exports consist mainly of European and Indian cottons, more of the former than of the latter. The trade is trifling now, but is capable of development and attention is being given to it by the millowners of Bombay.

50. *Zanzibar*.—With Zanzibar our trade is comparatively large, that is, comparing it with the trade with other places on the East Coast of Africa, Zanzibar being really to a large extent an entrepôt for trade with those barbarous regions:

Imports.	Exports.	
	(Foreign.) Lakhs.	(Indian.) Lakhs.
26·68	16·70	24·82
23·54	16·13	26·55
23·91	10·26	29·60
33·32	14·13	21·03
39·21	19·10	27·64

Cloves stand for half the whole value of imports, next to them being ivory. The only other import of any note is kopra, or cocoanut kernel, imported for

the expression of oil. The price of cloves has advanced very largely during the year, for though the quantity imported was much smaller the value recorded was much higher than in 1885-86. The imports of ivory were on a very reduced scale.

The articles exported to Zanzibar are chiefly European coloured cottons, Bombay grey cottons, and rice, with a variety of other smaller articles too trifling to require mention. The trade between India and Zanzibar is carried on in steamers belonging to the British India Company and to the Sultan, and in native vessels closely resembling those in which Sinbad undertook his immortal voyages. These vessels are clumsy and archaic in build, seem crank, and are generally ill found according to European notions, or rather not found at all, but their Arab commanders are often daring and skilful navigators, and on the whole they do the work they have to do with much success.

51. *Egypt*.—Imports very small, only 6·86 lakhs last year, and consisting mainly of apparel, of which fez caps comprise a material proportion, silk and cigars and cigarettes being the only other considerable items.

Exports to Egypt are comparatively very large; last year they amounted to 252 lakhs. But, as has been often observed before, these exports are only nominally for Egypt, consisting as they do to the largest extent of rice, wheat, and other goods, shipped to Port Said or Alexandria, "for orders." Some of the wheat shipped to Egypt last year was really intended, however, for Alexandria, a cargo having been shipped in September 1886, probably the first cargo of wheat shipped from India for consumption in Egypt.

52. *Mauritius*.—The imports are practically confined to sugar, and this being the case and the fluctuations in the trade in sugar being of interest the quantities and values of the trade for the last five years are here given :

Cwt.	R (lakhs).
554,659	87·76
506,910	76·45
1,265,937	165·12
896,792	109·86
1,377,041	163·36

The increase in the trade is not due to any really increased demand in India, but to the absolute necessity of obtaining a market for an article which has fallen ruinously in price in Europe.

The exports consist chiefly of food grains, rice, wheat, grain, pulse (dál)—mainly rice—for the Indian cooly population settled in the colony. Last year's exports were 78·49 lakhs.

53. *Réunion*.—Trade does not increase. There are no imports really, and exports consist mainly of rice for the coolies there, and in this grain Saigon is now competing for the trade with India. Total value of exports, 19·65 lakhs.

54. *South America*.—The trade is confined to the export of rice and gunny bags, with a little linseed. The rice is intended for the consumption of the coolies in British and Dutch Guiana, and the bags for the reception of the sugar they make.

55. *United States*.—Imports seem to increase but slowly and exports not at all. The figures for the last five years are as follow :

Imports.	Exports (Indian).
Lakhs.	Lakhs.
93'43	331'64
52'91	308'23
1,13'80	345'32
83'30	304'48
1,17'03	319'09

Imports are practically confined now to kerosine oil, and last year saw the largest importation of this oil—over 29 million gallons—which has yet been known in India. The oil, as has been said before, has spread over the length and breadth of the land, and there is hardly a baniya's shop—in the towns at any rate—where it is not in daily use. That there should not have been extensive conflagrations resulting from its generally inferior quality and the carelessness with which it is handled and stored in buildings as inflammable as a match box, is quite a marvel. But there is no doubt that it has added immensely to the comfort of people who before the cheapening of this oil had to be content with the dim smoky light of the chirág fed with dirty evil-smelling vegetable oil. As pointed out elsewhere, last year saw what may prove to be the beginning of an active competition in India between Russian and American kerosine.

Indigo, jute, gunny bags and cloth, hides and skins, linseed, shell lac, saltpetre, and catch, are the principal articles exported to the United States. Linseed has fallen off enormously, the Americans now growing linseed themselves. Caoutchouc, skins, shell lac, and saltpetre have also declined. It cannot be said that the demand for these things has actually declined, but under the fiscal regulations of the United States for the protection of the national mercantile marine that marine has withered away, commerce has been transferred to British bottoms, and trade is conducted more and more through England and less and less directly between the States and India.

56. *Aden*.—Import value last year 8 lakhs, which was a good deal less than in the year before. The principal imports are ivory, transhipped at Aden from Zanzibar, and coffee. A trade in salt has also begun, 2,325 tons having been imported last year. This follows on a concession which was made to an Italian Company two years ago to work salt at Aden. This trade may develop largely if the business is carefully worked.

The exports to Aden are about nine times larger than the imports. Last year's value was 71'59 lakhs, representing European and Indian cottons, Bombay twist, rice, jowári and bájra, flour, tobacco, and a number of unimportant articles. The increase in the trade in flour is noticeable : from 3 million pounds five years ago it has risen to nearly 12 million pounds, value 5½ lakhs. This flour is made in mills worked by steam in Bombay. Much of it is sent to Aden for transhipment to the French and Italian settlements on the neighbouring coasts. Further information about this trade in flour will be found elsewhere on page 45.

57. *Arabia*.—Imports are chiefly cotton, gums, pearls, fishmaws and sharkfins (for isinglass), salted fish, salt, and dates. Aggregate value last year 31½ lakhs. There does not appear to be any indication of material development in this trade.

Exports are much larger than imports :

Foreign. Lakhs.	Indian. Lakhs.
24·02	53·6
23·18	49·16
18·8	51·4
21·04	69·05
25·81	82·48

In both cases there was a substantial increase of trade last year; in the case of foreign goods under European cottons and Mauritius sugar, which form the bulk of our re-exports to Arabia. In the case of Indian merchandise the increase results from largely augmented exports of rice, wheat, flour, jowári, and other food grains, and sugar. There was a decline in exports of coffee and Indian piece-goods, so that it may be inferred that the people were not in prosperous circumstances and had to restrict their consumption of comforts and luxuries in order to pay for the necessaries which had failed them.

58. *Ceylon*.—The trade is large, much of it being in the nature of a coasting trade with the districts in Madras adjacent to the island. The traffic in passengers and merchandise is very active.

Imports. Lakhs.	Export (Indian). Lakhs.
57·37	134·26
56·91	146·79
41·03	178·34
50·99	185·77
53·77	180

There is also a re-export trade, mainly in cottons and woollens, amounting last year to 9 lakhs in value.

The largest items in the import trade are betelnuts, cocoanuts, whole and in kernel (kopra), coir and coir goods, and cocoanut oil. The products of the areca and cocoa palms form, in fact, three-fifths of the imports from Ceylon into India. The other imports are severally of no special importance: they are, coffee, cotton goods and gunny bags, which are brought to Colombo as a convenient centre and thence distributed to the smaller Madras ports, malt liquor and spirits, shells and cowries, cardamoms, and wood and timber. Rice represents more than three-fifths of the export values. The other items worth notice are Indian cottons, food grains other than rice, flour, salted fish, and other provisions, castor and sesame oil, oilcake, seeds, spices, sugar. In fact, it may be said that at least four-fifths of the exports consist of rice and other foodstuffs, with oil and spices, and clothing, for the Madras coolies employed on the Ceylon plantations. It is curious to note that last year 5,845 cwt. and the year before 7,035 cwt. of Indian coffee were sent to Ceylon. This looks like sending coals to Newcastle, but the explanation no doubt is that it was found convenient, with respect to freight advantages, to send the coffee from Southern India to Colombo for shipment thence to Europe or elsewhere.

59. *China (Hong-Kong)*.—

Imports. Lakhs.	Exports (Indian). Lakhs.
188·45	980·8
177·75	967·07
156·39	943·12
155·27	944·15
187·18	1063·54

Neither imports nor exports seem to exhibit any particular tendency to increase.

The imports are of a very mixed character, the staples being raw silk, silk piece goods, sugar, tea, copper, glassware, fireworks, camphor, cassia lignea, umbrellas, apparel, and what is known in the returns as "Chinese and Japanese ware" and to the public generally as "curios." There is also some ceramic ware. The trade in raw silk is very large: about $1\frac{3}{4}$ million pounds were imported five years ago, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ millions last year, value 54 lakhs. This is mostly "waste" silk (what is called *chasam* in this country) and silk produced by wild worms, in fact much the same sort of silk that is now being exported from Bengal to Europe. Why Bengal should not supply the wants of the Bombay mills is one of the puzzles of Indian trade. Why also should not Bengal and the North-Western Provinces supply the wants of Bombay in regard to sugar instead of leaving Mauritius and China to supply them? And tea? Indeed, one might make out a tolerably long list of such questions, and not be able to supply the answers. Perhaps they may be satisfactorily answered some ten or twenty years hence.

Amongst exports, opium takes first place of course, and thereafter Bombay twist, with a value of 236 lakhs. Our piece goods do not seem to go down much in China yet, the Chinaman preferring to buy our coarse strong yarn and weave his stout durable jacket in his own hand loom. He also takes a considerable quantity of our raw cotton to spin and weave for himself. The export of the raw material, however, has fallen off as that of the yarn has advanced, and it may be that as the years go by the export of yarn will give place to that of the finished cloth, and that again to the export of the raw material when the Chinaman has decided to do his manufacturing for himself in mills where machinery is worked by steam after Western methods—but that is in the dim and distant future.

Of other exports to Hong-Kong—saltpetre, gunny bags, rice, ornamental wood, jade, fishmaws and sharkfins,—it is unnecessary to say anything. The trade is not large and there is no prospect of its development into large dimensions.

60. *China (Treaty Ports).*—Imports from these are very small compared to those from Hong-Kong. Last year the value was 31·61 lakhs, of which tea represented two-thirds and silk and silk goods the other third.

Exports for the last five years :

Lakhs.
322·96
340·4
304·06
311·44
269·7

The largest part of this value comes under opium, which, with Bombay twist, gives practically almost all the aggregate value.

Hitherto the trade with China, except in regard to opium, has been concentrated in Hong-Kong as a centre for import and export, but as regards twist

the trade is being diverted gradually, direct shipments being made to the Treaty Ports, as the following figures for the last five years show :

Exports of twist to Treaty Ports.

lbs.	Value. R
5,200	1,987
394,300	1,60,079
1,013,390	3,99,005
8,173,020	29,66,503
14,001,880	49,64,040

Evidently the Bombay exporter is very much alive to the necessity of laying down his goods as cheaply as possible and of avoiding unnecessary charges for landing, storage, reshipment, and middlemen's commission, when he is competing with Lancashire or Chinese spinners.

61. *Japan*.—Imports are very small, the value last year being only two lakhs, of which the greatest part represented copper, with some curios and pottery. Most of the Japanese copper is imported by way of China.

Exports have increased largely :

Lakhs.
22.98
28.75
27.84
27.35
37.40

They are, with quite trifling exceptions, limited to Bombay twist, so that these figures really represent the progress of that trade. It has been advancing from year to year: last year the exports amounted to but little under 9½ million pounds.

In both China and Japan, as has been pointed out often before, the competition of Bombay with Lancashire twist is increasingly successful. Some attribute the success to the operation of exchange, but this is very doubtful. Better reasons can be found in the intrinsic merits of the article and its adaptability to the purposes for which Chinamen and Japanese require twist, and in the facts that the raw material has no long freight charges to pay between the field and the mill and that the freight of the twist from Bombay is lower than from Liverpool, to say nothing of the labour by which it is made being cheaper. With or without a low exchange, it may confidently be said that the Bombay spinner has natural advantages of a very substantial character over the Lancashire spinner when the two compete in the markets of China and Japan.

62. *Java*.—Imports and exports are both very small, exports being limited to some twist and gunny bags. In the list of imports the only points to notice are that Java has for the last two years been trying to find an Indian market for her sugar, the production of which has about doubled in that island in the last

ten years, and that she is also sending us tea, though this is intended not for consumption in India but for shipment to Persia.

63. Persia.—

Imports.	Exports.	
	Indian	Foreign.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
57'35	30'32	92'06
56'39	28	109'34
64'32	31'89	95'43
64'61	30'04	98'75
56'27	34'15	101'83

Thus it will be seen that for every rupee's worth of Indian goods sent to Persia three rupees worth of foreign goods are re-exported thither from India.

The imports, as with most of these Asiatic countries, form a long list of articles, separately of no particular importance. The chief imports are horses, in which there was a considerable increase last year in consequence of purchases made for the Indian army, cotton for the Bombay mills, asafœtida, madder, pearls, dates and other dried fruit, ghi, raw silk and wool, and perfumery.

Three articles make up the great bulk of the re-exports: Manchester cottons, Mauritius and China sugar, and China and Java tea. Of this foreign tea as much as $1\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds were exported last year, while of Indian tea less than 200,000 pounds were exported. If these figures do not bring home to the minds of those interested in the Indian tea industry the conviction that they have left to be occupied by foreigners a wide field for their tea, nothing will. These 200,000 pounds, however, are a great advance on the exports of previous years, and it may be hoped that, as some enterprising people have seen the markets which have before been pointed out to them, others will do so too. The value of the foreign tea exported was 12'96 lakhs, that of Indian tea 1'44 lakhs. The value of Manchester cottons and twist exported was 64'4 lakhs, of Indian cottons and twist about two lakhs. But the description of cotton goods taken by these people is not the description which as yet is made in Bombay, much the largest portion consisting of coloured and bleached goods. Foreign sugar was exported to the value of 11'13 lakhs, the Indian sugar representing a value of about a fifth of a lakh.

The only other exports of importance are indigo, rice, coffee, pepper, and woollen shawls. It was stated about a year ago that the Persians were substituting Manchester prints for their indigo-dyed shirts, and that consequently the imports of indigo from India might be expected to fall off. There is no indication of this decline so far in the returns, the export of indigo last year having been nearly double that of the year before and much larger than in any of the five years, and it is stated in the report of Colonel Ross on the trade of Southern Persia for 1886 that there was a material decline in the imports of Manchester prints.

64. *Russia in Asia.*—This is a new heading which has been opened out in the tables of trade this year in consequence of importations for the first time from Batoum. The importations consisted of a million and a half gallons of kerosine, and it is likely enough that, as has been said elsewhere, this is the beginning of an active competition with American oil. During the first three months

of the present year the imports of this oil from Batoum have amounted to 435,000 gallons.

65. *Straits Settlements*.—The trade carried on with the Straits resembles in many respects, on a much larger scale, the trade with Ceylon.

Imports. Lakhs.	Exports.	
	Foreign. Lakhs.	Indian. Lakhs.
159·67	21	342·87
161·28	22·89	283·63
170·95	25·99	316·56
161·20	27·25	341·15
159·05	26·23	389·22

The imports are most varied in character, Singapore having been for a long time what Colombo is now becoming, an entrepôt for trade between east and west. It is a sort of half-way house between China and the Archipelago on the one hand and India and Europe on the other: hence the varied character of the trade, a good deal of which is, however, as with other Asiatic countries, of a retail and peddling sort.

Amongst the principal imports are, apparel, canes, coffee, white and coloured cottons, camphor and other drugs, pottery, fireworks, cocoanuts and kernel, gum benjamin, gambier, matches, tin, oils, paints, paper, dammer, salted fish, flour, dried fruits and provisions of the kind esteemed by Chinese and Burmese, sesame seed, raw silk and silk piece goods, betelnuts, nutmegs and pepper, sugar, tea, umbrellas, timber and wood. A great many of these things are obviously of Chinese origin, *e.g.*, fireworks, umbrellas, pottery, camphor, silk; others again are from Java and other islands in the Archipelago, *e.g.*, tea; others again mentioned in the returns are European or American. Those which have their origin in the Straits are, tin, coffee, cocoanuts and coconut kernel, betelnuts, nutmegs, pepper, dammer, gambier, &c., those named being in fact amongst the most important in the list. There was a heavy decline in the betelnut trade last year compared with the trade of the year previous, but in other respects the fluctuations of trade were of no special importance.

The foreign goods re-exported from India to the Straits are in the main cotton piece goods. No other items are worth notice. Amongst Indian goods the first place is occupied by rice, the next by opium, these two making up two-thirds of the trade. In the remaining third the most noticeable are cotton piece goods, with twist and raw cotton, gunny bags, hides and skins, jade, cattle, X cutch, castor oil, fishmaws and sharkfins, wax, besides a great many other articles. Many of these things are intended for Chinese consumption in the Straits and further East.

66. *Turkey in Asia*.—This trade resembles in its main lines the trade with Arabia and Persia, the territories treated of under this heading being contiguous to those two countries.

Imports. Lakhs.	Exports.	
	Foreign. Lakhs.	Indian. Lakhs.
23·32	19·24	22·17
22·27	18·67	19·98
20·94	18·44	23·69
22·22	20·14	20·68
17·98	21·27	25·77

More than half the imports consists of dates, the trade in which last year was on a very reduced scale. The only other imports of any consequence are horses, wheat, and ghi, all of which were imported in comparatively small quantities.

The main export of foreign goods is cotton cloth, with sugar as the only other item of consequence. In both there was an increase of trade. Indian cottons make a poor figure compared with European cottons in the trade with this tract, but the reasons have already been given under the head of Persia. Indigo, coffee, rice, gunny bags, and pepper are the only other items requiring mention.

67. *Australia*.—Trade with the Australasian colonies has been very disappointing. Great hopes were entertained of its development as a result of the Melbourne Exhibition of 1880, to which the Government of India contributed at considerable expense in the expectation of seeing a large extension of the trade between India and the colonies. In fact, however, the trade has receded. This disappointing result is to be attributed largely to the fiscal policy of the colonies. They have nothing to send to us except their manufactures, for their raw products we do not require. Their system of heavy duties raises the cost of these manufactures to a much higher level than the cost of similar (and on the whole better) manufactures obtained from England. We have mainly only raw products and foodstuffs to send to the colonies, but the same fiscal system protects the grower there and prevents India from sending goods to the colonies. It is not possible that under such a system trade can progress with any rapidity. Yet under a rational system, it is clear that there ought to be a trade between Australia and India as vigorous and proportionately as large as between England and India.

Imports. Lakhs.	Exports (Indian). Lakhs.
47·65	108·25
55·72	59·11
46·53	77·34
42·25	58·26
39·21	52·37

There are only three articles imported of any importance, namely, copper, coal, and horses. Horses are steady (in the trade sense), coals and copper fluctuate much.

The principal articles of export are gunny bags, castor oil, and tea, with a little rice, and last year, as an exceptional case, wheat (to Australia!). There was a large falling off in gunny bags last year, which is accounted for by bad crops in the colonies, and tea was also exported on a reduced scale. In regard to Indian tea the truth is that the colonists, who are really not capable of appreciating the merits of good tea, must be gradually educated up to Indian tea. At present "posts and rails" or "timber," as the coarse and very cheap Chinese tea commonly used is called, is good enough for labourers and shepherds who know no better.

Import Trade.

68. The values of imported merchandise during the last fifteen years stand thus :

<i>In lakhs of rupees.</i>					
1872-73	3047'30	1877-78	3932'60	1882-83	5000'30
1873-74	3162'85	1878-79	3656'62	1883-84	5270'39
1874-75	3464'52	1879-80	3974'21	1884-85	5314'93
1875-76	3711'26	1880-81	5030'88	1885-86	5181'15
1876-77	3536'71	1881-82	4699'21	1886-87	5866'14
<i>Average</i>	3384'53	<i>Average</i>	4253'70	<i>Average</i>	5326'58
		(increase) = 25·8%		(increase) = 25·1%	
Average of Exchange .	21'90 <i>d.</i>	Average of Exchange .	20'08 <i>d.</i>	Average of Exchange .	18'82 <i>d.</i>

These figures do not support the first part of the theory, which has been so often propounded, that a low exchange restricts imports and stimulates exports. That theory rested upon the assumption that a fall in the price of silver was alone involved in the question under discussion. If silver alone had been affected in relation to gold, the facts would certainly have verified the theory within limits; for it is obvious that as exchange falls, the cost of imports must increase, while at the same time it is possible to sell exports more cheaply. But silver was not the only commodity concerned in relation to gold. Those who propounded the theory in the first instance had not then seen that a general fall in prices of all commodities was imminent, and those who have repeated the theory so often since have apparently failed to perceive that, while it was true, and would have remained true if silver alone had been concerned, it was untrue, and could not possibly apply to the facts, when silver was only one of the commodities concerned, and all other commodities fell in an equal and in many cases greater ratio. Thus, if cotton cloth cost, say, one shilling a yard when exchange ranged at or about 2*s.* to the rupee, the consumer in India would not really pay more for it when exchange fell to 18*d.* the rupee, if at the same time the price of the cloth fell to 9*d.* a yard.

Therefore there could be no restriction of the import trade arising out of the condition of exchange, and in fact there has been none. Imports, on the contrary, have continued to increase in about the same ratio in the last five years with a low exchange as in former years with a higher exchange, a fact due to increased population, an elevation in the standard of comfort in the trading and urban population, improved means of communication, and generally good harvests for seven years past, joined to the facts that the fall of prices of commodities generally having been greater than the fall in the price of silver, and sea freights and railway carriage having also fallen, prices of imported merchandise in India have actually, on the whole, been rather lower with a low exchange than they were with a high exchange.

It will be seen under the section treating of the export trade that the second part of the theory is equally inapplicable to the facts.

69. Although the imports of last year were very large, and the average rate of exchange for the same period was much the lowest on record, it is not intended to point to this coincidence as proving that a low exchange favours and stimulates the import trade. Such a proposition would be quite as erroneous as the proposition, which has already been amply proved to be fallacious, that a low exchange

restricts the import trade. The fact is that the effects of exchange have been so profoundly modified by other circumstances, such as the fall in prices of commodities and in charges for transport by sea and land, that they practically almost disappear in considering the state of trade. After a rapid advance for nine years, the progress of the import trade was retarded in 1881-82, and for four years thereafter was slow. Last year saw another great bound in advance, the trade being more than 13 per cent in excess of that of the previous year. This great advance, however, is hardly likely to be maintained this year, and indeed it is probable that the values will be less than those of last year. Two-thirds of the increase (488 out of 685 lakhs) are to be found under the head of cotton goods, and the increase in these is to be attributed to the urgent necessity of Lancashire spinners to reduce their accumulating stocks, to the necessity for replenishment of stocks in this country, which for two or three years had been allowed to fall to a low point, and to the decision of the Hindu astrologers that it was a good year for marriages. Much the same remarks apply to the importation of sugar, which gives an increased value of 62 lakhs. These items account for five-sixths of the increase of trade.

70. Grouping the imports under the general heads of the classification presented in the returns, the following figures shew the trade in the last five years :

I.—*Animals, living* (almost all horses) :

Lakhs.
19·03
20·75
20·73
25·68
26·12

II.—*Articles of food and drink* :

Lakhs.
514·51
538·22
632·73
585·19
678·96

III.—*Metals and manufactures of metals*, including machinery and millwork, and railway plant and rolling stock :

Lakhs.
786·66
941·18
876·50
855·32
836·11

IV.—*Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials* :

Lakhs.
83·78
87·70
87·39
86·16
95·29

V.—*Oils :*

Lakhs.
105·09
65·42
122·95
96·11
140·84

VI.—*Raw Materials and unmanufactured articles :*

Lakhs.
303·87
308·87
305·22
325·19
314·91

VII.—*Manufactured and partly manufactured articles :*

Lakhs.
3187·35
3308·25
3269·40
3207·49
3773·91

71. *Animals.*—The first of these heads is relatively unimportant, and requires no special remark. The trade expands gradually, owing mainly to the increased demand for army remounts.

72. *Articles of food and drink.*—This head, which constituted $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the imports of the year, comprises coffee, fruits and vegetables, grain and pulse, hops, liquors, provisions, salt, spices, sugar, and tea. A not inconsiderable quantity of *Coffee* is imported, chiefly into Bombay and Burma, from the Straits, Ceylon, and Aden. Last year about 21,000 cwt. were imported, of which about a fifth was re-exported to Mauritius and other places lying between Bombay and Europe.

73. The imports of *Fruits and Vegetables* (cocoanuts and coconut kernel forming the bulk of the trade) are tolerably large, their value last year being 20 lakhs; but the trade does not increase.

74. *Malt liquor.*—Hops have been imported in somewhat larger quantities during the last two years, averaging about 5,000 cwt., than previously. The great fall in price may have induced brewers to lay in larger stocks; or perhaps the increase is due to extension of brewing operations requiring a larger consumption. The Indian breweries have been doing very well for some time past, and their operations have been extended to various places outside the Himálayan range, to which they were formerly confined. At the same time the importation of malt liquor does not seem to have been affected by the competition of Indian beer, as far as consumption by the non-military population is concerned, although there has been a great extension of brewing in India, as much as 4,318,000 gallons having been brewed in 1886. Importations on account of the Government have fallen off so largely as to be indeed almost on the point of total cessation, the troops in Northern India being now practically all supplied with Indian ale and porter, Calcutta and one or two cantonments convenient of access from Calcutta being the only exceptions. But the trade which supplies the general population was much larger

last year than in any previous year, the quantity imported amounting to 1,715,000 gallons, the average of previous years being only 1,200,000 gallons. The bulk of the imported beer still comes from England, but it is not all English beer, nor anything like all, Austrian and German beer being now almost as commonly met with and consumed in India as English beer.

75. In *Spirits* there was a much smaller increase. Five years ago the quantity imported was 949,000 gallons; last year it was 1,062,000 gallons—an increase of about 12 per cent, the increase in the importations of malt liquor in the same period being 47 per cent; and part of the increase was probably due to anticipations of an increase in the import duty, for during the present year the trade has declined. Whisky continues to hold the field against brandy. Speaking roughly, five years ago two gallons of brandy were imported for every gallon of whisky, but the disproportion has been gradually reduced, until last year the quantity of each liquor was almost equal. Much of the brandy imported is a very cheap common spirit, much cheaper than any whisky brought to the country. Thus the declared values give a result of 9 rupees a gallon for whisky and of $7\frac{3}{4}$ rupees a gallon for brandy. The increase in the duty of 25 per cent (from 4 to 5 rupees the gallon), which took effect from January last, may have the effect of further displacing the lower priced liquor in favour of whisky.

76. *Wines and Liqueurs* were imported in almost exactly the same quantity as in the previous year. In this trade there is manifest a decided tendency towards retrogression. Anglo-Indians generally cannot afford to pay a good price for good wine, and are gradually giving up wine altogether, except in so far as they are bound by customary obligations. Whereas formerly for every bottle of wine consumed there were consumed only from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 bottles of spirit, now 3 bottles of spirit are consumed for every bottle of wine. It is said, and with truth that Anglo-Indians are growing temperate, but it does not appear in the tables of the imports. But of course the population is increasing, and until the next census is taken it cannot be said whether or not the increased consumption of liquor is more than proportionate to the increase in numbers. Also, it must be said, that some classes of natives are much addicted to the consumption of imported liquor, sometimes—to save appearances—buying it ostensibly as perfumery. A heavy duty having been placed on perfumed spirit, it is probable that its importation will much diminish.

Total quantity and value of liquors of all kinds imported in the last five years :

Gallons.	Lakhs of rupees.
2,544,624	133.46
2,584,997	138.95
2,310,976	121.79
2,597,920	129.85
3,140,299	145.98

77. *Provisions* fall but little short, in value, of liquors. These include canned meats, fish, vegetables, and fruits, biscuits, jams, jellies, preserves, pickles, and sauces—in short, the “oilman’s stores and groceries,” without which the Anglo-Indian’s life would not be worth living, bacon, cheese,

butter, flour, salted fish, ghi, dates, and a variety of unnamed others. Imports in the last five years :

Lakhs of rupees.

108·72

103·39

110·33

119·19

117·95

The value of *dates* (26 lakhs) would have been larger, but that drought prevailed in the regions whence they are imported, and the importations were smaller than usual.

It is worth notice that the trade in *ghi* has expanded from less than half a million pounds to nearly two million pounds in five years, the value as recorded increasing from 1½ lakhs to over 7 lakhs of rupees. This article is imported into Bombay and Sindh from the Mekran Coast and the Persian Gulf, although there is enough in other parts of India to supply all the needs of the Western Presidency. As with sugar and ghi, so with various other articles, the wants of one part of India might be supplied from other parts of India; but foreign countries are resorted to, because railway tariffs are still so high as to be practically prohibitory for certain classes of goods which, as railway authorities suppose, can well afford a high rate. The railways have not done all that might be done when they reduce rates on wheat, oilseeds, or cotton for export.

Of *Salted fish*, 12 million pounds, value 9½ lakhs, were imported last year, of which 7 million pounds were sent into Bombay and Sindh, and most of the rest into Burma, being imported thence from the Straits. If ever there was an unnecessary importation this is one, for India possesses every requisite for supplying all the salted fish wanted by the country more cheaply than it can be imported from abroad.

Another such is *Flour*, of which more than 2½ million pounds were imported last year. This is imported in about equal quantities into Burma and Bengal—into the former from the Straits, and into the latter from various countries, prominent among which are England, Austria, Australia, and China. That Bengal, which exports wheat largely to Europe, should import flour thence is sufficiently remarkable and characteristic. While Bengal continues to import flour in large quantities, Bombay has commenced the manufacture of this article, and has already developed an important export trade in it, as will be seen under the head of exports. What Bengal should do is to cease importing for itself, and to take the place of the Straits in supplying Burma. Bombay will do it presently, if Bengal does not.

78. *Salt*.—417,442 tons were imported last year—a considerable increase on the imports of previous years,—of which about three-fourths were from England. Of the other fourth, the bulk is supplied by Italy, Germany, and Arabia (Muscat rock salt). When there is an active export trade from India, as there was last year, there is always a large import of coal and salt, these articles being brought in place of sand, stone, or water ballast by ships coming to India for a cargo thence for Europe. The only noticeable feature of the year was an import of 2,325 tons from Aden, where an Italian company has commenced extensive salt works under agreement with the Government. If the Egyptians had had enough energy and enterprise, they might have taken the place which will now probably continue to be occupied by this company at Aden.

Imports of salt for the last five years :

Tons.	Lakhs of rupees.
338,065	51.52
383,090	62.30
412,839	64.92
363,088	59.60
417,442	76.90

79. *Spices*.—Of these the principal are betelnuts, cloves, and pepper. Total value of all kinds :

Lakhs.
51.08
55.71
60.22
71.87
66.38

The imports of betelnuts fell off after the very large imports of 1885-86, and so did those of cloves.

80. *Sugar*.—The imports were again extremely large, amounting to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ million cwts. The great increase in this trade during the last three years is due to the low prices of sugar in every market, as stated in previous reviews, and the vital necessity to planters in Mauritius, Java, the Straits, and all other sugar-growing localities, to find a market at any price for their produce. It is difficult for growers of cane sugar to find a market for their produce in Europe where beet sugar is increasing yearly under the stimulus of bounties. In 1885-86 there was a restriction of production as the result of a financial crisis, but in 1886-87 the production was estimated to amount to nearly 26 million metric quintals, or an increase of more than 20 per cent on the previous year. In 1871-72 the production was about 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ million metric quintals. It is impossible for Colonial and Indian planters to struggle against production thus artificially stimulated by aid from the tax-payer, and those who can afford to wait must hold on until the system breaks down, as it must. Those who cannot hold on must succumb. For the present, prices must continue to range very low and be unprofitable. However, there is some prospect of an end to the present régime. In Russia bounties have been abolished on exports except to Central Asia, and in France a re-arrangement is about to be made by which the State will share some of the profit which has hitherto been derived exclusively by the exporter.

From Europe—England and the Continent—the large quantity of 49,000 cwt. was received; and if the low range of prices and the extended production of beet sugar continue, it may be expected that such imports will increase. Yet it is astonishing that sugar should be sent to India, which has an unlimited capacity for its production, and should be able to supply all its own wants.

81. *Tea*.—Imports reached 4,214,342 lbs., much the highest point yet attained. This trade has more than doubled during the last few years. The bulk of it—more than 4 million pounds—was imported from China, either direct or *via* the Straits; 53,000 lbs. came from Java; 55,000 lbs. from Ceylon; and (the first import of the kind) 6,800 lbs. from Batoum.

Of this large quantity, 1,854,000 lbs. were re-exported by sea, leaving 2,360,000 lbs. for consumption in India and for transit across the frontier into Afghanistan. The re-exports by sea were almost all up the Persian Gulf, the

tea being distributed through Persia and Central Asia. This large and increasing trade Indian planters seem content to leave to China, Java, and Ceylon:

82. *III.—Metals and manufactures of Metals.*—The value of this extensive trade was last year 836·11 lakhs, being 14·2 per cent of the whole imported merchandise. The value has fallen continuously since 1883-84.

Hardware and Cutlery give a value of 86½ lakhs—a sum indicating but little progress in a trade which should increase from year to year.

Imports of *Copper* have declined to 30,750 tons, but the imports of the previous year were unusually large (32,650 tons), and even the reduced figure is much above the average of previous imports. The fall in price of copper—a fall amounting to between 40 and 50 per cent during the last four or five years—must have operated as a stimulus to the trade, and the good harvests in India have enabled the people to indulge in the luxury of copper vessels to an unusual extent. Some of the copper has been put to the curious use of being cast in small lumps, sold to people at the rate of 80 to the rupee, and circulated widely as currency in place of the Government pice, of which 64 go to the rupee.

Iron has also fallen from 174,658 tons to 164,000 tons, the imports being but little larger than they were five years ago. The decrease is chiefly in bars, pipes, and tubes.

Lead increased a good deal, and must increase with the increase of the tea industry, more than half the imports being lead sheets for tea chests. The whole trade, however, is relatively unimportant, the imports of last year being only 4,764 tons, value about 12 lakhs.

In *Steel* there was a large increase, the imports amounting to 17,465 tons, about half of which consists of hoops for bales of cotton, &c., sent out of India. The proportion of steel to iron in the import trade was last year about as 1 to 10—a much larger proportion than in previous years.

Of *Tin and Spelter*, there were also increased imports.

But although the trade in these four metals and in brass expanded, they bear but a very small proportion to copper and iron; and these having declined, the general result is a decrease in the imports of metals from 235,250 tons to 228,839 tons.

83. *Machinery and Millwork.*—Import values in the last five years :

Lakhs.
134·24
178·91
148·41
99·15
137·14

There was thus a considerable recovery from the low point to which imports fell in 1885-86. There was much activity last year in extending cotton mills and starting new mills.

84. *Railway Material.*—Import values for the last five years :

Lakhs.
111·64
163·33
159·26
201·81
143·51

These values, it must be remembered, do not include material imported by and on account of the State.

85. IV.—*Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials.*—Chemicals somewhat decreased in value, drugs and medicines, on the other hand, giving an increase. Aniline dyes again shew a very large augmentation, the trade of the year amounting to 13,317,000 ounces, about four-fold the trade of five years ago. The use of these dyes on Indian fabrics is much to be regretted, but Indian weavers and dyers will not apparently find out their mistake until the reputation of their goods is utterly lost. In Saffron also there was some increase. This article is imported of different qualities. True saffron of the purest quality is used by Hindus for offerings in worship, as well as for the flavouring and colouring of food. Inferior saffron, and what is called false saffron, is also used for the colouring of food and confectionery.

The total value of the imports under this general head amounted to 95·29 lakhs—a large increase on the trade of antecedent years.

86. V.—*Oils.*—Total value of imports for the last five years :

Lakhs.
105·09
65·42
122·95
96·11
140·84

of which about 126 lakhs represent the value of mineral oil, chiefly kerosine, the imports of which still increase, attaining last year much the highest level ever reached :

Gallons.	Lakhs.
19,904,082	86·61
13,107,267	52·08
26,299,091	111·00
17,595,663	70·14
30,963,763	121·66

and other mineral oils raised the value to 126 lakhs. Up to last year the imports of kerosine were practically all from the United States; but last year saw an import of nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons from Batoum—an import which may possibly be the first indication of severe competition with the United States.

87. VI.—*Raw Materials and unmanufactured articles.*—Total value of imports :

Lakhs.
303·87
308·87
305·22
325·19
314·91

The most important item under this head is *Coal* (including coke and patent fuel), the value of which amounted to about 131 lakhs. Imports were rather smaller than in the previous year, but in that year they were very large. The

trade in coal fluctuates much, as has been remarked in previous years. When there is a large import of commodities, generally the import of coal slackens off, this article and salt being taken as cargo ordinarily *faute de mieux*.

In *Ivory and Pearls*, there was a rather considerable decrease. *Raw silk* was imported to the extent of close on $1\frac{3}{4}$ million pounds, chiefly for use in weaving in Bombay. The other articles enumerated under this head require no notice.

88. VII.—*Articles manufactured and partly manufactured*.—This is much the most important head in the list of imports. Last year it constituted three-fifths of the whole import trade, or, more exactly, over 64 per cent.

Lakhs of rupees.

3187·35

3308·25

3269·40

3207·49

3773·91

The augmentation of trade in this class is due entirely to the increase in yarns and textile fabrics, which indeed constitute the bulk of the class. The value of the trade in yarns and textile fabrics is as follows:

Lakhs of rupees.

2695·60

2768·30

2721·05

2693·85

3221·46

The trade of the year thus gives an increase of nearly 20 per cent.

89. In Cotton piece-goods of all sorts—grey, white, and coloured,—the trade is as follows:

Yards.	Lakhs of rupees.
1,640,595,021	2095·68
1,721,852,195	2216·54
1,731,565,035	2069·51
1,740,813,831	2059·67
2,155,419,391	2535·58

After some years of slow progress, the trade suddenly increased largely last year, exceeding that of the previous year by nearly 24 per cent, while the recorded value also increased by a little over 23 per cent. As it is well known that the prices of cotton goods have fallen very largely in India, it must be concluded that the valuations rendered to the customs are excessive. The causes of the sudden development of trade have already been stated elsewhere (page 34 of this review), and it is only necessary to add that they are not permanent. Indeed, the imports of the present year already shew that there is a restriction in trade which may end in a smaller import this year than last.

Cotton piece-goods comprise the great bulk of the trade, but there are some other kinds of cotton manufactures imported in small quantities. These give a value for the year of about 49 lakhs of rupees. The principal kinds are handkerchiefs and shawls, sewing thread, lace and net, and hosiery.

The total recorded values of all cotton manufactures, excluding yarns, were :

Lakhs of rupees.

2143.19

2164.24

2119.74

2111.05

2584.65

The value of last year's trade was 44 per cent of the whole imports of merchandise. A practical monopoly of this great trade is possessed by England. The direct imports thence last year amounted in value to 2555.38 lakhs, and to this sum may be added 7.17 lakhs imports of English piece-goods from Colombo and Singapore, making a total of English goods of 2562.55 lakhs, and leaving only 22 lakhs to other countries, such as France, Austria, and Italy.

90. *Silks and Woollens* also give larger returns :

Silk goods. Lakhs of rupees.	Woollen goods. Lakhs of rupees.
97.78	98.49
120.13	121.70
127.33	123.43
110.90	139.19
138.37	152.89

In the supply of silk goods to India, China runs England closer than any other country. The imports thence last year represented a value of nearly 41 lakhs, imports from England being 55½ lakhs, and from France 31½ lakhs. Most of the imports of silks are landed in Bombay and Burma, the people in both those provinces indulging in silk attire much more largely and commonly than in any other Indian province.

Of woollens, as of cottons, the great bulk of the imports is from England.

91. *Apparel*.—This also is an extensive trade, amounting in value last year to 109½ lakhs. It has increased rather largely during the last two years.

Of manufactured articles of smaller importance, there is little to be said; these fluctuate from year to year without assignable reason, except for few articles, such as corals. Last year there was a rather active import of candles and fireworks, these articles being required for consumption in the illuminations and pyrotechnics which formed features of the Jubilee festivities. In Umbrellas there was a good trade, over 3½ millions having been imported; and *apropos* of this trade, it may be asked when one can expect to have an umbrella re-covered in this country.

There was a somewhat material diminution in the imports of Paper and of Scientific and Philosophical Instruments, (which is sad to see in connection with an increase in fireworks and requisites for games) and a smaller decrease in clocks and watches and glass and glassware. But in most other articles there was a larger trade: *e.g.*, cabinetware and furniture, carriages, Chinese and Japanese curios, corals, earthenware and porcelain, musical instruments, jewellery, matches, paints and colours, parts of ships, soap, stationery, toys, and requisites for games.

92. The following table compares the imports of the year with those of 1885-86, and shews whether the variations in the trade were due in each case to an increase or decrease in quantity or in value :

Articles.	1885-87.		MORE (+) OR LESS (-) THAN IN 1885-86.		DIFFERENCE OF VALUE DUE TO	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Prices.
<i>Goods fully manufactured—</i>						
		£		£		£
Cotton piece goods, grey ... yds.	1,356,278,808	14,602,101	+ 250,433,900	+ 2,705,417	2,604,169	11,248
" " white ... "	387,104,415	4,751,539	+ 107,981,207	+ 1,184,806	1,379,821	-195,015
" " coloured ... "	412,036,168	6,002,155	+ 56,190,453	+ 868,891	810,577	58,314
Metals, copper, wrought ... cwt.	461,894	1,532,585	- 22,618	- 29,105	72,903	- 43,798
" iron ... "	3,154,276	1,756,970	- 244,646	- 157,994	137,834	20,160
" other sorts ... "	424,843	408,251	+ 99,050	+ 79,657	99,901	- 20,244
Silk piece goods (including mixed piece goods) ... yds.	13,167,873	1,371,090	+ 1,994,085	+ 269,516	196,588	72,928
Woollen piece goods ... "	12,133,627	1,219,251	+ 910,369	+ 93,625	91,304	2,321
<i>Goods partly manufactured—</i>						
Cotton, twist and yarn ... lbs.	49,013,979	3,318,377	+ 3,098,856	+ 146,294	214,087	- 67,793
Metals, copper, unwrought ... cwt.	153,153	461,416	- 15,308	- 70,735	48,356	22,379
" tin ... (block) ... "	38,272	267,384	+ 1,544	+ 45,980	9,307	36,673
" other sorts ... "	343,035	261,090	+ 54,231	+ 54,676	38,760	15,916
Oils, mineral, kerosine ... gals.	30,963,763	1,216,607	+ 13,368,100	+ 515,164	532,913	- 17,749
" " other kinds ... "	985,870	43,351	- 2,730,409	- 107,034	110,490	- 3,456
Silk, raw ... lbs.	1,737,891	793,376	+ 5,332	+ 71,459	2,222	69,237
<i>Raw materials—</i>						
Coal (including coke) ... tons	735,849	1,262,737	- 34,594	- 1,534	56,768	- 55,234
Ivory, unmanufactured ... lbs.	567,306	288,119	- 68,084	- 24,367	33,484	- 9,117
<i>Drugs, Liquors, and Narcotics—</i>						
Liquors, malt ... gals.	1,715,638	354,026	+ 416,230	+ 53,416	96,292	- 42,876
" spirits, brandy ... "	376,494	290,507	+ 4,319	+ 10,044	3,255	6,789
" " whisky ... "	337,556	303,758	+ 38,490	+ 44,647	33,348	11,299
" " other sorts ... "	348,090	176,335	+ 82,347	+ 48,216	39,701	8,515
" wines ... "	357,918	333,121	+ 628	+ 5,099	576	4,523
" " other sorts ... "	4,603	2,028	+ 365	- 144	- 187	331
Tobacco ... lbs.	1,754,415	110,482	+ 455,872	+ 28,288	28,855	- 567
<i>Food stuffs—</i>						
Provisions : salted fish ... lbs.	12,105,889	91,956	+ 916,289	- 14,017	-8,631	22,648
" dates ... cwt.	518,572	259,026	- 103,167	- 28,076	47,640	- 19,564
Salt ... Tons	417,442	768,987	+ 54,354	+ 172,939	89,228	83,711
Spices ... lbs.	38,587,464	663,845	-14,140,206	- 54,833	192,731	-137,898
Sugar (refined and unrefined) ... cwt.	1,749,555	2,080,540	+ 578,369	+ 622,443	720,055	- 97,612
Tea ... lbs.	4,214,342	324,260	+ 208,705	+ 20,002	15,853	4,149

Re-Export Trade.

93. The figures of the trade for the last five years are as follow :

Lakhs of rupees.

280.27
303.56
288.73
309.31
351.96

Last year's trade was nearly 14 per cent in excess of that of 1885-86.

There was a considerable increase in the trade in cotton twist and goods, wool, tea, spices, metals (iron and tin), drugs and medicines, and ivory. In regard to tea it has already been stated that there has been a large development of trade in China and Java tea for re-export to Persia and Central Asia *via* Bombay. The quantity of such tea re-exported last year was 1,854,472 lbs., while five years ago it was only a fourth of that quantity. It is strange that Indian tea planters allow foreigners to take possession of a trade the gateway to which lies through India.

In other respects the re-export trade does not call for remark, no new developments having taken place and the trade only shewing ordinary fluctuations, the increase of the year following upon the increase of the import trade.

Exports of Indian produce and manufacture.

94. The value of the exports of last year, 8491 lakhs, exceeded that of 1885-86 by a little over 5 per cent. Those who consider that the export trade is stimulated and the import trade restricted by a low exchange may be left to explain why, in a year when exchange was lower than it has ever been, the import trade increased much more largely than the export trade.

The figures for the last five years are as follow :

Lakhs of rupees.

8059'81
8508'57
8031'32
8073'47
8490'90

Although the value of the trade of the year was about 5 per cent in excess of the trade of five years previously, it will be observed that it was smaller than the trade of four years ago, and that the trade, at the best, cannot be said to have increased in value by more than 1 per cent a year, which is but a slow rate of increase.

95. Classifying the articles in the export trade in the same way as in the import trade, the following figures shew the relative importance of each class :

I.—Animals, living :

1882-83.	1886-87.
Rs.	Rs.
8,99,826	8,76,316

II.—Articles of food and drink :

1882-83.	1886-87.
Rs.	Rs.
21,46,53,285	25,87,33,912

III.—Metals and Manufactures of Metals :

1882-83.	1886-87.
Rs.	Rs.
3,84,582	4,96,603

IV.—Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning Materials :

1882-83.	1886-87.
Rs.	Rs.
16,19,85,476	15,74,10,450

V.—Oils :

1882-83.	1886-87.
Rs.	Rs.
41,62,768	45,88,119

VI.—Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles :

1882-83.	1886-87.
Rs.	Rs.
34,55,65,319	33,36,71,554

VII.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured :

1882-83.	1886-87.
Rs.	Rs.
7,83,30,298	9,33,12,995

The second of these heads, of which the total value amounted to about 30 per cent of the whole exports of the year, comprises some of the most important staples of the trade of India. It is under this and the seventh head that the increase of trade is to be found.

96. *Coffee.*—The quantity exported, 370,458 cwt., was slightly smaller than in the previous year, but a rise of prices raised the value from 134·83 lakhs to 150·22 lakhs. There was great excitement and speculation over coffee last year in the European and American markets, and prices rose largely in consequence of short crops in Brazil, but they have fallen again this year.

Grain and Pulse :

97. *Rice not in the husk.*—The exports, after a considerable rise in 1885-86, again fell off, the trade of the year being smaller than it was four or five years ago.

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
31,029,721	844·01
26,831,715	832·89
21,702,136	712·28
27,813,844	916·72
26,460,500	876·48

The rice trade certainly makes no particular progress. It has increased in 15 years (since 1872-73) by a little over 15 per cent only, or about 1 per cent annually, and all this increase occurred up to 1880-81. Since that year there has been no increase whatever. The reasons for the stagnation of the trade have already been stated in previous years and in this review, and need not be recapitulated.

98. *Wheat.*—The exports of the year were the largest on record. They amounted to 22,263,320 cwt., say 1,113,166 tons, being 5·71 per cent in excess of the exports of 1885-86. The value was 862·58 lakhs, which was more by 7¼ per cent than the value of the exports in 1885-86. The general impression is that this increase in the exports proves that India is competing with and displacing American wheat in the English market, and as usual, general impressions in such matters are entirely wrong. The exports prove nothing of the kind. Although all the conditions were favourable, the quantity of wheat exported to England was nearly 20 per cent less than in 1885-86.

The following table shews the exports of wheat from India, to the principal countries to which it is exported, during each of the last five years :

	(In thousands of hundredweights.)				
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
To United Kingdom	6,575	10,508	7,445	12,071	9,667
Belgium	1,459	2,593	1,738	2,661	2,403
France	3,567	3,398	3,312	2,145	2,803
Holland	578	192	134	86	207
Italy	176	445	701	1,218	5,212
Malta	163	124	93	34	84
Spain (including Gibraltar)	495	107	93	270	184
Egypt	799	3,306	2,149	2,296	1,317
Mauritius and Réunion	107	91	35	34	57
Aden and Arabia	153	27	82	174	165

It is evident that if India had depended mainly on the English market last year there would have been marked retrogression in a trade which has so often been referred to as indicating the benefit which Indian trade derives from a low exchange in competition with countries having a gold currency like the United States. Fortunately there was a demand for Indian wheat from Italy, the usual supplies from Russia to that country having failed to meet the demand in consequence of bad crops in Southern Russia. The increased demand from Italy of about four million hundredweights, or 200,000 tons, has saved the wheat trade of India from shewing an actual retrogression, for the increase in the total exports to all countries only amounted to 60,000 tons. Italy obtains supplies of wheat not from the United States but from Southern Russia, and it will not be contended that Russia is a country with a gold currency.

The imports of wheat and wheatmeal and flour into the United Kingdom in 1884, 1885, and 1886, were as follow :

	1884. Cwt.	1885. Cwt.	1886. Cwt.
From the United States	32,946,677	36,007,187	36,094,420
„ British North America	2,446,331	2,026,021	3,851,494
„ Australasia	4,897,766	5,279,230	738,699
„ Russia	5,401,964	11,986,359	3,710,099
„ Egypt	999,578	109,983	40,632
„ India	8,009,909	12,101,963	11,028,665
	<u>54,702,225</u>	<u>67,510,743</u>	<u>55,464,009</u>
„ Other countries	7,515,291	9,778,250	6,679,567
Total	62,217,516	77,288,993	62,143,576

And the proportions supplied by each of these countries is given in the following table, from which it would seem that though the proportion furnished by India has increased by 5 per cent in three years, this increase has been at the expense of Russia, Egypt, and Australia, not of the United States and Canada :

United States and Canada	56·9%	49·2%	64·2%
Australasia	7·8%	6·8%	1·2%
Russia	8·6%	15·5%	5·9%
Egypt	1·6%	0·1%	Nil
India	12·8%	15·7%	17·7%
Other countries	12 %	12·6%	10·7%
	<u>99·7</u>	<u>99·9</u>	<u>99·7</u>

99. Oats, pulse, jowari and bajra, also were exported in larger quantities than in the previous year, and an attempt was made to commence a trade in Barley with England, but without success.

100. The trade in Flour has thriven well. Starting from small beginnings it has already risen in a few years to comparatively large dimensions, as the following figures shew :

lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
6,816,048 . . .	4'12
7,890,854 . . .	4'59
11,057,126 . . .	5'93
18,879,201 . . .	9'72
35,744,069 . . .	18'48

A great development has been given to this industry by the successful working of steam Flour mills in Bombay. Not only is there a considerable local demand but largely increasing quantities are being exported, and it may be said that a new and what will prove an important export trade has been created. As yet none is sent to Europe, trifling quantities only having been sent experimentally to Italy and Turkey, though nearly half a million pounds were sent last year to Alexandria. The bulk of the demand is from Aden and Arabia, Persia, Mauritius, Ceylon, the Straits, Zanzibar and Natal. Some of the flour sent to the Straits was for the French troops in Tongking, and to Aden for the Italian troops at Massowa.

Of the exports 35½ millions pounds were from Bombay, and almost all the remainder from Karáchi. In this as in so many other matters of commercial enterprise Bombay has again taken the lead of Calcutta.

In *ghi* and *salted fish*, the only two items of importance under Provisions, besides Flour, the trade of the year was comparatively large.

Spices.—A very large increase in pepper and ginger.

101. The *Sugar* trade was restricted, exports falling off by more than 15 per cent. The causes which have for the last few years stimulated the import of sugar into India have restricted its exports. These causes are low prices, glutted markets, and the Continental protective system. Mauritius, Java, and other sugar-producing countries, finding no outlet for their sugar in the European markets, send it to India in increasing quantities, and the Indian sugar grower, like the grower in the countries mentioned and in the West Indies, is unable to sell his sugar at a profit in Europe in competition with sugar produced from beet, grown and manufactured under a system of protection by restrictive import tariffs and State bounties.

102. *Tea*.—Exports amounted to 78,702,857 lbs., an increase of nearly 10 million pounds on the exports of 1885-86. Every year sees an increase in the exports, and if the trade continues to progress as it has been doing during the last few years, it may be expected that in four or five years more the exports will foot up to a total of 100 million pounds, and the question will no longer be—indeed, it no longer is—whether India and Ceylon (which last year exported 7,790,000 lbs.) can beat China out of the English tea market, but how soon we

may expect to see India take and keep the first place. The imports into England from India and China during the last three years have been :

	From India.	From China.
	lbs.	lbs.
1884	66,084,947	144,410,328
1885	68,635,100	139,838,344
1886	80,987,351	145,111,596
1887 (seven months)	35,671,866	51,281,104

England still remains the great market for Indian tea, 76,600,514 lbs. having been exported thither last year, or over 97 per cent of the whole exports. There has been no real augmentation of trade with Australia, the United States, or any other country.

The exports of tea last year were about $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the value of all the merchandise exported. Besides the quantity exported there is a consumption of between 8 and 9 million pounds by the troops in India, and perhaps 2 or 3 million pounds more by the civil population.

103. *Chinchona bark*.—This trade has not developed to the extent which was at one time hoped, and indeed it has been somewhat a disappointment to those who invested in the business with expectation of large fortunes in the not distant future. The fall in prices and the competition of other countries have restricted the trade; but though its dimensions are still relatively small, the trade has been increasing, and last year was one of active business :

lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
641,608	7.91
306,419	4.06
745,730	9.86
857,040	9.97
1,286,900	14.56

The export trade is almost confined to Madras, the bark produced in the Government chinchona plantations in Bengal being mainly manufactured in the country into an alkaloid largely used in hospitals and dispensaries in place of the more costly imported quinine.

104. *Opium*.—The exports were :

Chests.	Lakhs of rupees.
91,798	1148.13
91,963	1129.44
86,578	1088.26
87,956	1073.55
95,839	1107.76

The prices of last year (Rs. 1,155 a chest) were $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent lower than they were five years ago (Rs. 1,250 a chest), and during the present year they are much lower still (Rs. 1,119 a chest for the exports of the first four months of the year), the prices now current being about $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent below those of 1882-83. In view of the steady fall in price in recent years, it is perhaps not so much to say that as Indian opium has to a material extent lost its character of a monopoly, having to compete with Chinese opium and that of Persia and other countries, it has followed the course of all other commodities in their relation to gold. China pays for Indian opium with gold, tea, and silk, and the value of gold having risen, while the value of tea and silk has fallen in

the European markets in relation to gold, it follows that the opium for which they pay must fall too unless it is substantially a monopoly in the hands of the Indian producers. This it no longer is, and it is probable that it may fall still further in value and remain permanently at a lower level unless and until a change is effected in the present state of the currency of the world.

Concurrently with the fall in price the quantity exported to China is also falling, at least it shews no increase. There were 193 chests less exported last year than 10 years ago, and taking the period of 10 years ending with last year the average yearly exports of the second half of this period were only 79,810 chests against 84,249 chests in the first half, a fall of more than 5 per cent. The exports to the Straits have increased while those to China have fallen off, but this is a comparatively small trade and the increase does not materially affect the total, for, taking the exports to China and the Straits together, they amount in the first five years of the decennial period to 469,699 chests, or an annual average of 93,940 chests, and in the second five years to 448,948 chests, or an annual average of 89,790 chests, being a reduction of nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

105. *Indigo:*

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
141,041 . . .	391.30
168,590 . . .	464.10
154,629 . . .	406.89
132,495 . . .	378.31
138,396 . . .	369.16

The trade of the last two years was smaller than in previous years, and the prices of last year were comparatively low. The exports of the year were thus distributed:

	Cwt.
To United Kingdom	53,152
„ United States	28,133
„ France	14,171
„ Egypt	14,650
„ Austria-Hungary	9,357
„ Persia	7,445
„ Germany	4,596
„ Asiatic Turkey	3,748
„ Italy	1,407

The remainder to other countries in small quantities.

It is stated that Indian indigo is likely to find a rival and competitor in Tongking. The indigo grown there has, it is claimed, a better colour than Bengal indigo, and the soil is said to be admirably adapted to its growth, while the methods of cultivation and manufacture have greatly improved since the French occupation. It is possible that a serious competition may arise in Tongking, but the French must refrain from charging any duty on exports if they wish to make the competition effective, and their proceedings in the matter of rice, the duty levied on which has recently been increased by 20 per cent, hardly encourage the idea that they will refrain from taking an export duty on indigo. However, with the possibility of competition from Tongking and that an artificial substitute may some day be thrown on the market at a price which will enable it to compete with Indian indigo, there is a prospect that prices of indigo may fall permanently to a low level.

106. *Myrabolams* give a smaller return than in 1885-86. This trade does not seem able to increase much above an export of about 30,000 tons a year. Cutch also was exported in smaller quantities, but there was a rather material increase in price, owing perhaps to the small quantities available for export during the last two years. The disturbed condition of Upper Burma, whence cutch comes to Rangoon for export, following on the annexation, accounts for the temporary restriction of the trade. Turmeric also has fallen off. In fact the trade of the year in Dyeing and Tanning materials generally cannot be said to have been good. The whole value of these articles was 433.56 lakhs against 449.86 lakhs in 1885-86, and that was a relatively low figure.

The trade in *Tobacco* was also restricted, following on a small trade in the previous year.

The trade in *Oils* was an improvement on that of 1885-86, which, however, was a bad year. A larger demand for castor oil from Australia, and a greater value for cocoanut oil, brought up the total value of the trade from 39.55 lakhs in 1885-86 to 45.88 lakhs last year.

107. In the class of Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles are included cotton, hides and skins, jute, saltpetre, seeds, silk, teak wood, wool, all of considerable importance, besides a number of articles of relatively small importance.

108. The export of *Cotton* was much larger last year than in either of the two previous years, in which the cotton crop was not good; but the trade has still to make up much headway before it reaches the level of five years ago:

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
6,168,278	1604.9
5,979,494	1438.37
5,066,057	1328.63
4,189,718	1077.72
5,432,648	1346.84

The exports of cotton are being gradually diverted from England, which has hitherto re-exported to the Continent about half the quantity imported, and are going more largely direct to the Continental ports. Of the total exports in each of the last five years England took in the first three years 46½, then 45, then 42 per cent. In 1885-86 the proportion fell to 34 per cent, and last year it was 37½ per cent, a fall of 9 per cent in five years. The actual exports to England have been:

Cwt.
2,865,065
2,696,921
2,134,762
1,433,392
2,045,912

so that there has been an absolute as well as relative decline of the trade with England. The principal European consumers of cotton are Italy, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Russia, and Spain, the consumption of the three last-named countries being, however, comparatively of no great account. In Asia the only countries taking any large quantity are China and the Straits. A small quantity is taken by Australia, chiefly, it is understood, to mix with wool, but there should hereafter be a substantial trade with the colonies when cotton

mills are established there. A noticeable feature in the returns of the last two years is the commencement of a direct export to the United States.

109. The trade in *Hides* and *Skins* was smaller than in the year before. The numbers of them exported were :

	1885-86.	1886-87.
Hides . . .	8,607,724	8,493,384
Skins . . .	4,947,579	4,077,259

But even these reduced figures indicate a high level of trade, too high indeed to be a matter for unqualified satisfaction, for there is no doubt that the death of a considerable number of the cattle whose skins are exported is unnecessary and avoidable and a loss to the agricultural classes which is far from compensated by the price of the skin. This large trade is almost confined to Bengal, whence six-sevenths of the export are made, the hides of all Northern India being sent to Calcutta for export. What becomes of the hides of Western, Central and Southern India is not clear, unless it is assumed that in those parts the agricultural population are mainly Hindus who will not traffic in hides, while Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab have a large Mohammadan agricultural population who have no prejudices on the subject and make their profit accordingly. The value of the trade in hides and skins was last year 281·13 lakhs.

110. *Jute*.—Exports in the last five years :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
10,348,909	584·69
7,017,985	459·26
8,368,686	466·13
7,782,435	435·53
8,306,708	486·98

Although there was a large increase in the trade last year, it can hardly be said that this is a progressive trade. An increasing quantity of jute is no doubt required for the Bengal mills every year, for the manufacture of the sacking wanted for grain and other articles of export as well as for packing in the increasing internal trade, coastwise and by land ; but, making allowance for these requirements, the export of jute should increase from year to year if the trade were in good condition unless manufactured jute is taking the place of the raw material in the export trade. This, however, is not quite the case, for though those exports have increased they should have increased much more largely to account for the stagnation in the export of jute. No doubt the depression of trade generally is the chief reason why the trade does not augment. A low exchange does not seem to stimulate it, or anything else for that matter.

111. *Saltpetre*.—A slight decline in the quantity exported, compared with last year, but this decline brings the export to the lowest level reached in the last five years. Prices, however, improved, owing probably to the demand in England as well as in India for Jubilee fireworks and the comparatively limited quantity available.

112. *Seeds*.—Exports of five years :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
13,139,206	720·03
17,355,588	1008·37
18,250,688	1074·52
17,280,147	994·83
15,866,604	919·85

The trade of the year was therefore greatly restricted, linseed and rapeseed, the two most important of the seeds enumerated, having fallen heavily, in consequence of poor crops in the Bombay Presidency and the Punjab.

Linseed :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
6,737,114	352.85
8,543,766	458.40
8,746,596	491.29
9,510,139	553.26
8,656,933	517.93

Rapeseed :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
2,821,420	157.05
3,945,727	244.14
4,521,933	268.35
3,721,840	204.74
2,659,649	142.10

Til or jinjili :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
2,305,414	146.24
2,853,382	197.97
2,646,484	192.30
1,759,343	119.42
2,114,484	141.09

It will be observed that in linseed only has there been any augmentation of trade in the last five years, the increase in that oilseed being, however, very great. But for the bad crops of the year a similar increase would have been visible in rapeseed which was increasing rather rapidly until its further progress was checked last year. In til seed there has been no increase. These three kinds constitute the bulk (nearly 85 per cent) of the whole seed trade.

The trade in Earthnuts (which is comparatively new) has increased quickly. Last year's exports amounted to about 946,000 cwt. Castor seed has also increased, and in Mowra or Mowa seed (the seed of *Bassia latifolia*) a new trade has been created during the last year, but one as yet of small dimensions. The trade in Poppy seed seems to make no particular progress, and it is curious that Cotton seed, of which thousands of tons are crushed in Europe every year for its oil which is used as a substitute for olive oil, is as yet almost entirely neglected in India. Attention has been directed to the possibility of a large trade in this seed more than once, but as yet without effect, and the seed still goes mostly to waste.

The seed trade seems to be in course of diversion from England, like the cotton trade. The proportion of the whole exports taken by England during the last five years has been 48.7, 41.1, 39.2, 43.6, and 42.6 per cent, making a decline of 6 per cent in the five years.

113. *Silk*.—Exports last year 449,515 lbs. of raw reeled silk, 1,020,595 lbs. of chasam or waste, and 113,814 lbs. of cocoons. This gives an increase on the trade of the previous year in an article in which a revival was greatly needed. The quantity of raw (reeled) silk exported increased by no less than 25½ per cent and the value by 48½ per cent, but as the decline of the trade

In recent years has been far in excess of this recovery, it is not yet possible to say that the trade is prospering though good prices were obtained last year and it is said that the fashion is again to wear silks, so that consumption should increase. The trade, in fact, is still far below the level of former years, and such recovery as the figures indicate is perhaps to be attributed to a revolution in the character of the trade. Formerly the trade was exclusively limited to the export of silk produced by the mulberry worm. Now, to some extent the exports consist of cocoons which formerly were not exported at all, and to a much larger extent of the silk of the wild worms (tasar, mooga, eria) which formerly were also not exported at all. These wild silks were exported last year, in the form of reeled silk (in small quantity), chasam (waste), and cocoons, to the extent of 443,140 lbs., being nearly 30 per cent of the whole exports of raw silk from India in those forms. A demand has sprung up for them in Europe where by means of new inventions in manufacture they have been found capable of utilisation in manufacture in ways before unknown. It is possible that the trade may develop, but it has to struggle against the difficulty that the worms which spin these silks have hitherto proved rebellious in the hands of man and that their products must be sought in the forests. Not subject to control and to efforts for their propagation and development, and always open to attacks from natural enemies such as birds, ants, and rats, the production must be uncertain, while the crop must be sought at a constantly increasing expense over an immense area. It is not at all certain therefore that the trade possesses elements of permanence, and if the cost should rise in proportion to the demand or the supply be irregular and uncertain, the export trade of India in silk must be regarded as doomed to slow extinction, for as matters stand the silk produced by the mulberry worm of Bengal has but little chance of success in the competition with the silk of Europe, China, and Japan.

Compared with 1885-86 the total value of the trade increased by about $31\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, but it was far below the trade of four and five years ago, and that again was nothing like the trade of former years. The value, which was under $48\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, must double before it attains the proportions it once had.

114. *Teak timber*.—The decline in this trade is remarkable. The exports for the last five years have been:

Cubic tons.	Lakhs of rupees.
59,187 . . .	61.12
46,471 . . .	52.54
47,556 . . .	53.21
50,076 . . .	55.05
23,946 . . .	22.31

With the smallest export ever known prices also fell to a very low point. The competition of Siam, the substitution of iron and steel for wood in shipbuilding, and the depression in the shipbuilding trade, have all combined to make themselves felt in the teak trade, the prospects of which are the reverse of hopeful. This year, so far, exports are smaller than even last year.

115. *Wool*.—Exports amounted to 23,208,643 lbs., being very slightly in excess of those of the previous year. There was a recovery in prices during the year, but a fall again took place, and they are now but little higher than they were before the temporary elevation. So much has been made of "over-production" as a factor in the general fall of prices in recent years, that the remarks on the subject of the production, consumption, and price of wool

made by the "*Economist*" (26th March 1887) may perhaps be appropriately quoted here :

The imports, which in 1850 were only 11 per cent, and in 1860 18 per cent of the total consumption, have now risen to 46 per cent of the whole supply. Making allowance for the increase of population, we find that the principal development in the supply of wool took place from 1860 to 1868, in which period the consumption rose from 2.03 lbs. of clean wool per head to 2.47 lbs., or about 22 per cent. From 1868 to 1879 the consumption remained practically unchanged, amounting on the average to 2.41 lbs. clean wool per head. It rose to 2.49 lbs. for the average of the next four years and was 2.58 in 1884 and 2.66 lbs. in 1886. This last figure is only 10 per cent above the former normal level, but it must be remembered that owing to the temporary rise of prices last summer the supply was unusually heavy, colonial wools having been shipped much more quickly, while of 'other sorts', mostly low wools, very large quantities were received, as is usual at times of rising prices (1866, 1872, 1880). The imports of the present year will probably be smaller. Considering that for clothing purposes wool has for some time been and is still eminently favoured as compared with competing textile fibres, we find nothing in the above figures to justify the theory of over-production. Production has but slightly exceeded the ordinary growth of population, and other influences must, therefore, have been at work to cause the great decline in prices which has characterised the course of events during late years.

The other articles comprised in the class of raw materials and unmanufactured articles require no remark.

VII.—Manufactured and partly manufactured articles.

116. The principal items in this class are: cotton yarn and cloth, jute, silk, and woollen goods, tanned hides skins, lac (shell and button), and coir goods. The total value of the exports figures thus during the last five years :

Lakhs of rupees.

783.30
785.44
858.95
872.38
933.13

and last year's trade in the articles mentioned above was :

	Lakhs.		Lakhs.
Cotton yarn	333.68	Woollen goods	8.59
Cotton cloth	94.56	Hides	44.08
Jute goods	115.18	Skins	189.71
Silk goods	31.81	Lac	51.83
		Coir goods	19.14

These foot up to 95 per cent of the whole value, cotton yarn and cloth being nearly 46 per cent of it.

Cotton yarn.—The exports of cotton yarn have increased by 83 per cent in value during the last five years, while the quantity has increased by more than 100 per cent.

Million lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
45.38	181.68
49.87	192.61
65.89	244.11
78.24	275.52
91.80	333.68

Out of the quantity exported last year 79½ million lbs. were exported to China and 9·37 million lbs. to Japan, these two countries taking between 88 and 89 million pounds. The Bombay Millowners' Association says that 1886 proved "one of the most prosperous years for spinning and weaving ever experienced since the industry fairly took root in Bombay. A brisk local demand at remunerative prices has generally prevailed for the yarns and cloths produced by the mills, and our leading foreign markets, China and Japan, have also proved better customers than in any previous year."

117. It is often stated that this rapid increase of trade is due to the fall in exchange, which adversely affects English spinners and does not affect at all the Bombay spinner when dealing with a silver-using country. But it must have been forgotten by those who have employed this argument that the price of Bombay twist has fallen even more than exchange and the price of English twist. The latter, it may be said, has fallen in proportion to the fall in exchange in order to make it saleable in competition with Bombay twist. But then Bombay twist, having fallen in a greater degree, has derived no advantage from these conditions, the relative positions remaining what they were before the fall in prices and exchange. The position is even worse, for Bombay has not been able to make reductions of wages in proportion to the reductions made in Lancashire. More probable and efficient reasons for the development of trade will be found in other circumstances. The cotton which the Bombay mills spin is grown, so to speak, at their doors, while the same cotton has to pay freight on a transport of seven thousand miles to England and back again as twist on its way to China. Labour is cheaper in India, and some other circumstances combine to permit of the cheaper production of twist (of the coarser kinds required for China) in Bombay than in Lancashire. But apart from these, it is manifest that the saving of freight on the raw material from Bombay to England, and on the manufactured twist from England back again as far as Bombay on the road to China, must largely tend to encourage Bombay in its competition with Lancashire. Until recently the heavy freights between Bombay and China tended greatly if not wholly to counteract the advantage derived by Bombay from this difference of distance, but shippers in Bombay have been enabled within the last year or two to greatly reduce freights. Up to April 1885 the freight to China was kept by a combination of steamer companies at what is called by the Millowners' Association the "prohibitive" rate of Rs. 15 a ton, and repeated efforts failed to produce a reduction lower than Rs. 12, until the Italian line stepped in and accepted freight at Rs. 8, and since then the average has been reduced to Rs. 5, or about half what shippers were prepared to pay in the first instance; and, as the Association says, "the reduced prices at which Bombay manufacturers have been able to offer their production have developed a demand for them altogether beyond the most sanguine expectations." The Port Trust charges on cotton yarn and cloth, as well as on the coal and machinery required for the mills, were also largely reduced during the year, and, to quote the Association again, "these concessions are of considerable importance to the trade as tending to improve the power of Bombay spinners to compete with foreign producers in outside markets." With full and free development of trade it is hardly open to doubt that the natural advantages possessed by Bombay must enable it to ultimately oust Lancashire from the China markets so far as regards twist made from Indian cotton.

The progress of the industry has been so rapid that it may be considered desirable to reproduce here the table given in the review for 1885-86, adding to it the figures for 1886-87 :

Cotton Mills in India and exports of yarn and piece goods.

Year.	Number of mills.	Number of spindles.	Number of looms.	Exports from India.		
				Quantity.		Value.
				Yarn.	Piece goods.	
				Million lbs.	Million yds.	Lakhs of Rs.
1876	47	1,100,112	9,139	7,926	15,544	74.0
1877-78	53	1,289,706	10,533	15,600	17,545	105.4
1878-79	58	1,436,464	12,983	21,332	22,517	130.4
1879-80	58	1,470,830	13,307	25,862	25,800	155.3
1880-81	58	1,471,730	13,283	26,901	30,424	182.3
1881-82	62	1,550,944	14,386	30,786	29,911	192.5
1882-83	62	1,654,108	15,116	45,378	41,583	250.3
1883-84	74	1,895,284	16,251	49,876	55,613	278.8
1884-85	81	2,037,055	16,455	65,897	47,968	325.9
1885-86	86	2,110,847	16,455	78,241	51,577	356.8
1886-87	94	2,261,561	17,455	91,804	55,405	421.8

There are several more mills in course of erection or projected at various places in India, and by the end of the year there will probably be 150,000 more spindles at work than this year.

Between 1876 and the end of 1886-87 the number of mills increased by 100 per cent, the number of spindles 105 per cent, and the number of looms 91 per cent. So that the spinning business has more than doubled in these eleven years and the weaving business has nearly doubled.

118. In other directions than China and Japan the millowners of Bombay are also pushing their trade, and it is satisfactory to find that they are fully alive to the opportunity for extension given by the large and as yet comparatively untouched market on the Eastern African Coasts, having at length made arrangements for the establishment of an agency at Aden to obtain samples of the goods wanted and to furnish information of demand, consumption, prices, and so forth. Already several consignments have been made through this agency. In this connection the following extract from a report by the British Consul at Mozambique is of interest :

In examining the imports of the province, we shall find one point common to all its divisions, and it is of such interest and importance that it deserves prominent notice. This is the rapid increase in the East African market of Bombay cotton fabrics, and the remarkably successful manner in which they have beaten out the once popular American sheetings and are now gradually, but by no means slowly, taking the place of the produce of Lancashire looms. What has already taken place in China and the Far East is being done in East and Central Africa. The smaller cost of labour, the proximity of the field of production of the raw material, and perhaps a closer study of the wants and tastes of the natives, through agents who reside upon this coast and know thoroughly their requirements, have enabled Bombay millowners to compete successfully with those of Manchester.

In 1876 I may say Bombay cotton fabrics were hardly to be seen in the province of Mozambique, for in that year I find the import consisted of only a few small parcels,

probably of samples, valued in all at 4*l.* 13*s.* In 1884 the import at Mozambique of Indian cotton, unbleached and dyed, had reached the value of 9,981*l.*; at Quillimane of 39,391*l.*; and at Ilo of 2,224*l.*, showing the respectable total of 51,596*l.* for the northern and central divisions. I am not able to give in detail the returns for the minor ports of 1885, as they have not yet been published, but I have no doubt they would show a steady and considerable increase, for in Mozambique alone the value last year was 12,903*l.*, or an increase of nearly 25 per cent upon the previous year.

Comparing the imports to Mozambique of 1884 with those of 1885, we find that the imports from home have fallen in the past year from 20,255*l.* to 15,435*l.*, whereas the imports from British possessions, and these are mainly from British India, have amounted from 43,230*l.* to 50,918*l.* in value. Part of this is no doubt due to the slight general increase of trade noticeable in the past 12 months, but it is also partly due to the increase I am pointing out of the cotton trade of India.

Cloths, printed and dyed, the greater proportion of which are used as articles of dress by the natives, show a decrease in the past year of 5,729*l.*, or nearly 20 per cent; but these articles which are an essential part of the barter trade of this coast, have steadily increased in quantity and value during the past nine years, the import values recorded being 8,505*l.* in 1876 and 25,893*l.* in 1885.

A great and increasing proportion of these cloths is now being made in Bombay. Striped and bordered handkerchiefs (miscalled, for they are really articles of dress), dyed in the thread have reached us, until lately, in large quantities from Switzerland; but now these come chiefly from Bombay, where the marks are counterfeited, and only a few of very superior description are Swiss in anything but name.

The same practice obtains with American sheetings. The real article has, as I have said before, almost disappeared from the Mozambique market; but a far cheaper if slightly inferior sheeting is introduced from Bombay, which, in some cases, still retains the old favoured names and markings.

There is a description of cloth called "kaniki," much sold upon this coast, made up in short lengths of 8 yards and 14 yards, and dyed with a deep blue indigo dye. These used invariably to be English manufacture, though sent out to Bombay to be made up and dyed before distribution. This, I am told, has now quite ceased, these cloths being manufactured as well as dyed at Bombay.

119. *Jute goods*.—The trade value was slightly better last year than the year before—115·18 lakhs compared with 113·08 lakhs, an increase of less than 2 per cent—but the trade was still far below the level of former years, a result due to a fall in prices not to restriction in the trade. The trade, however, seems to make but slow progress, as might be expected considering the conditions of trade generally in the markets outside India which take our gunny bags. The jute mills contained 134,293 spindles at the end of last year, being 2,553 more than at the end of 1885-86.

120. *Silk goods* shew a decline in both quantity and value, and woollens but a small increase. The export trade in Indian woollens consists of fine goods, Kashmir and Rampur shawls and pashminas of an expensive class, which are bought by a comparatively limited number; moreover, for the present at least, Kashmir shawls are not the fashion.

121. *Hides and skins, dressed or tanned*.—The value of this trade—233·79 lakhs—was slightly smaller than in the previous year—234·22 lakhs, and it has increased but little during the last five years.

122. The trade in *Lac* has again fallen from 58·45 to 51·83 lakhs, and is decidedly far from flourishing, but it is a most speculative and uncertain trade.

Of other minor articles entered in this class it is unnecessary to say anything.

123. Placing the principal exports of the year in the order of their importance, as represented by value, they stand thus :

	Lakhs.
1. Grain and pulse	1802.71
2. Cotton, raw	1346.84
3. Opium	1107.76
4. Seeds	919.85
5. Hides and skins	514.92
6. Jute, raw	486.98
7. Tea	472.80
8. Cotton twist and manufactures	428.25
9. Indigo	369.16
10. Coffee	150.22
11. Jute manufactures	115.18
12. Wool, raw	89.95

They all retain the places they had in 1885-86, with the exception of indigo and cotton goods, which have changed places with each other. The total value of these 12 groups amounted to 7804.62 lakhs, making an increase of about 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

124. The subjoined table compares the quantity and value of the two years, the variations being shewn in each case as resulting from a rise or fall either in the quantity exported or in price :

Exports of Indian Produce for 1886-87, compared with those of 1885-86.

Articles.	1886-87.		MORE OR LESS THAN IN 1885-86.		DIFFERENCE IN VALUE DUE TO	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Drugs and Narcotics—</i>						
Chinchona bark lbs.	1,286,900	145,638	+ 429,860	+ 45,938	50,005	—4,067
Opium cwt.	131,630	11,077,609	+ 10,635	+ 342,151	943,611	—601,460
Tobacco (including cigars) . . . lbs.	10,336,039	119,558	—52,738	—5,288	9,515	—4,227
<i>Foodstuffs—</i>						
Coffee cwt.	370,458	1,502,251	—569	+ 153,856	—2,068	155,924
Rice (not in the husk) "	26,400,500	8,764,809	— 1,353,344	—402,380	446,050	—43,670
Wheat "	22,263,320	8,625,834	+ 1,202,801	+ 623,514	457,027	166,487
Spices lbs.	31,218,151	612,188	+ 7,386,796	+ 125,914	150,726	—24,812
Sugar (refined and unrefined) . cwt.	986,406	504,803	—181,134	— 20,609	81,513	—60,004
Tea lbs.	78,702,857	4,727,992	+ 9,918,608	+ 421,859	620,939	—199,080
<i>Goods fully manufactured—</i>						
Cotton piece goods, grey . . . yds.	38,311,281	440,632	+ 4,987,916	+ 70,236	55,442	14,794
" " coloured, &c. "	14,768,056	422,830	—3,059,408	+ 5,375	—71,651	77,026
Jute bags No.	64,570,157	1,051,222	+ 80,611	+ 66,527	12,503	54,024
Lac, shell and button cwt.	147,210	515,942	—3,536	—67,023	13,674	53,349
Silk piece goods (including mixed piece goods) yds.	3,350,489	314,686	—524,450	—12,980	44,348	—31,368
Woolen shawls No.	7,636	24,622	— 1,249	+ 3,749	—4,349	8,089
<i>Goods partly manufactured—</i>						
Cotton twist and yarn lbs.	91,804,244	3,336,861	+ 13,562,473	+ 581,609	477,597	104,012
Indigo cwt.	138,396	3,691,677	+ 5,901	—91,483	—168,492	259,975
Hides and skins, dressed or tanned cwt.	238,955	2,337,926	— 37,611	—4,779	303,782	—299,503
Oils, castor gals.	2,676,012	271,837	+ 485,124	+ 53,214	48,409	4,805
" cocoanut "	1,093,864	132,459	—70,313	+ 10,292	—7,341	17,033
Saltpetre cwt.	307,572	376,001	— 4,602	+ 5,801	—4,236	10,127
Silk, raw (including waste) . . . lbs.	1,583,924	494,339	+ 145,157	+ 152,088	33,521	118,567
<i>Raw materials—</i>						
Caoutchouc, raw cwt.	7,598	84,719	+ 1,045	+ 19,099	10,464	8,635
Cotton, raw "	5,422,648	13,468,429	+ 1,242,330	+ 2,611,225	3,197,186	—505,961
Myrabolams "	5,66,573	225,890	—10,358	—73,469	46,376	27,013
Cutch and gambier "	190,348	235,251	—5,957	+ 42,412	— 7,334	49,740
Hides and skins, raw "	752,834	2,811,291	—79,185	—181,106	284,793	—103,687
Jute, raw "	8,300,708	4,809,815	+ 524,273	+ 514,433	293,404	221,049
<i>Oilseeds—</i>						
Linseed cwt.	8,656,033	5,179,291	—853,206	—353,317	496,360	—143,043
Rape "	2,659,649	1,421,052	—1,062,191	—626,396	584,329	42,067
Til or jinjili "	2,114,484	1,410,899	+ 355,141	+ 216,716	241,058	—24,342
Other sorts "	2,384,122	1,155,493	+ 142,576	+ 10,837	72,807	—61,970
Teak timber cubic tons.	23,046	223,154	—26,130	—327,361	287,263	40,098
Wool, raw lbs.	23,208,643	899,552	+ 59,880	+ 27,231	2,256	24,975

Coasting Trade.

125. In 1884-85 the coasting trade was smaller than that of 1883-84 by nearly 5 per cent. In 1885-86 it further declined, being less than that of 1884-85 by 1·4 per cent, and last year there was again a decline of about 2½ per cent on the trade of 1885-86. There has been a continued fall in each of these four years, and the trade last year was smaller than it was five years ago.

126. In Madras and Sindh the decline of trade is somewhat marked. Imports of rice into Madras diminished greatly, and those of twist also fell off, the latter probably because the railway is more largely used for transport between Bombay and Madras. In Sindh the imports of gunny bags declined much as a natural consequence of the failure of the grain trade. In other respects there is no special feature to record in the details of the trade of the year, and it is sufficient to attach here the figures giving the totals for each of the last six years:

		1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
IMPORTS—							
<i>Merchandise</i>	{ Country	19,30,40,889	20,20,25,033	22,07,06,039	21,41,29,064	20,41,05,867	20,85,06,668
	{ Foreign	5,12,62,086	5,21,73,285	6,00,62,616	6,05,18,067	5,90,01,263	5,92,03,668
	Total	24,43,02,975	25,41,98,318	28,07,68,655	27,46,47,531	26,31,07,130	26,77,10,366
<i>Treasure</i>	. . . . .	2,88,70,631	4,06,65,571	3,49,46,082	2,46,23,995	3,09,20,818	2,38,21,422
	TOTAL IMPORTS	27,31,73,606	29,48,63,889	31,57,14,737	29,92,71,526	29,40,27,948	29,15,31,788
EXPORTS—							
<i>Merchandise</i>	{ Country	16,98,31,993	18,48,85,632	19,43,41,877	18,71,48,092	18,47,26,408	18,51,89,266
	{ Foreign	5,79,54,385	6,03,56,777	6,76,33,605	7,02,53,802	6,67,79,548	6,62,91,511
	Total	22,77,86,378	24,52,42,409	26,19,75,482	25,74,03,894	25,15,05,956	25,14,80,777
<i>Treasure</i>	. . . . .	2,96,25,355	3,31,61,251	3,69,26,062	2,73,40,133	3,04,18,955	1,86,41,066
	TOTAL EXPORTS	25,74,11,733	27,84,03,660	29,89,01,544	28,47,44,027	28,19,24,911	27,01,21,843
	GRAND TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS	53,05,85,339	57,32,67,549	61,46,16,281	58,40,15,553	57,59,52,859	56,16,53,631

127. Appended is also a statement giving the imports and exports of merchandise into and from each province for the last four years:

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.
	Lakhs of Rs.			
<i>Bengal:</i>				
Imports	505·88	533·27	484·87	493·73
Exports	632·40	614·54	607·16	683·66
<i>Bombay:</i>				
Imports	1289·66	1224·55	1106·03	1109·38
Exports	1221·34	1187·75	1142·28	1094·71
<i>Sindh:</i>				
Imports	225·10	244·21	251·11	232·69
Exports	139·89	103·89	113·99	110·25
<i>Madras:</i>				
Imports	436·45	431·73	459·42	441·67
Exports	411·42	460·10	424·35	415·69
<i>Burma:</i>				
Imports	350·59	312·70	329·63	392·62
Exports	214·68	207·74	227·26	210·49

Coasting shipping.

128. The following table gives the number and tonnage of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade during the last six years:

	<i>Entered.</i>					
	STEAMERS.		SAILING VESSELS.		NATIVE CRAFT.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880-81	4,713	4,675,190	3,643	613,532	147,194	2,415,710
1881-82	4,956	4,769,040	3,725	485,262	155,319	2,482,128
1882-83	5,547	5,543,702	4,687	551,206	160,160	2,514,625
1883-84	5,518	5,925,198	4,635	607,635	169,090	2,669,128
1884-85	5,484	5,547,657	4,503	495,284	174,701	2,781,479
1885-86	6,144	5,726,982	3,987	541,316	172,025	2,759,724
1886-87	6,807	6,323,181	2,876	325,969	175,868	2,898,715
	<i>Cleared.</i>					
1880-81	4,665	4,614,583	3,607	549,113	137,583	2,267,975
1881-82	4,918	4,718,283	3,576	396,803	144,583	2,327,081
1882-83	5,541	5,520,468	4,623	518,749	147,663	2,408,344
1883-84	5,575	5,975,597	4,629	458,240	156,429	2,553,672
1884-85	5,461	5,487,561	4,600	477,806	158,453	2,616,385
1885-86	6,127	5,679,231	3,992	506,052	156,694	2,612,819
1886-87	6,794	6,286,438	2,893	307,712	159,041	2,795,779
	<i>Entered and Cleared.</i>					
1880-81	9,378	9,289,773	7,250	1,162,645	284,777	4,682,785
1881-82	9,874	9,487,323	7,301	882,065	299,902	4,809,209
1882-83	11,088	11,064,170	9,310	1,069,955	307,823	4,922,969
1883-84	11,093	11,900,795	9,264	1,065,875	325,519	5,222,800
1884-85	10,945	11,035,218	9,103	973,090	333,154	5,397,864
1885-86	12,271	11,406,213	7,979	1,047,368	328,719	5,374,543
1886-87	13,601	12,609,619	5,769	633,971	334,909	5,694,494

Trans-frontier Trade.

129. The imports from foreign territory last year were valued at 514.10 lakhs, this total being less than that of 1885-86 by 5.24 lakhs, or about 1 per cent, those of that year having been nearly 6 per cent below the level of 1884-85.

The exports were valued at 775.46 lakhs, a sum larger than the value of 1885-86 by 54.45 lakhs, or 7½ per cent, the exports of 1885-86 having also been larger than those of 1884-85 by nearly 18 per cent.

The whole trade, imports and exports, amounted to 1289.57 lakhs, which sum exceeded the trade value of 1885-86 by 49.22 lakhs, or nearly 4 per cent, the trade of that year having also exceeded that of 1884-85 by about 7 per cent.

130. These figures, however, include the trade between Lower and Upper Burma, and as the latter country is now British territory these should be excluded as not representing trans-frontier trade. Excluding them, the trade of the year gives a result of : imports 378.33 lakhs, exports 565.90 lakhs, both together 944.23 lakhs. To this sum must be added the value of trade across the new frontier into South-Western China and the adjoining territory, but no organised attempt has as yet been made to register that trade and its value is an unknown quantity. The trade between Mandalay and Bamaw was obtained during the year as far as it was possible to get it from the manifests of the river steamers and gave a result of about 37 lakhs. Probably an estimate which would give 1,000 lakhs as the value of the whole frontier trade would be exaggerated.

131. Trade over the railway to Quetta, and with Sikkim, Karennee, and Siam declined. With other countries: Khelat, Sewestan, Kabul, Kashmir, Nepal, Thibet, Bhutan, and Zimmé, trade increased.

Trans-frontier by rail.—A decline in both imports and exports, but chiefly in the latter, the decrease being in articles required mainly for the European community—woollen goods, food grains, liquors, tea, ghi, and unspecified wares. In the larger lines, such as cotton piece goods, sugar, iron, and in railway material, there was an increase of trade.

Karennee.—Trade fell off in consequence of the disturbed condition of those parts since the annexation of Upper Burma. The imports are almost entirely teak logs.

Kabul.—Imports increased from 23.59 lakhs to 26.20 lakhs, and exports from 53.67 lakhs to 63.63 lakhs. There was a really considerable increase in the exports of cotton piece goods and of tea. How much of the exports recorded as for Kabul is intended for Central Asia is, not known, nor can it be ascertained whether the Russian restrictions and prohibitions on the imports of goods (tea and indigo being the only goods not prohibited and these paying a heavy duty) from India *via* Kabul have been effective or not. If they are effective, then there has been a somewhat remarkable increase in the demand for goods in Afghanistan; but it is possible—perhaps probable—that they are not effective. In any case, they have had no effect whatever as yet on the trade from India to Kabul.

Kashmir.—Imports fell from 49 lakhs to $48\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, an inappreciable decline. Shawls give a large increase in value on the previous year's trade, but are below the level of 1884-85, and other woollens (*pashmina*) have declined. So has timber and ghi. There is nothing else of importance in the import trade. Exports of cotton piece goods, sugar, and tea increased, the total value of the export trade being 42·61 lakhs against 37·77 lakhs in the previous year.

Nepal.—Imports 166·97 lakhs, being 13·35 lakhs in excess of the previous year's trade. Imports of cattle, rice, oilseeds, spices and timber increased.

Exports 86·06 lakhs, making a small increase of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The trade in cotton piece goods shews some increase.

The trade with other countries is of no particular importance and requires no remark.

Government of India.
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1887-88:

- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
- II.—Coasting Trade.
- III.—Trans-Frontier Trade.

J. E. O'CONNOR,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
Honorary Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, Member of the International Statistical Institute.

SIMLA :
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1888.

Government of India.
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1887-88:

- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
 - II.—Coasting Trade.
 - III.—Trans-Frontier Trade.
-

J. E. O'CONNOR,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
Honorary Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, Member of the International Statistical Institute.

SIMLA :
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1888.

CONTENTS.



GENERAL.

	PARAS.
Totals of imports and exports for last ten years and rate of increase or decrease each year—average yearly rate for these years—imports of merchandise and treasure and re-exports materially increased; progress of export trade relatively slow	1—4

GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS.

A considerable decline, chiefly in imports of railway material	5
Excess of exports generally, including Government transactions as well as ordinary trade, over imports—drawings of Secretary of State	6—7

TRADE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

Totals of the trade and percentage to the whole trade of India during last seven years—imports and exports—proportion of the Canal trade with England and France	8—10
--	------

SHIPPING.

Total number and tonnage of all shipping, entries and clearances for all vessels and for steamers separately—increase in steam as compared with sailing tonnage—steamers in ballast—Canal steamers—movement of shipping between India and other countries—nationalities of vessels—native craft—provincial share in movement of shipping	11—19
--	-------

GOLD AND SILVER COIN AND BULLION.

Imports and exports of gold for each of last seven years—same for silver—table of net imports of gold and silver from 1859-60 to 1872-73 (14 years) and from 1873-74 to 1887-88 (15 years)—decrease in both and smaller coinage in second period	20—24
--	-------

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Gross and net revenue on imports and exports for each of last five years	25—26
--	-------

TRADE OF PROVINCES AND PRINCIPAL PORTS.

Imports and exports for last five years for each province, and rate of increase or decrease—proportion of the whole trade of India for last five years at each of the five chief ports, Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Madras, and Karáchi—foreign trade of the nine largest ports of India, merchandise only, for last five years	27—30
--	-------

TRADE WITH COUNTRIES.

Table shewing trade for each of the last five years with 19 foreign countries, and the proportion taken by each of the whole trade—increases or decreases in imports and exports of merchandise last year for United Kingdom and other principal countries with which trade is carried on	31—32
---	-------

IMPORT TRADE IN MERCHANDISE.

Trade values for the last sixteen years do not support the theory that low exchange restricts imports—variations in the prices at Calcutta of certain staple imports, since 1873—trade of last six years under each main group—most of the increase last year due to Metals, Railway materials, Silk, and Silk goods—Details of imports : Animals—Malt liquor—production and supply to troops of Indian brewed beer for last eleven years—Spirits, Wines—Provisions, flour, dates, salted fish—Salt—Spices—Sugar, competition of beet sugar aided by the Continental bounties—Tea—Hardware and Cutlery, Copper, Iron, Lead, Tin, Machinery—Railway material—Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning materials—Oils, Kerosene—Coal—raw Silk—minor articles—Cotton manufactures—Silk and Woollen goods—Apparel—Arms and Ammunition—Clocks and Watches—Corals—Earthen and Glassware—Matches—Paper—Umbrellas

PAGES.

33—61

RE-EXPORT TRADE.

Total value—main items of the trade—countries with which the trade is chiefly carried on—exceptional shipments of Copper

62—64

EXPORTS OF INDIAN PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURE.

Total value—general classification—extent of increase or decrease during the last five years in the principal articles—list of the countries with which the trade has increased or declined—Animals—Coffee—Rice—Wheat—other grains and pulse—Flour—Sugar—Tea—Chinchona bark—Opium—Indigo—other dye stuffs—Oils—Cotton—Hides and Skins—Jute—Saltpetre—Seeds—Silk—Teak timber—Wool—Cotton yarn and piece goods—Indian cotton mills—Jute goods—tanned Hides and Skins—Silk goods—Lac—principal exports of the year arranged according to their importance

65—97

COASTING TRADE AND SHIPPING

98—101

TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE

102—109

THE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

for the official year ending March 31, 1888.

Sea-borne Trade.

THE aggregate value of the trade under all heads for the last ten years was as follows :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	<i>Percentage of increase or decrease each year compared with preceding year.</i>	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1878-79	43,62,29,433	64,78,91,561	1,08,41,20,994		...
1879-80	51,39,75,610	69,10,19,860	1,20,49,95,470	+	11'15
1880-81	59,29,70,482	75,94,06,850	1,35,23,77,332	+	12'23
1881-82	58,31,48,651	82,99,93,464	1,41,31,42,115	+	4'49
1882-83	63,45,61,977	84,38,17,237	1,47,83,79,214	+	4'62
1883-84	65,58,18,545	89,10,28,679	1,54,68,47,224	+	4'63
1884-85	67,02,81,588	85,08,78,583	1,52,11,60,171	—	1'66
1885-86	67,28,93,373	84,91,56,777	1,52,20,50,150	+	0'05
1886-87	69,71,47,812	90,11,31,715	1,59,82,79,527	+	5
1887-88	76,21,06,687	91,98,54,163	1,68,19,60,850	+	5'24

2. The aggregate value of the trade of the last five years (1883-84 to 1887-88) was Rs. 78,702'98 lakhs and of the first five years of the decade Rs. 65,330'15 lakhs, the trade of the second period having exceeded that of the first by about 20½ per cent.

Last year's trade exceeded that of 1878-79 by 55 per cent, giving an average rate of increase in the ten years of 5½ per cent. The rate of progress has however fluctuated greatly, and it should also be remarked that the trade of the year 1878-79 was seriously affected by the existence of famine. If last year's trade is compared with that of 1877-78, it will be found that the increase in 11 years has been not so much as 36 per cent, and if we go further back we find that in 13 years (from 1875-76) the increase is 64 per cent, or an average of a little under 5 per cent annually. During the last five years the average annual rate

Note.—A lakh = 1,00,000 rupees, a crore = one hundred lakhs, or 10,000,000 rupees, in conventional sterling; (10 rupees = £1) £1,000,000.

of progress of the trade has been about $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent only, the trade of 1887-88 having exceeded that of 1883-84 by less than 9 per cent.

In the ten years imports have increased nearly 75 per cent; exports have increased about 42 per cent; the rate of increase in the import trade being therefore, contrary to what was anticipated by many as a consequence of the divergence in value between gold and silver, immensely more rapid than the increase in the export trade. These results are on the aggregate trade, including treasure as well as merchandise. Omitting treasure and re-exports the result is not materially different :

Increase in imports of merchandise	...	...	70.6 per cent.
" exports of Indian merchandise	...	...	47 "

The import of treasure has increased in the same period by nearly 96 per cent.

3. Comparing the trade of last year with that of the one immediately preceding, the following are the results :

	1886-87.	1887-88.	Increase or decrease per cent.
	Rs.	Rs.	
Imports of merchandise	58,66,14,618	62,38,48,130	+ 6.3
" treasure	11,05,33,194	13,82,58,557	+ 25.1
Exports of merchandise			
(Indian)	84,90,89,949	86,37,00,218	+ 1.7
(foreign re-exports)	3,51,96,655	4,10,14,403	+ 16.5
" treasure	1,68,45,111	1,51,39,542	- 10.1
Total	<u>1,59,82,79,527</u>	<u>1,68,19,60,850</u>	<u>+ 5.2</u>

4. It was stated in reviewing the trade of 1886-87 that the trade of that year was exceptionally large, and that it was unlikely that the trade of the ensuing year would shew any appreciable advance. This anticipation was realised as far as regards Indian exports, but there was great activity in the import trade, both merchandise and treasure, and a large development of the re-export trade, with the result that, as shewn above, the aggregate trade of the year exceeded that of the previous year by more than 5 per cent.

Government Stores.

5. The total value of these transactions was Rs. 278.26 lakhs, which was less than that of 1886-87 by about 13 per cent.

The value of the stores imported fell from 311.59 lakhs to 262 lakhs, a decline of about 49.6 lakhs.

Railway material, which constitutes nearly half of the whole imports, declined by about 64 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and there was also a material decline in imports of arms, ammunition, and military stores.

There was an increase in the imports of coal, drugs and medicines, boots and shoes, machinery, metals, iron, paper, parts of ships, and telegraph materials, a substantial part of the increase being due to the requirements of the recently annexed province of Upper Burma.

6. The excess of exports over imports, including Government transactions as well as general trade, and treasure as well as merchandise, for each of the last ten years was :

	Rs.
1878-79 . . .	20,06,23,986
1879-80 . . .	16,42,61,126
1880-81 . . .	13,91,60,585
1881-82 . . .	22,63,20,427
1882-83 . . .	18,97,83,137
1883-84 . . .	21,02,90,856
1884-85 . . .	15,63,46,525
1885-86 . . .	13,85,58,350
1886-87 . . .	17,35,99,630
1887-88 . . .	13,31,78,107

♦ The average annual excess in these ten years comes to about 1,732 lakhs.

7. In the same period of ten years the drawings of the Secretary of State in Council Bills have been—

	£	Exchange. Pence.	Rs.
1878-79 . . .	13,948,565	@ 19'76	= 16,91,23,612
1879-80 . . .	15,261,810	19'961	= 18,34,99,544
1880-81 . . .	15,239,677	19'956	= 18,32,79,339
1881-82 . . .	18,412,429	19'895	= 22,19,14,197
1882-83 . . .	15,120,521	19'522	= 18,58,88,999
1883-84 . . .	17,599,805	19'536	= 21,62,13,821
1884-85 . . .	13,758,909	19'308	= 17,10,23,827
1885-86 . . .	10,292,692	18'254	= 13,53,25,000
1886-87 . . .	12,136,279	17'441	= 16,70,03,150
1887-88 . . .	15,358,576	16'898	= 21,81,24,000

the average being £14,712,926 or 1,851'4 lakhs annually.

Trade through the Suez Canal.

8. The value of the trade to and from India carried through the Canal was, in—

	Rs.		
1881-82 . . .	88,09,27,887	...	being 61'4 per cent of the whole trade.
1882-83 . . .	93,42,60,084	...	" 62'2 " "
1883-84 . . .	1,03,55,59,326	...	" 65'8 " "
1884-85 . . .	1,01,54,01,135	...	" 65'6 " "
1885-86 . . .	1,03,28,31,652	...	" 66'2 " "
1886-87 . . .	1,07,83,20,389	...	" 66'15 " "
1887-88 . . .	1,12,85,63,535	...	" 66'01 " "

the proportion not varying materially for the last five years.

9. The proportion of imports into India carried through the Canal has always been much larger than that of exports, and the proportion remains tolerably steady at about 78 per cent in the case of imports and 56 per cent in the case of exports—

Imports—

	Rs.			
1883-84	53,17,13,129	...	being 78.01	per cent of all imports.
1884-85	53,93,80,958	...	" 77.51	" "
1885-86	55,00,18,010	...	" 77.32	" "
1886-87	58,04,77,792	...	" 79.7	" "
1887-88	61,41,50,461	...	" 77.9	" "

Exports—

	Rs.			
1883-84	50,38,46,197	...	being 56.49	per cent of all exports.
1884-85	47,60,20,177	...	" 55.85	" "
1885-86	48,28,13,642	...	" 56.81	" "
1886-87	49,78,42,597	...	" 55.19	" "
1887-88	51,44,13,074	...	" 55.82	" "

10. Out of the total of 11,285 lakhs, 8,553 lakhs represented the value of trade with England, being nearly 76 per cent of the whole. With France the trade was about 765 lakhs, or not quite 7 per cent of the whole. The percentage of the trade with other countries carried through the Canal was still smaller.

Shipping.

11. The total number and tonnage of the shipping, steam and sailing, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered and cleared at Indian ports from and to foreign countries, during each of the last five years, are as follow :

	Number.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1883-84	11,662	7,250,603	622
1884-85	10,338	6,649,770	643
1885-86	10,562	7,294,589	691
1886-87	10,584	7,172,193	678
1887-88	10,893	7,189,465	660

The increase in tonnage was only fractional, being only 17,272 tons more than in the previous year, while the number of vessels was 309 more. The average tonnage has again fallen off.

12. The following table is for steamers only. The percentage of steam to total tonnage was :

In 1883-84	63
1884-85	65
1885-86	
1886-87	66
1887-88	68

There is a steady increase year after year in the proportion of steam to sailing tonnage.

	Steamers entered. (Cargoes and ballast.)		Steamers cleared. (Cargoes and ballast.)	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1883-84	1,620	2,294,310	1,603	2,277,232
1884-85	1,495	2,157,501	1,489	2,174,680
1885-86	1,631	2,361,942	1,632	2,397,828
1886-87	1,602	2,342,690	1,620	2,398,164
1887-88	1,585	2,411,272	1,605	2,472,222

13. The number and tonnage of steamers entering and leaving India without cargoes in the last five years were :

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1883-84	416	540,909	33	33,837
1884-85	272	351,429	44	61,171
1885-86	301	397,549	47	74,614
1886-87	223	277,187	52	66,924
1887-88	196	250,420	73	111,285

The proportion of clearances of steamers without cargoes to the whole number of steamers cleared was—

1883-84	2'06	1885-86	2'88
1884-85	2'96	1886-87	3'21
		1887-88	4'55

CANAL STEAMERS.

14. The following table shews the number and tonnage of steamers which entered at and cleared from Indian ports, via the Suez Canal, with the percentage of the steam tonnage passing through the Canal to the total steam tonnage engaged in the trade between India and foreign countries :

	Entries.		Clearances.		Total entries and clearances.		Percentage to total steam tonnage.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
1883-84	839	1,405,007	1,091	1,746,785	1,930	3,151,792	69
1884-85	726	1,264,105	923	1,553,446	1,649	2,817,551	65
1885-86	773	1,336,638	1,039	1,722,003	1,812	3,058,641	64
1886-87	726	1,310,269	945	1,636,381	1,671	2,946,650	62
1887-88	784	1,407,997	949	1,637,738	1,733	3,045,735	62

The proportion corresponds fairly with the proportion of the trade value carried by the canal route.

MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

15. The movement of shipping during the past five years between India and the principal countries with which trade is carried on is shewn in the following table, the figures representing entries and clearances combined :

	1883-84.		1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.		1887-88.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
United Kingdom .	2,003	2,992,945	1,804	2,908,987	1,973	3,179,764	1,756	2,963,478	1,796	3,085,130
BRITISH POSSESSIONS—										
Malta	66	85,276	41	51,264	36	47,410	25	32,201	19	23,954
Aden	93	106,002	86	95,163	93	109,918	58	70,745	88	118,189
Australia	147	188,039	78	109,346	135	190,632	136	196,018	92	144,819
West Indies . . .	12	10,515	12	9,905	13	11,214	10	11,190	13	13,383
Ceylon	5,094	699,998	4,589	677,597	4,367	725,161	4,651	725,067	5,019	731,988
Cape Colony . . .	123	101,584	50	38,984	81	58,879	44	31,645	52	36,128
China—Hong-Kong	124	186,442	134	203,474	144	222,699	160	262,857	163	267,359
Mauritius	327	192,010	229	201,678	197	161,990	204	181,217	171	200,206
Straits Settlements	620	519,869	609	522,197	718	695,758	775	711,308	603	611,664
Natal	81	53,484	65	31,501	61	24,385	39	19,835	67	32,403
Total	8,690	5,136,164	7,697	4,850,096	7,818	5,427,810	7,858	5,205,561	8,083	5,265,221
FOREIGN COUNTRIES—										
Austria	99	158,977	78	130,477	68	120,417	68	123,946	68	129,338
Belgium	97	151,127	62	101,034	86	136,788	82	134,312	54	88,088
France	272	445,504	205	315,269	189	277,107	176	274,641	148	229,461
Germany	31	33,375	25	28,852	23	28,457	35	49,398	39	53,834
Holland	13	15,558	16	21,518	19	28,985	17	27,433	11	18,207
Italy	54	93,020	52	96,114	70	125,684	149	267,795	103	199,450
East Coast of Africa	173	75,875	182	83,135	169	71,808	170	64,073	203	80,759
Egypt	250	327,952	139	193,140	191	260,417	128	170,361	174	233,657
United States . .	124	164,966	176	243,090	123	180,817	140	198,806	147	229,419
Arabia	467	110,725	451	113,655	478	123,609	628	178,789	556	153,722
China—Treaty Ports	37	75,933	39	80,600	48	88,983	67	113,858	55	98,137
Java	23	30,910	12	16,422	30	31,890	17	17,847	24	31,310
Persia	321	117,252	280	119,430	230	104,209	213	112,988	271	128,250
Turkey in Asia . .	241	51,294	274	60,342	248	53,809	186	49,774	290	60,274
Total	2,202	1,852,468	1,991	1,603,078	1,972	1,632,980	2,076	1,784,021	2,143	1,733,906

The tonnage employed in the trade with the United Kingdom was 46 per cent of the whole in 1880-81, 40 per cent in 1881-82, from 1882-83 to 1886-87 it was 41 per cent, and last year nearly 43 per cent.

Under the head British Possessions the largest intercourse is with the adjacent colonies of Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, Hong-Kong and Mauritius following after, but at a considerable distance.

Of foreign countries France, Egypt, the United States, and Italy, in the order mentioned, are those with which direct shipping intercourse is largest. Egypt stands so high, as explained elsewhere, because of the practice which obtains so largely of ships with rice and wheat clearing for Port Said "for orders".

NATIONALITIES OF VESSELS.

16. The figures for British, British Indian, and foreign vessels are given below :

	BRITISH.			BRITISH INDIAN.			FOREIGN.		
	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1883-84	4,196	5,568,676	1,327	2,601	347,849	134	1,701	1,162,022	683
1884-85	3,791	5,208,966	1,374	2,345	287,326	123	1,551	1,007,674	650
1885-86	4,136	5,770,169	1,395	2,198	304,544	139	1,565	1,071,543	685
1886-87	3,892	5,633,776	1,448	2,021	272,080	135	1,516	1,102,725	727
1887-88	3,869	5,772,747	1,492	2,121	277,197	131	1,471	969,003	659

The proportion in each case to the total tonnage has been as follows :

	British.	British Indian.	Foreign.
1883-84	76·8 %	4·8 %	16·1 %
1884-85	78·3 "	4·3 "	15·15 "
1885-86	79·1 "	4·17 "	14·69 "
1886-87	78·55 "	3·79 "	15·37 "
1887-88	80·29 "	3·86 "	13·48 "

17. The following table gives the principal nationalities of the foreign vessels employed in the Indian trade :

		1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
Austrian	{ No.	89	78	78	111	117
	{ Tons	170,071	136,942	137,846	182,786	203,706
Dutch	{ No.	39	92	127	99	28
	{ Tons	42,241	95,846	150,060	115,304	24,782
French	{ No.	231	188	170	111	91
	{ Tons	286,683	212,039	176,835	107,393	77,292
German	{ No.	178	156	200	266	166
	{ Tons	163,081	160,771	205,629	263,779	182,160
Italian	{ No.	217	107	126	116	138
	{ Tons	248,608	143,904	164,788	183,422	206,238
Norwegian	{ No.	74	75	78	89	64
	{ Tons	67,248	63,402	63,541	72,882	59,911
Swedish	{ No.	34	10	21	8	16
	{ Tons	18,728	4,069	11,480	3,903	6,305
American	{ No.	44	52	45	52	68
	{ Tons	52,033	64,538	55,236	67,994	97,507
Arab	{ No.	646	663	597	504	642
	{ Tons	102,393	102,215	92,712	78,827	89,477
Turkish	{ No.	11	20	9	46	58
	{ Tons	9,041	9,053	5,070	14,026	13,890

It was explained in the last two reviews that the increase in the number of Dutch steamers was due to the establishment of a line of mail steamers calling regularly between Madras ports and the Straits. This service has either ceased or become much less frequent. There is a large increase in vessels under the Austrian flag, but the number and tonnage of Italian vessels are the largest in the list.

NATIVE CRAFT.

18. The number and tonnage of native craft entered and cleared in each of the last five years are given below; the proportion to the total tonnage being—

2.37 in 1883-84	2.03 in 1885-86.
2.19 in 1884-85	2.28 in 1886-87.
	2.37 in 1887-88.

	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1883-84	3,164	172,056	54
1884-85	2,651	145,804	55
1885-86	2,663	148,333	56
1886-87	3,155	163,612	52
1887-88	3,432	170,518	50

SHARE OF EACH PROVINCE IN MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

19. The following table shews the share of each of the maritime provinces of India in the movement of shipping with cargoes for the last five years :

		1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
Bengal	{ No.	1,309	1,148	1,160	1,145	1,147
	{ Tons	1,706,140	1,541,764	1,568,322	1,646,298	1,683,421
Bombay	{ No.	2,030	1,947	1,969	2,025	2,027
	{ Tons	2,055,149	2,027,871	2,049,235	2,139,483	2,142,791
Sind	{ No.	733	742	828	712	795
	{ Tons	352,425	384,769	504,004	419,899	363,892
Madras	{ No.	3,917	3,478	3,476	3,537	3,692
	{ Tons	1,082,878	1,042,727	1,192,454	1,170,488	1,200,274
Burma	{ No.	989	910	1,014	1,052	1,003
	{ Tons	868,345	820,376	945,842	959,417	1,045,425

NOTE.—Under the orders of the Government of India, contained in the Resolution of the Department of Finance and Commerce, No. 905, dated the 1st June 1881, the statistics of the shipping entering and leaving Indian ports from and to foreign countries are thus compiled:

In the case of a vessel arriving from $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{several foreign ports} \\ \text{several British Indian ports} \\ \text{British Indian and foreign ports} \end{array} \right\}$ she is shown as having entered from $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{the first foreign port.} \\ \text{the last British Indian port.} \\ \text{the last British Indian port.} \end{array} \right\}$

In the case of a vessel clearing to $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{several foreign ports} \\ \text{several British Indian ports} \\ \text{foreign and British Indian ports} \end{array} \right\}$ she is shown as having cleared to $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{the last foreign port.} \\ \text{the first British Indian port.} \\ \text{the first British Indian port.} \end{array} \right\}$

Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion.

20. The imports and exports of gold during the last seven years were—

	Imports.	Exports.	Balance net imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	4,85,63,920	1,24,078	4,84,39,842
1882-83	5,09,51,354	16,42,639	4,93,08,715
1883-84	5,46,94,568	69,517	5,46,25,051
1884-85	4,77,81,724	10,62,359	4,67,19,365
1885-86	3,09,15,409	32,86,062	2,76,29,347
1886-87	2,83,35,581	65,64,929	2,17,70,652
1887-88	3,23,60,530	24,35,720	2,99,24,810

The imports and exports of silver in the same period have been—

	Imports.	Exports.	Net imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	6,46,63,889	1,08,73,390	5,37,90,499
1882-83	8,35,80,218	87,77,949	7,48,02,269
1883-84	7,40,85,065	1,00,33,554	6,40,51,511
1884-85	9,11,00,254	1,86,43,941	7,24,56,313
1885-86	12,38,62,599	77,96,314	11,60,66,285
1886-87	8,21,97,613	1,06,40,232	7,15,57,381
1887-88	10,58,98,027	1,36,10,522	9,22,87,505

The imports of gold last year were a little larger than they had been in either of the two preceding years, though still much below the average of former years.

The imports of silver were also much larger than in the preceding year and much in excess of the average.

21. Attached is a statement of the imports of gold and silver for the period from 1859-60 to 1872-73 and from 1873-74 to 1887-88, the last year of the first period of 14 years marking the commencement of the divergence in relative value of gold and silver.

Gold.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net imports.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net imports.
1859-60	4,23,80,370	38,030	4,28,42,340	1873-74	1,64,88,073	26,61,695	1,38,26,378
1860-61	4,24,24,410	98,720	4,23,25,690	1874-75	2,08,92,363	21,57,009	1,87,35,354
1861-62	5,19,04,320	60,070	5,18,44,250	1875-76	1,83,63,811	29,12,406	1,54,51,405
1862-63	6,88,15,660	3,34,100	6,84,81,560	1876-77	1,44,37,118	1,23,63,617	20,73,498
1863-64	8,92,54,120	2,71,060	8,89,83,060	1877-78	1,37,89,273	1,11,07,983	46,81,290
1864-65	9,87,50,320	3,50,680	9,83,99,640	1878-79	1,46,30,493	2,35,92,228	-89,61,733
1865-66	6,37,28,940	64,84,180	5,72,44,760	1879-80	2,05,03,929	29,98,853	1,75,05,036
1866-67	4,58,14,721	73,91,433	3,84,23,288	1880-81	3,67,20,576	1,63,586	3,65,51,990
1867-68	4,77,59,243	16,64,575	4,60,94,668	1881-82	4,85,63,920	1,24,078	4,84,39,842
1868-69	5,17,69,758	1,76,236	5,15,93,522	1882-83	5,09,51,354	16,42,639	4,93,08,715
1869-70	5,69,03,999	9,82,826	5,59,21,173	1883-84	5,46,94,568	69,517	5,46,25,051
1870-71	2,78,25,721	50,04,525	2,28,21,196	1884-85	4,77,81,724	10,62,359	4,67,19,365
1871-72	3,57,37,779	84,340	3,56,53,439	1885-86	3,09,15,409	32,86,062	2,76,29,347
1872-73	2,92,23,712	7,90,086	2,84,33,626	1886-87	2,83,35,581	65,64,929	2,17,70,652
				1887-88	3,23,60,530	24,35,720	2,99,24,810
Total	74,97,93,093	2,37,33,863	72,60,62,230		45,14,28,721	7,31,47,811	37,82,80,910

Average annual import, 5,18'61 lakhs.

Average annual import, 252'2 lakhs.

Silver.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net imports.	Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Net imports.
1859-60	12,06,89,260	92,13,630	11,14,75,630	1873-74	4,14,37,263	1,64,79,016	2,49,58,247
1860-61	6,43,46,360	1,10,66,270	5,32,80,090	1874-75	6,05,18,103	1,40,96,082	4,64,22,021
1861-62	9,76,15,450	67,50,890	9,08,64,560	1875-76	3,46,43,413	1,90,89,867	1,55,53,546
1862-63	13,62,74,010	1,07,72,440	12,55,01,570	1876-77	9,99,24,083	2,79,35,361	7,19,88,722
1863-64	14,03,71,690	1,24,04,500	12,79,67,190	1877-78	15,77,65,323	1,10,01,973	14,67,63,350
1864-65	11,48,83,200	1,40,95,220	10,07,87,980	1878-79	5,59,36,991	1,62,30,055	3,97,06,936
1865-66	20,18,44,070	1,51,57,340	18,66,86,730	1879-80	9,60,50,019	1,73,52,586	7,86,97,433
1866-67	8,65,54,323	1,69,23,598	6,96,30,725	1880-81	5,31,61,563	1,42,35,822	3,89,25,741
(11 months.)							
1867-68	6,99,94,497	1,40,54,887	5,59,39,610	1881-82	6,46,63,889	1,08,73,390	5,37,90,499
1868-69	9,97,89,786	1,37,79,559	8,60,10,227	1882-83	8,35,80,218	87,17,949	7,48,62,269
1869-70	8,26,44,073	4,40,702	8,22,03,371	1883-84	7,40,85,065	1,00,23,525	6,40,61,540
1870-71	2,66,22,490	1,72,03,121	94,19,369	1884-85	9,11,00,254	1,86,43,941	7,24,56,313
1871-72	8,00,00,350	1,46,76,595	6,53,23,755	1885-86	12,38,62,599	77,96,314	11,60,66,285
1872-73	1,93,42,138	1,21,90,704	71,51,434	1886-87	8,21,97,613	1,06,40,232	7,15,57,381
				1887-88	10,58,98,027	1,36,10,522	9,22,87,505
Total	1,34,09,71,697	16,87,29,456	1,17,22,42,241		1,22,48,24,423	21,67,26,635	1,00,80,97,788

Average annual import, 837'31 lakhs.

Average annual import, 672 lakhs.

22. In regard to gold it appears that in the 14 years, from 1859-60 to 1872-73, the average imports annually (net) amounted to 518.6 lakhs (say in conventional terms at 2 shillings to the rupee) £5,186,000. In the second period, from 1873-74 to 1887-88, they amounted to only 252 lakhs, say £2,520,000, which is less than half the annual imports of the first period. It should be noted that while the average of the second period was greatly affected by the remarkable diminution in imports during the famine period of the three years 1876-77 to 1878-79, the imports falling to the lowest point and the exports largely exceeding the imports in 1878-79, the average of the first period was affected in the contrary way by the excessive imports of the time of the Cotton Famine (1862-63 to 1864-65).

23. The annual average import (net) of silver into India for the 14 years previous to 1873-74 was about 837 lakhs; in the 15 years since 1873-74 the net annual import has been 672 lakhs. The capacity of India, therefore, for the absorption of silver does not seem to have been nearly so great in the period since 1873-74 as before that period. Yet, as observed in reviewing the trade for 1886-87, "with a largely increased population and vastly increased progress in railways and other public works, and in the volume of commercial transactions, it might have been supposed that to maintain an adequate currency, the supplies of silver should have also largely increased."

The coinage of the Indian mints too has not increased, the average coinage for the 14 years preceding 1873-74 having been 700·3 lakhs a year, and in the 15 years since then, 652·2 lakhs, thus :

<i>Silver Coinage.</i>			
<i>Lakhs of Rupees.</i>			
1859-60	1,068	1873-74	237
1860-61	519	1874-75	490
1861-62	707	1875-76	255
1862-63	925	1876-77	627
1863-64	1,148	1877-78	1,618
1864-65	1,036	1878-79	721
1865-66	1,451	1879-80	1,025
1866-67 (11 months).	612	1880-81	425
1867-68	431	1881-82	219
1868-69	421	1882-83	651
1869-70	747	1883-84	366
1870-71	172	1884-85	579
1871-72	169	1885-86	1,029
1872-73	398	1886-87	462
		1887-88	1,079
Total	9,804	Total	9,783
Annual average	700·3	Annual average	652·2

24. The statistics of the 29 years given above shew that during that period the precious metals received and retained in the country amount (at the conventional value of 2s. to the rupee) to close on £110½ millions gold and £218 millions silver, or say £329 millions of gold and silver, practically all the gold being withdrawn from circulation as soon as it enters the country, being hoarded or converted into ornaments, this latter operation being also to a large extent a form of hoarding. In the 25 years previous to 1859-60 the net imports were £101½ millions, so that altogether since 1834 some £430 millions of gold and silver have been received and kept in India.

Customs Revenue.

25. The gross sum received on imports (excluding salt) since 1883-84, was as follows :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arms and ammunition	1,47,004	1,49,940	1,68,740	2,17,107	2,23,704
Malt liquor	78,575	66,090	81,283	1,07,124	1,31,787
Spirits	35,52,100	34,49,926	36,30,746	42,97,083	46,29,349
Wines and liquours	5,70,913	4,96,580	4,69,613	4,77,766	5,16,787
Opium	2,093	2,863	2,797	4,282	2,548
Mineral oil . . . . .	...	...	...	...	1,37,090
Imports by post, &c.	16,914	562	1,322	1,640	1,3
Total gross revenue	43,67,599	41,65,961	43,54,501	51,05,002	56,42,614
Total net revenue	43,12,143	40,95,618	42,65,513	49,92,553	54,97,810

The export revenue for the same years was—

	(Gross.)	(Net.)
	Rs.	Rs.
1883-84	71,90,680	69,65,709
1884-85	58,83,936	57,06,391
1885-86	74,38,495	72,76,281
1886-87	70,84,124	69,64,619
1887-88	75,64,985	73,90,653

26. The duties on imports increased by about 10½ per cent mainly as the result of the increase of duty on spirit from four to five rupees a gallon in January 1887, and the levy of duty at the rate of half an anna per gallon since February 1888 on mineral oil, free until then. Between the 10th February and the 31st March this duty realised Rs. 1,37,090.

The export revenue increased by between 6 and 7 per cent, the net revenue being about a lakh in excess of that of 1885-86 which was a year of large exports of rice. The exports from Burma were smaller in 1886-87 than in the previous year, and last year they were smaller again, prices being kept at a high level by the existence of scarcity in Upper Burma, whither large quantities of rice were diverted which would otherwise have been exported to foreign countries and have paid the export duty. The revenue lost last year on the excess over normal exports to Upper Burma which would have otherwise been sent to foreign countries may be reckoned at 4½ lakhs. It is estimated that the demand for Upper Burma will be equally large throughout the present year.

The decrease in the Burman rice trade was, however, compensated for by a very large increase in exports from Bengal, and the revenue thus shews an increase although the trade of the Burman rice ports did not expand.

Provincial Trade.

27. The figures of the trade of each province stand thus:

(In lakhs of Rupees.)

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	Increase or decrease per cent compared with 1886-87.
<i>Imported Merchandise.</i>						
Bombay	2,076.06	2,151.60	2,201.43	2,348.14	2,548.69	+ 8.54
Bengal	2,240.09	2,143.13	1,998.56	2,333.80	2,329.84	- 0.17
Madras	438.70	482.42	425.03	531.81	532.70	+ 0.17
Burma	380.74	369.53	341.98	371.	568.93	+ 53.35
Sindh	134.77	168.21	214.14	281.37	258.31	- 8.19
<i>Exported Merchandise.</i>						
Bombay	3,259.82	3,273.28	3,129.83	3,422.05	3,439.50	+ 0.51
Bengal	3,610.22	3,283.21	3,311.20	3,559.83	3,710.85	+ 4.24
Madras	914.68	843.26	826.44	913.13	973.23	+ 6.58
Burma	657.34	528.71	678.03	658.66	663.17	+ 0.68
Sindh	370.05	391.57	437.26	289.17	260.40	- 9.95

28. While the increase of imported merchandise generally last year was 372.35 lakhs (or about 6½ per cent) including Burma, it was only 174.42 lakhs (or about 3 per cent) in the provinces of India excluding Burma. The increase in the import trade of Burma last year was in fact very remarkable. The trade of 1883-84, the year preceding the annexation of Upper Burma, was the largest on record. It fell off after the annexation and the troubles and disturbances which ensued, but last year the imports reached an unprecedented figure. It is perhaps too much to hope that this value will be exceeded or even maintained in the present year, but if tranquillity can be ensured the trade of Burma must continue to expand from year to year with the development of railways and other easy means of communication reaching throughout the country and towards the markets of South-Western China.

The only other noticeable increase in the import trade is in Bombay, where it was $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in excess of the year previous. The import trade of Madras was only fractionally larger, while in Bengal there was a slight and in Sindh a large decrease.

In the last five years the import trade has increased as follows :

Bombay	. . . . .	22.7 per cent
Bengal	. . . . .	4 "
Madras	. . . . .	21.4 "
Burma	. . . . .	49.4 "
Sindh	. . . . .	91.6 "

the total increase in the value of imported merchandise being 18.3 per cent.

29. Turning to the exports of merchandise we find the increase in the five years to be only 2.6 per cent. The provincial progress in this period was as follows :

Bombay	. . . . .	+ 5.5 per cent.
Bengal	. . . . .	+ 2.8 "
Madras	. . . . .	+ 6.4 "
Burma	. . . . .	+ 0.9 "
Sindh	. . . . .	- 29.6 "

Exports from Burma last year were materially less than they were six years ago, and the export trade of Sindh was just below the level of six years ago.

Comparing last year's trade with that of 1886-87, there was an appreciable increase only in Bengal and Madras, in Bombay and Burma the increase was fractional, and in Sindh there was a decline of nearly 10 per cent, which was due to the collapse of the wheat trade, as stated elsewhere.

30. The trade and navigation of India with foreign countries have been distributed during the last five years in the following proportions between the five chief ports. Treasure is included in the trade here :

		1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
<i>Trade.</i>						
Bombay	. . . . .	41.55	43.51	43.79	42.78	43.37
Calcutta	. . . . .	38.45	36.97	35.97	36.9	35.87
Rangoon	. . . . .	5.06	4.67	4.93	5.01	5.9
Madras	. . . . .	5.28	5.43	5.0	5.58	5.44
Karachi	. . . . .	3.36	3.79	4.34	3.68	3.2
Total		93.70	94.37	94.03	93.95	93.78
<i>Shipping.</i>						
Bombay	. . . . .	33.82	34.78	32.67	33.7	33.23
Calcutta	. . . . .	26.41	24.77	23.54	24.52	24.44
Rangoon	. . . . .	8.8	9.23	9.20	9.36	10.82
Madras	. . . . .	7.24	7.62	8.1	8.07	8.05
Karachi	. . . . .	5.81	6.61	8.05	6.62	5.65
Total		82.08	83.01	81.56	82.27	82.19

The following figures shew the actual extent of the foreign trade of the nine largest ports of India in merchandise only, imports and exports (including re-exports) during the last five years. The most notable increase, it will be observed, is at Rangoon, where there was a striking development of trade activity last year :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	Increase or decrease per cent in the period.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bombay	53,25,78,199	54,22,96,881	53,26,43,616	57,65,28,243	59,65,45,861	+ 12'01
Calcutta	57,33,55,226	53,22,38,711	52,00,41,497	57,77,20,901	58,95,58,520	+ 2'83
Rangoon	7,81,03,624	7,07,65,222	7,49,97,041	7,96,31,447	9,89,77,159	+ 26'73
Madras	7,82,36,198	7,81,17,747	7,36,74,267	8,52,08,686	8,80,01,226	+ 12'48
Karachi	5,04,82,732	5,59,75,666	6,51,40,570	5,70,54,681	5,18,67,845	+ 2'74
Tuticorin	1,35,90,874	1,21,67,983	1,09,50,866	1,42,66,502	1,61,38,970	+ 18'75
Chittagong	1,00,61,067	83,10,652	82,94,672	96,95,506	1,25,69,987	+ 24'93
Akyab	82,47,049	57,19,037	70,38,090	73,90,730	93,90,651	+ 13'87
Moulmein	81,97,458	69,59,121	88,34,527	68,24,067	78,76,293	- 3'92

Trade with Countries.

31. The following table exhibits the value of the trade between India and the countries with which India has considerable or increasing commercial connections, and the proportion of the trade with each country to the total trade of India with all countries, for each of the last five years. The countries are enumerated according to the importance of the trade with them in 1887-88 :

Countries.	1883-84.		1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.		1887-88.	
	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom	86,76,92,490	56'09	84,11,83,775	55'3	84,63,92,210	55'61	87,70,84,052	54'88	92,18,24,698	54'81
2. { China—Hong-Kong	12,95,33,955	8'37	12,32,43,226	8'1	13,30,53,633	8'74	14,16,23,423	8'86	14,37,35,803	8'54
{ China—Treaty Ports	4,29,55,811	2'78	4,27,39,256	2'81	5,09,77,627	3'35	3,54,63,638	2'22	3,77,24,584	2'24
3. France	9,22,71,674	5'97	8,88,94,543	5'84	7,40,80,554	4'87	8,59,46,981	5'38	8,16,74,714	4'85
4. Straits Settlements	4,79,81,610	3'1	5,21,00,948	3'42	5,39,02,822	3'54	5,83,96,495	3'65	6,43,14,522	3'82
5. United States	3,63,17,930	2'35	4,67,68,153	3'07	4,48,27,823	2'95	5,13,55,002	3'21	5,73,03,514	3'41
6. Italy	4,32,15,025	2'79	4,03,82,433	2'65	4,54,88,206	2'99	5,86,65,981	3'67	5,37,42,347	3'19
7. Austria	2,90,03,449	1'88	3,14,01,969	2'06	2,66,81,624	1'75	3,44,46,337	2'16	3,58,88,818	2'13
8. Egypt	3,99,36,227	2'58	3,18,27,010	2'09	3,55,44,097	2'34	3,02,63,864	1'89	3,53,00,261	2'10
9. Belgium	3,57,95,887	2'31	3,36,92,058	2'21	3,90,67,531	2'63	3,90,38,983	2'44	3,47,59,933	2'07
10. Ceylon	2,64,50,697	1'72	3,25,20,859	2'14	2,90,78,371	1'91	3,09,60,033	1'94	3,27,60,598	1'95
11. Mauritius	1,67,08,420	1'08	2,74,67,416	1'8	2,06,15,348	1'35	2,62,55,074	1'64	2,69,36,372	1'60
12. Persia	2,24,89,489	1'45	2,17,58,100	1'43	2,10,37,745	1'38	2,15,46,466	1'35	2,19,99,172	1'31
13. Australia	3,07,47,590	1'99	2,52,91,724	1'66	1,56,78,303	1'03	1,15,48,727	0'72	2,14,06,904	1'28
14. Arabia	1,38,23,395	0'894	1,42,44,513	0'936	1,67,60,505	1'1	1,97,73,992	1'24	1,86,58,437	1'11
15. Zanzibar	78,36,550	0'507	68,71,230	0'452	79,79,084	0'524	1,03,90,058	0'65	1,49,43,755	0'89
16. Germany	73,81,595	0'477	66,22,091	0'435	52,82,940	0'347	94,49,255	0'59	1,22,68,397	0'73
17. Aden	79,82,404	0'516	1,04,17,426	0'685	93,81,909	0'616	97,23,453	0'61	1,19,34,723	0'71
18. Turkey in Asia	89,12,122	0'576	96,15,435	0'622	76,67,896	0'504	83,60,711	0'52	93,79,539	0'56
19. Japan	30,49,259	0'197	49,20,377	0'323	29,89,027	0'196	43,16,041	0'27	74,82,433	0'44

Our trade with France, Italy, Belgium, and Arabia was smaller than in 1886-87. With the other countries specified in the preceding statement it was larger.

32. In the following paragraphs are stated the fluctuations of the trade in merchandise with the countries with which we have more or less important commercial relations, a few remarks being added in cases where explanations seem desirable of unusual or suggestive variations or developments of trade.

United Kingdom.—In imports there was a large fall—more than $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent—in cotton goods, the trade in which in 1886-87 had been very active with the result, as stated in the review of the year, of overstocking the market. But the trade in some of the other great staple imports from England (apparel, coal, hardware and cutlery, railway material, machinery and millwork, silks and woollens) increased materially, and consequently the total value of all imports exhibits an increase of a little under 5 per cent, the value reaching 4904·25 lakhs compared with 4677 lakhs in the preceding year.

Re-exports also increased very largely, rising from 89·67 lakhs to 119·17 lakhs. This great increase of nearly 33 per cent was due almost entirely to speculative action in copper. Up to last year as might be expected copper was an import from the United Kingdom, not an export, but last year in consequence of the inflation in the price of the metal 39,206 cwt. of copper, valued at 16·88 lakhs, were reshipped to England for sale there.

Exports of Indian produce to England cannot be said to have increased at all during the last five years, the values standing thus :

3647·34 lakhs.
3294·46 „
3357·40 „
3340·14 „
3385·22 „

For the last four years they have practically been stationary.

Looking at the items we find a more or less material increase last year in such staples as cotton, jute, tea, coffee, indigo, and wool; but a decrease of $129\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in wheat and of $34\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in rice, with smaller restrictions in linseed and rapeseed, counterbalanced the augmentation of the other great staples mentioned, so that the total of the export value of the year gives an increase of under $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the trade of the preceding year.

Austria.—The import trade and the exports of Indian goods have stood thus for each of the last five years :

Imports. Lakhs.	Exports. Lakhs.
39·57	224·98
47·78	234·26
45·19	200·53
72·38	263·43
77·09	272·20

The imports are of a very varied character, the most important being

Apparel.
Cotton twist and yarn, and white and coloured cotton goods.
Glass beads and false pearls and other glassware.
Hardware and cutlery.
Copper.
Paper, of all kinds.
Silk goods, mixed.
Toys.
Woollen goods.

Some proportion of these goods must be of Italian and German origin, but apart from those it is clear that Austrian imports to India are being pushed with some energy. The maintenance of the subsidised line of the Austro-Hungarian Lloyds steamers as a regular service between Trieste and Bombay has much to do with the development of the trade.

Our exports of Indian goods to Austria have not increased at all as fast proportionately, but they are greatly in excess of the imports. They consist mainly of cotton, indigo, hides and skins, and jute.

Belgium.—

Imports.	Exports of Indian goods.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.
17·62	340·22
24·72	312·08
26·67	371·10
29·52	359·24
30·46	316·15

From Belgium also the imports are very varied, comprising amongst other things candles, dyes (aniline and others), glass and glassware, hardware and cutlery, iron and steel (an increasing trade), and woollen goods.

The exports are mainly cotton, wheat, and oilseeds. A large decrease in wheat and a smaller one in cotton account for the decline in last year's values.

France.—

Imports.	Exports of Indian goods.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.
66·67	831·63
60·42	816·85
62·41	668·39
80·35	770·88
84·90	716·78

While imports are increasing, exports are falling off. Last year's imports were relatively considerable, chiefly as the result of an active trade in coloured cotton goods, which nearly doubled in quantity and value. Clocks and watches, brandy and wines, also gave increased values, while silk goods and apparel rather declined. The establishment of a regular service by the Messageries Maritimes with Bombay will probably give a stimulus to the import trade.

Most of the staple exports to France shared in the general decline of the trade. Coffee, cotton, hides and skins, jute, lac, cocoanut oil, oilseeds, pepper,

all fell away more or less materially. The only exceptions are indigo, raw silk, and horns. Wheat slightly increased in value as the result of the higher prices in India, but the quantity was smaller.

Germany.—

Imports.	Exports of Indian goods.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.
12·18	60·72
9·28	56·53
12·00	39·66
16·03	77·13
19·45	101·49

The direct trade is still small, much of our trade with Germany being carried on through England, but it is increasing with speed. Among the principal imports is salt, brought to Burman ports, whence is shipped the rice so extensively used for distillation in North Germany. We received 23,000 tons of salt from Germany last year, a much smaller import than in the preceding year, but that year's imports were unprecedentedly large, being four times in excess of the average. There was also a tolerably large import of German beet-sugar, a trade which is practically new. The trade in German woollens is increasing, the imports of last year amounting to 440,000 yards. Matches are the only other import of importance.

There was a considerable increase in the exports last year of cotton, indigo, rice, and jute, which are the largest exports to Germany.

Italy.—

Imports.	Exports of Indian goods.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.
51·87	350·88
41·81	348·51
41·46	363·82
42·55	526·94
37·10	450·52

Imports from Italy are certainly not progressive. The trade comprises a great variety of articles of which corals are much the most important. These as well as glass beads and false pearls (another prominent item) shew diminished values.

As with the other Continental countries, cotton is about the most important staple of the export trade. The quantity exported last year was smaller, but the value a little larger, than in the preceding year, prices having risen in Bombay. The export of wheat fell from 5,212,305 cwt. to 3,073,764 cwt. It was anticipated in the review of the trade of 1886-87 that the export would not continue on that great scale, but even three million cwt. is a very extensive trade considering what it was in previous years, and if 'it' does not go below that level there will be reason for congratulation. The extent of the trade depends entirely upon price : with good crops in India, Italy will always take a considerable supply of our wheat, but our crops have not been good, while South Russia has had the most abundant wheat harvest known for years. The hide trade has also fallen off as has the trade in raw silk, while the export of jute has been comparatively very large.

Russia.—From European Russia we import practically nothing,—literally nothing for three years out of the five under review. Russia, like India, is in the main an agricultural country and such manufactures as it possesses cannot compete in India with Indian manufactures or with those of England or any Continental country. In Central Asia they can drive our and English goods out of the market, but as the result not of competition but of prohibition.

A new trade has sprung up however within the last two years with Asiatic Russia, in petroleum shipped from Batoum. It was suggested in reviewing the trade of 1886-87 that the importation of this oil was but the beginning of a formidable competition with American oil, and it may be said that the anticipation has already been realised.

The imports of this oil were, in:

1886-87	.	.	.	1,577,392 Gallons.	6.70 lakhs
1887-88	.	.	.	5,036,055	" 22.73 "

so that it trebled in the year, and more. In the first five months of the present year we have already imported over 5,800,000 gallons of Russian oil.

Cotton and indigo are the principal exports to Russia (European). In both there was a large increase of trade last year.

Zanzibar.—

Imports.	Re-exports.	Exports.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
23.55	16.13	26.55
23.91	10.27	29.60
33.32	14.14	21.03
39.21	19.11	27.64
59.34	20.97	28.25

These figures indicate an extraordinary increase in imports, and a normal increase in the rest of the trade. The increase in imports was due to the clove trade (which comprises, with ivory, the bulk of the imports from Zanzibar) having doubled in quantity and value in the year. This trade has been recovering year by year from the disaster from which it suffered some years ago when a cyclone destroyed all the plantations in the island, but the sudden activity of the trade last year is remarkable. The ivory trade makes fair progress.

In the export trade it is satisfactory to notice that while the exports of Manchester cottons have increased so have those of Bombay, 13,503,000 yards of the latter having been exported: of Manchester piece goods the quantity re-exported was 9,361,000 yards.

Egypt.—The trade seems important by reason of the large export value, but it is really of small importance. Our exports of Indian goods last year are entered in the returns at 320.26 lakhs, but of this 232.37 lakhs represents rice and wheat shipped to Port Said "for orders", and of a good deal of the remainder the same thing may be said. Goods go from India to Port Said, Suez, or Alexandria, either to be carried on in the same bottom to some Mediterranean port, or in

transhipment for Greek, Turkish, or Levant ports, or places in the Black Sea. Comparatively little goes to Egypt to stay there.

Mauritius.—

Imports.	Exports of Indian goods.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.
76·82	74·81
166·36	70·93
110·57	85·06
165·65	78·49
155·04	101·15

Sugar is the principal, practically the only thing imported from Mauritius, and these figures shew the extent of the development of that trade since the system of bounties in Continental Europe has artificially so lowered the price of cane-sugar that it is not possible to sell it at a profit in the European market.

In rice, the principal article exported, there was a considerable increase.

United States.—

Imports.	Exports of Indian goods.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.
52·91	308·24
113·80	345·33
83·30	304·49
117·03	319·10
103·03	372·20

The bulk of the imports consists of mineral oil, and the decrease is due to a decline in that trade, which fell from 29,145,000 gallons to 25,040,000 gallons.

In our export trade, jute and linseed have increased and indigo has fallen off.

Aden.—Hitherto the trade has in the main consisted of gums and ivory and pearls brought to Aden for shipment to Bombay. Within the last two years has begun a trade in salt made at Aden, and about the only thing produced in that dreary place. This salt is made by an Italian Company to which a liberal concession was made a couple of years ago. In 1886-87, 2,325 tons were imported : last year 15,000 tons.

Exports to Aden are increasing :

Lakhs.
49·47
55·44
52·95
61·88
74·55

There was a considerable augmentation in the trade in Bombay piece goods, the result of energetic action by the Bombay Millowners' Association, which rightly considers that trade with Arabia and East Africa merits close attention.

Arabia.—Exports have somewhat fallen off, rice, wheat, and jowári and bajrá (the largest exports) having been in smaller demand. The export of coffee amounted last year to 10,499 cwt. This trade is a testimony to the merits of Indian coffee which could not be wanted in these regions unless it was so good as to be capable of substitution for Arabian coffee whether for local consumption or for re-export to places where Mocha coffee is appreciated.

Ceylon.—

Imports.	Re-exports.	Exports.
Lakhs.	Lakhs.	Lakhs.
56·91	6·71	146·79
41·03	6·58	178·34
50·99	6·10	185·77
53·78	9·02	180·00
63·36	9·42	198·32

In each case there was a material increase last year. Under imports the bulk of the increase was in coffee, of which there was an unusually large import during the year.

In exports there is a steady augmentation of cotton piece goods of which about 7 million yards were taken to Ceylon last year. The bulk of the export trade consists, however, of rice, of which last year 3,470,427 cwt. were shipped, value for 123·68 lakhs :

China.—

HONG-KONG.		TREATY PORTS.	
Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
177·75	967·07	35·61	340·40
156·40	943·12	30·17	304·06
155·27	944·15	29·90	311·44
187·18	1,063·55	31·61	269·70
209·73	1,019·25	31·78	276·16

Our trade with Hong-Kong is just about four times as large as with the Treaty Ports and, while it makes fair progress, the trade with the Treaty Ports makes none. The reason of this lack of progress lies in the opium trade which goes in smaller quantities yearly direct to the Treaty Ports. The shipments in the last five years have been :

TO HONG-KONG.		TO TREATY PORTS.	
Chests.	Value (lakhs).	Chests.	Value (lakhs).
56,239	694·58	27,489	334·26
51,245	649·32	24,146	295·70
53,274	653·33	22,841	276·79
65,217	755·07	17,907	212·32
59,508	663·22	17,307	205·19

The tendency to concentrate the trade at Hong-Kong is perhaps due to the facilities which exist, when opium is reshipped thence for other ports in China, for evading the Imperial Customs duty.

The only other items of importance exported to the Treaty Ports are cotton yarn and piece goods. In these the direct trade, unlike opium, has increased considerably in recent years :

TWIST.		PIECE GOODS.	
lbs.	Lakhs.	Yards.	Lakhs.
394,300	1.60	1,462,144	2.23
1,013,390	3.99	2,402,962	3.01
8,173,020	29.66	3,115,513	3.60
14,001,880	49.64	3,100,440	3.91
17,305,299	62.48	4,309,900	5.90

To Hong-Kong the exports of cotton yarn have also increased largely, having nearly doubled in five years :

lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
40,646,329	156.95
55,455,997	204.17
60,325,700	209.60
65,262,700	236.31
75,265,889	263.92

Altogether the exports of cotton yarn to China last year amounted to over 92½ million pounds, value about 326½ lakhs, figures which shew the important dimensions of the market secured in China for the manufactures of the Bombay mills.

To Hong-Kong there was also a largely increased export of cotton (raw) last year, this being mainly shipped from Calcutta, whence also there is a considerable export of gunny bags and saltpetre.

The increase in the imports from Hong-Kong was due to an active trade in raw silk and silk piece goods and in sugar.

Japan is another increasingly important market for Bombay cotton yarn. The trade has increased nearly threefold in five years :

lbs.	Lakhs.
6,247,470	24.60
6,943,680	26.50
7,136,820	26.71
9,377,360	35.82
17,391,646	67.80

This forms the bulk of our trade with Japan, the whole export value of all goods being only 71.20 lakhs. The excess represents gunny bags mostly. Imports are unimportant as yet.

Java.—It is only necessary to observe that the import of sugar continues on an increasing scale. These imports from China, Java, Mauritius, and other sugar growing countries, caused by the low prices in the European markets artificially created by the system of bounties, have caused great injury to the sugar

refining industry of India which had made a promising commencement when the fall of prices occurred.

Persia.—

Imports. Lakhs.	Re-exports. Lakhs.	Exports. Lakhs.
56·40	109·34	28·01
64·32	95·43	31·89
64·62	98·76	30·04
56·27	101·83	34·16
63·74	101·15	36·07

There was a good increase in the staple imports from Persia : cotton, wool, dates and other fruits, and pearls.

This is one of the few countries with which our re-export trade is of considerable importance, about seven-tenths of it consisting of Manchester yarns and piece goods (grey and coloured). It cannot be said that the trade is increasing.

Of foreign tea we sent $1\frac{1}{4}$ million pounds to Persia last year. There is an excellent opening here for Indian tea if our tea growers would suit their teas to the market in respect of strength (or rather weakness) and price.

Our exports of Indian goods to Persia are however increasing. They consist chiefly of coffee, indigo, and rice. It does not appear as yet that the substitution of Manchester prints for their blue shirts by the Persian peasantry has sensibly affected the exports of indigo, for the exports of last year, though smaller than those of the preceding year, which were unusually large, were not below the average.

Straits Settlements.—

Imports. Lakhs.	Re-exports. Lakhs.	Exports. Lakhs.
161·28	22·90	283·63
170·96	25·99	316·56
161·21	27·25	341·15
159·05	26·23	389·22
211·96	35·19	382·38

Singapore is a halting place between the East and the West, and a depôt for the transmission of goods to countries in the neighbourhood. Many classes of the imports received thence into India are European, many are Chinese, or from Manila and Siam, in addition to the products originating in the Straits. The unusually great increase in the imports of the year is spread over a great variety of goods, but is conspicuous in raw silk and silk piece goods, in sugar, pepper, salted fish, and other provisions.

The fall in exports was mainly in rice which, with opium, comprises two-thirds of the exports to the Straits.

Turkey in Asia—

Imports. Lakhs.	Re-exports. Lakhs.	Exports. Lakhs.
22·27	18·67	19·99
20·94	18·44	23·69
22·22	20·14	20·68
17·98	21·28	25·77
27·50	22·64	27·66

The increase in import values was due mainly to a larger trade in horses, dates, and ghi, the staple imports from Bagdad and Basra. In exports there was a larger demand for rice.

Australia.—

Imports. Lakhs.	Exports of Indian goods. Lakhs.
55'72	59'11
46'54	77'34
42'26	58'26
39'21	52'37
48'48	111'09

The imports of copper last year give a material increase partly due to quantity and partly to a rise in price. There was also a larger increase of coal, with a smaller import of horses. These three items continue to comprise practically all our import trade with Australia.

The exports of gunny bags, which had been on a relatively small scale during the continuance of the drought from which the Colonies suffered for some time before 1887, expanded greatly with the return of good harvests. The number rose from 10,262,000 bags in 1886-87 to 22,236,000 bags last year, and their value from 25'86 lakhs to 77'01 lakhs. The exports of rice and castor oil also increased, and the trade in tea exhibits a most satisfactory expansion:

lbs.	Lakhs.
379,204	2'43
1,545,044	9'15
1,766,447	10'53
1,645,888	9'20
2,471,927	14'51

It is to be hoped that Indian tea has at last taken firm hold of the Australian market, which has a capacity for consuming at least 20 million pounds of tea even at present.

Import Trade.

33. The values of imported merchandise during the last sixteen years stand thus:

<i>In lakhs of rupees.</i>					
1872-73	3047'30	1877-78	3932'60	1882-83	5000'30
1873-74	3162'85	1878-79	3656'62	1883-84	5270'39
1874-75	3464'52	1879-80	3974'21	1884-85	5314'93
1875-76	3711'26	1880-81	5030'88	1885-86	5181'15
1876-77	3536'71	1881-82	4699'21	1886-87	5866'14
				1887-88	6238'48
<i>Average</i>	3384'53	<i>Average</i>	4258'70	<i>Average</i>	5478'56
		(increase) = 25'8%		(increase) = 28'6%	
Average of Exchange	21'90d.	Average of Exchange	20'08d.	Average of Exchange	18'49d.

34. Thus it appears that in the last six years, with an average rate of exchange which was $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ lower than in the previous five years, the importations of

merchandise increased in a much greater ratio than in those five years. It was explained in some detail in the Review of 1885-87 why the theory that a low exchange must restrict imports does not accord with the facts of Indian trade. The explanation was, briefly, that the theory could be sustained if exchange had been the only thing that had fallen, for in that case gold prices of imported commodities being maintained, obviously an increasing sum in silver would be required to pay the cost of imports, and such elevation of silver cost would necessarily be followed by a restriction of imports. The theory however was not sustainable, because the fall in exchange or, which is the same thing, in the gold value of silver, was accompanied and its effects counteracted by an equal or greater fall in the gold values of imported commodities. The fall in exchange therefore had not, and could not have, any restrictive effect on the import trade as long as prices of commodities and the rate of exchange continued to fall in about the same ratio. In the same way, the fall in gold prices of Indian commodities prevented that stimulus to the export trade which would have certainly been felt if exchange only had fallen. The actual result of the general fall of prices in recent years has been to prevent either restriction on the one hand of stimulus on the other arising out of the fall of exchange. In the export trade there are doubtless times when a falling exchange has resulted in a profit to speculative operations commenced before the fall began, but such times are of brief duration, lasting only until the commencement of the inevitable fall in prices which follows promptly upon each fall in exchange.

35. Taking the prices of March 1873 as = 100, the following table shews the variations in the prices of staple imports since then at Calcutta :

	Grey shirtings, 8½ lb.	Mule twist, white, No. 40.	Mule twist, Turkey red, No. 40.	Copper, sheathing.	Iron, flat, bolt, &c.
March 1873	100	100	100	100	100
June 1874	97	92	106	95	108
March 1875	86	92	102	103	93
March 1876	86	90	92	99	79
January 1877	78	90	85	92	67
„ 1878	73	78	87	86	60
„ 1879	76	75	78	80	56
„ 1880	81	84	75	83	73
„ 1881	82	82	69	81	56
„ 1882	78	84	69	89	71
„ 1883	82	74	54	80	60
„ 1884	75	74	62	77	62
„ 1885	76	72	58	64	54
„ 1886	84	67	57	57	50
„ 1887	81	62	57	65	53
„ 1888	79	75	59	90	61

Thus, notwithstanding the increase of cost resulting from the fall of exchange, it appears that the prices of these great staples of the import trade have

materially fallen instead of having risen. The course of prices at Calcutta is an indication of the course of prices at the other large ports.

36. Grouping the imports under the general heads of the classification presented in the returns, the following figures shew the trade in the last six years :

I.— <i>Animals, living</i> (almost all horses) :	Lakhs.	II.— <i>Articles of food and drink :</i>	Lakhs.
	19·03		514·51
	20·75		538·22
	20·73		632·73
	25·68		585·19
	26·12		678·96
	25·61		749·70
III.— <i>Metals and manufactures of metals, including machinery and mill-work, and railway plant and rolling stock :</i>	786·66	IV.— <i>Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials :</i>	83·78
	941·18		87·70
	876·50		87·39
	855·32		86·16
	836·11		95·29
	1078·48		102·26
V.— <i>Oils :</i>	105·09	VI.— <i>Raw Materials and un-manufactured articles :</i>	303·87
	65·42		308·87
	122·95		305·22
	96·11		325·19
	140·84		314·91
	148·68		394·40
VII.— <i>Manufactured and partly manufactured articles :</i>	3187·35		
	3308·25		
	3269·40		
	3207·49		
	3773·91		
	3739·35		

There was a conspicuous increase of trade in the year in Metals and in Railway Materials, these two items and Silk and Silk goods accounting for two-thirds of the whole increase in the import trade. In several other important staples there was a smaller though substantial increase. Cotton manufactures, however, the backbone of our import trade, fell away after an unusually active trade in the previous year, the decline amounting to as much as 165·85 lakhs.

CLASS I.—ANIMALS.

37. *Horses.*—The trade is almost exclusively in horses from Australia and the Persian Gulf. There was a slight decline last year in the numbers imported

which were 6,671 against 6,915. The number was more than the average however. This trade is maintained at a rather high level by the demands for Australian horses as remounts for the army, but under new arrangements in contemplation for the rearing of horses in India for this purpose, it seems likely that the demand for imported horses for the army may during the next few years diminish materially.

CLASS II.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.

38. *Malt Liquor.*—The largest import ever known, amounting to 2,138,518 gallons, value 39 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, being about 25 per cent in excess of that of the previous year. So far, the competition of Indian brewed beer has had no effect on the trade in beer imported for general consumption, though it has very largely reduced the importations by the State, the beer brewed in India being now extensively issued to the troops. At one time it seemed that imported beer was losing its hold on the market, but the light German and Austrian beers were opportunely introduced, and light English ales were then specially brewed to compete with them, and the result is that the importation of beer is extremely large. The Indian brewed beer is much more largely bought by Government for the British troops than by the civil population, as will be seen from the subjoined figures of the quantity brewed and bought for the troops during the last eleven years :

	Total production. Gallons.	Bought for Troops. Gallons.
1877	2,162,888	954,933
1878	1,522,769	869,270
1879	1,569,026	872,296
1880	1,974,578	1,298,773
1881	2,448,711	1,764,927
1882	2,594,667	1,699,914
1883	2,597,298	2,027,169
1884	2,778,680	2,030,499
1885	3,150,342	2,266,801
1886	4,317,724	3,339,361
1887	4,860,282	4,178,628

39. *Spirits.*—The quantity imported—1,084,487 gallons—was only about two per cent in excess of that of the previous year, while the value was a great deal less, the fall being mainly in Brandy, of which the importation keeps declining, while what is imported is largely very cheap (and unwholesome) spirit. Of Whisky on the other hand the consumption continues to increase, the quantity last year being larger than that of Brandy—357,814 gallons of the former against 356,365 of the latter. Gin keeps steadily up, the largest proportion of it going to Burma, where the people have a decided partiality for this spirit.

Bengal	15,776 gallons.
Bombay	13,250 "
Sindh	7,748 "
Madras	11,030 "
Burma	48,791 "

40. In *Wines and Liqueurs* there was a larger trade than in 1886-87—383,876 gallons against 357,918—but the trade is not up to the average of former years. Of the imports there were 51,505 gallons of Champagne—say 25,752 dozens of quarts—and 124,379 gallons of Claret.

The total value of the trade in liquor of all kinds amounted to 148.70 lakhs, which was about 7 per cent more than five years previously. A small advance considering the great increase in the European population in recent years, these being the bulk of the consumers of imported liquors.

41. *Provisions.*—The imports of Flour are not on the increase, and last year's trade exhibits a considerable decline, which may be attributed to the recent improvements and extensions in the local manufacture of flour. The imports fell from 2,541,000 lbs. to 1,937,000 lbs.

The trade in Dates, a staple import from the Persian Gulf, was much larger than it has been in recent years, and the trade in Salted Fish also largely increased. The importation of this article must of necessity be stimulated by the increase in the salt tax effected last January, unless the effect of the increase is counteracted either by the extension of the concession of free salt to Indian fish-curers or the imposition of a countervailing import duty on Salted Fish. The imports of the last five years have been:

lbs.
11,660,597
12,153,960
11,249,600
12,165,889
13,214,188

the trade of last year being over $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in excess of the previous year's imports. During the present year the augmentation of the trade is quite remarkable. In the first four months of the year as much as 9,462,981 lbs. were imported, compared with 4,230,534 lbs. and 3,959,920 lbs. in the same period of each of the two preceding years, the trade having thus more than doubled. The increase in the trade is largely in imports from the Straits into Burma where the salt tax was raised in January from three annas to one rupee a maund. The imports into that province in 1887-88 were far in excess of the quantity imported in any previous year. Salted Fish is used to a great extent as a substitute for salt by rice-eating people.

In "Other Sorts" of provisions—mainly canned meats, fish, fruit, and vegetables, jams, jellies, confectionery, and oilman's stores, for European consumption, there was a greatly increased trade.

The aggregate value of the trade in Provisions amounted to 150.44 lakhs, thus divided among the principal items :

Dates	35.35 lakhs.
Other dried fruits	15.24 "
Ghi	6.86 "
Salted Fish	14.17 "
Bacon and Hams	5.53 "
Butter and Cheese	7.69 "
Fishmaws and Sharkfins	3.91 "
" Other Sorts " (mainly canned)	59.73 "

42. *Salt.*—Imports amounted to 423,897 tons compared with 416,592 tons in the preceding year. In the current year however the imports have somewhat fallen off, whether as a consequence of the increase in the duty or for other

reasons cannot as yet be said. It is hardly likely, however, that by the end of the year the imports will be materially, if at all, smaller than they were last year.

The only noticeable feature in the trade is the commencement of large imports (15,000 tons were imported last year) from Aden, where, under concessions granted by the local administration, an Italian company has commenced manufacture on an extensive scale.

43 *Spices*.—A large increase in the trade, chiefly in consequence of the Clove trade having almost doubled in the year:

	lbs.	Rs.
1886-87	4,445,180	19.59 lakhs.
1887-88	8,374,372	37.67 "

It is stated that the crop was very abundant in Zanzibar—whence this spice is brought to India, the bulk to Bombay. It is one of the principal trade products of Zanzibar, the only others of importance being ivory and copal.

In Pepper also there was an active import from the Straits, whence the bulk of the imports is received. It seems odd that India, which exported last year over seven million pounds of Pepper of its own production, should need to import $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds from the Straits. The reason is probably to be found in the fact that freight from the Straits to Bengal is as cheap as from Southern India.

The aggregate value of the Spices imported was 93.15 lakhs, which was 40 per cent in excess of the previous year's trade.

44. *Sugar*.—The imports of 1886-87 were on an extremely large scale, and those of last year were larger still, amounting to 1,808,479 cwt., representing a value of over 211 lakhs.

It was explained in the review published last year that this inflow of Sugar from all parts was due to the Continental system of bounties which, having practically shut out from Continental markets the sugar of cane-producing countries, compelled producers in Mauritius, China, Java, (whose cane sugar, formerly a staple import into Holland can no longer compete with beet sugar, the imports into Holland of cane sugar having fallen from 180,000 tons in 1870 to 1,750 tons in 1887) the Straits, and Ceylon, to pour their unsaleable stocks on the Indian markets. From England too the West Indian, and perhaps our own, sugar refined there unable to find a market on the Continent, comes in increasing quantities to India, and even the refiners of Austria, Belgium, and Germany are encouraged by the bounties to send their sugar hither. The imports of the last five years, from the principal importing countries were as follow (in hundredweights):

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
United Kingdom	327	30,605	19,279	37,340	47,297
Mauritius	506,910	1,265,937	896,792	1,377,041	1,296,648
China	199,832	221,814	190,556	244,859	316,035
Straits Settlements	24,870	44,236	38,754	53,842	92,626
Ceylon	1,328	3,031	620	288	6,513
Austria . . . . .	...	14,904	...	9,899	4,380
Belgium . . . . .	...	391	...	579	1,195
Germany . . . . .	...	908	...	...	6,881

The total imports (from all countries) have increased 145 per cent during the last five years, having risen from 736,909 cwt. in 1883-84 to 1,808,479 cwt.

last year. On the other hand our exports of Indian sugar in the same period have fallen from 1,630,520 cwt. to 1,046,288 cwt., a decline of nearly 36 per cent, the markets for Indian sugar in foreign countries being affected by the same competition in just the same way as our internal markets have been affected. Whether in India or out of India, Indian sugar is injured by competition of two kinds, (1) that of Continental beet sugar artificially stimulated by State bounties, (2) that of cane sugar which, unable to maintain a market in Europe from which it is thrust out by beet sugar, has to be sold at almost any price and finds its most convenient outlets in India and in markets hitherto supplied by India. Our exports for the last five years are given in hundredweights for the principal countries in the table appended :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
United Kingdom	1,354,050	796,402	795,925	602,966	853,271
Egypt	147,606	127,310	145,931	179,191	45,717
United States . . . . .	...	44,965	...	34,952	87,062
St. Helena . . . . .	...	29,013	84,277	102,846	...
Aden	5,172	3,436	5,562	4,047	9,870
Arabia	22,026	16,352	13,200	25,586	17,411
Ceylon	25,141	29,304	26,210	32,608	26,618
Persia	1,733	578	138	1,419	574
Turkey in Asia	940	958	1,856	232	613
Italy	32,536	...	...	...	...
Australia	5,344	14,460	...	...	...

It may be hoped that this state of things will disappear or be radically modified by the Convention for the abolition of the Sugar Bounties which has recently been signed, India being a party to the Convention. But it will not come into operation until 1891 and meanwhile the injury to the Indian sugar trade may continue with augmented effect.

45. *Tea*.—Imports amounted to 3,623,872 lbs., value for 26 lakhs, being a good deal smaller than in either of the two previous years when they exceeded four million pounds. But the trade, even at this reduced figure, is still very large, and, as has often been said before in these reviews, it is worth consideration by Indian teaplanters whether they should not endeavour to get hold of a trade of these dimensions and not leave China, Java, and Ceylon to supply consumers who would take Indian tea if it were made to suit their tastes. The bulk of this tea goes to Bombay, some being consumed locally, some re-exported to the Persian Gulf, and some sent across the North-West Frontier.

CLASS III.—METALS, AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS.

46. *Hardware and Cutlery*.—The value of the imports of the innumerable varieties of goods classified under this general designation, has reached the large sum of 109.39 lakhs, the trade having no doubt been greatly stimulated by the fall in prices, or perhaps, to speak more accurately, by the substitution of cheap and inferior articles for the more highly priced though more lasting qualities which were imported some years ago. The fall in the gold price of silver has been beneficial to the electroplating industry, and the cheapening of the processes of making steel and iron has enabled manufacturers to put large quantities of cutlery and other goods made of steel and iron on the Indian markets at very cheap rates. The trade in such goods from Austria and Belgium has increased in recent years, and in this connection it may be remarked that Continental manufacturers place on the Indian market a mass of cheap and inferior

goods fraudulently marked with English trade marks. There is a prospect of such practices being interfered with when a Merchandise Marks Act is passed for this country.

47. *Copper*.—The imports for the last five years have been :

	Cwt.	Rs.
1883-84	530,226	220·78 lakhs.
1884-85	552,420	207·00 „
1885-86	652,973	209·38 „
1886-87	615,049	199·40 „
1887-88	532,635	200·19 „

Thus, though the quantity declined by about 13½ per cent, the value was higher than that of the preceding year. These features, the consequence of the operations of the French Copper Syndicate, have so far repeated themselves in a still more marked way in the trade of the present year. It would seem, however, that the efforts to “corner” the trade and keep up prices are not far off collapse, and it is probable that before the end of the year prices will have fallen greatly and imports have increased.

As another consequence of the speculative increase in prices, the re-exports of Copper were abnormally large, about 47,000 cwt. having been shipped, of which more than 39,000 cwt. to England, as against an average export in the four preceding years, of 11,200 cwt. annually.

48. Imports of *Iron* increased nearly 32 per cent, the quantity imported having risen from 164,020 tons to 216,079 tons. There has been a large development of trade in Galvanised Iron, now largely used in the plains for roofing sheds and workshops and in the hills for residences. In Piping and Tubing also, the constant progress of waterworks and drainage in municipal areas has brought about a great increase of imports. *Steel* also steadily and largely increases. Much of it is of poor quality, used for hooping instead of iron.

49. As anticipated in previous reviews, the trade in *Lead*, which is most largely imported in the form of sheets for the lining of tea chests, expands with the expansion of tea exports. About 72,000 cwt. of sheet lead for this purpose were imported last year, the total imports of all descriptions of Lead being about 112,000 cwt.

50. *Tin*.—Imports fell away very largely, for reasons similar to those which affected the Copper trade. The “corner” in Tin however collapsed shortly after the beginning of the present year, and with the fall in prices the trade has resumed activity.

51. *Machinery and Millwork*.—The value of the trade (quantities cannot be stated) has stood thus in each of the last five years :

178·90 lakhs.
148·41 „
99·15 „
137·14 „
180·02 „

Allowance being made for the fall in prices, it is evident that there has been a great revival of industry and of the demand for industrial appliances: The demand is chiefly due to the expansion of the cotton manufacturing industry to which reference is made in another part of the review. Out of the aggregate of 180 lakhs, about 112·06 lakhs represent the value of steam engines and parts (not locomotives), and of this sum 94·50 lakhs represents the value of such machinery imported into Bombay.

52. *Railway Plant and Rolling Stock:*

163·33 lakhs.
159·26 "
201·80 "
143·51 "
257·76 "

These figures do not include the imports on account of the State which were as follow:

125·76 lakhs.
123·74 "
229·95 "
189·27 "
124·86 "

During this period of five years the number of railway miles open for traffic has increased by 3,600, the total number open standing at 14,383 miles on the 31st March 1888.

CLASS IV.—CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES, NARCOTICS, DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS.

53. Under this class the values of the trade are thus represented:

	Lakhs.
(1) <i>Chemicals</i> (under which are also classed dynamite and other explosives)	20·14
(2) <i>Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics</i>	43·96
(3) <i>Dyeing and Tanning materials</i>	38·14

The aggregate value of the trade was 102·25 lakhs: in the preceding year it was 95·29 lakhs. The increase occurred in dyes and tans. Imports of aniline dyes continue to increase, 13,977,000 ounces having been imported—an increase of nearly 73 per cent in five years. Imports of Madder on the other hand have fallen to a very low point.

CLASS V.—OILS.

54. The value of the trade has reached a high figure, the expansion of the trade in the five years being great:

Lakhs.
65·42
122·95
96·11
140·84
148·68

This is due largely to the extended use of Mineral Oil, which forms the bulk of the imports. The progress of this trade is indicated by the figures below :

Gallons.	Rs. (lakhs.)
13,883,838	56.17
27,306,999	115.82
21,311,942	85.18
31,949,633	125.99
31,421,559	127.45

Whether the further progress of the trade was temporarily interrupted by higher prices last year, or by the imposition of a duty of half an anna a gallon last January, is not quite clear. The decline has continued in the present year, the imports to the end of August being lower than in the same period of last year. But the use of the oil has become so common and its advantages, when compared with the smoky and dull light given by the dirty and troublesome vegetable oils which Kerosene is superseding, are so much appreciated, that it is improbable that the trade will not further advance. Petroleum in abundance has been found in Afghanistan, but its quality makes it unfit for use except as fuel for locomotives. The petroleum of Upper Burma is used to but a small extent for illumination, being chiefly employed for machinery. The wells of Arakan are not now worked, except in a very small way by natives, the European company formed for their working having failed. There are hopes of finding large quantities of oil in the Rawal Pind district, where the oil is now used in a small way for making gas by the military authorities, and a concession of mining rights has recently been given on very liberal terms to an association of capitalists who propose to seek for oil in that district. But, so far, it may be said that India is entirely dependent on its imports for mineral oil for illumination. Until the year before last the United States had the practical monopoly, but Russian oil is, as was anticipated in last year's review, making a considerable figure in the trade, as will be seen from the figures below :

	From United States. Gallons.	From Russia. Gallons.
1883-84	12,715,837	...
1884-85	26,026,608	..
1885-86	20,229,350	...
1886-87	20,144,942	1,577,392
1887-88	25,040,517	5,036,055
1888-89 (five months)	8,390,710	5,822,000

It is worthy of note that last year we imported about 282,000 gallons of Linseed oil from England, and about 518,000 gallons of Groundnut oil from the Straits, although India produces the raw material in great quantities and possesses every facility for the manufacture of the oil.

CLASS VI.—RAW MATERIALS AND UNMANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

55. *Coal.*—The imports of Coal, Coke, and Patent Fuel amounted to 848,878 tons last year against 765,668 tons in the year before. The bulk of the imports is into Bombay and Burma. Both provinces took an unusually large quantity, Burma as a consequence of the great enlargement of river steamer traffic, and Bombay because of the activity in the cotton mills which marked the year.

Except in Bombay and Madras, the railways of India now use native coal where wood is not cheaper and more convenient.

56. *Raw Silk*.—It may be said that this is now one of the staple imports of a country which used to produce it largely. As our exports fall off our imports appear to increase, and, unless there is some radical change in the conditions of production of Indian silk we appear to be within measurable distance of the time when India will cease to export silk and will be dependent on foreign countries for her supplies of the raw and manufactured material. The export trade, however, is treated in another section of the review. The following figures give the import trade for the last five years :

lbs.	Rs. (lakhs.)
2,210,893	96.96
1,831,702	74.75
1,732,559	72.19
1,737,891	79.34
2,598,597	117.43

With trifling exceptions this Silk is imported from China to Bombay and from the Straits to Burma, and most of what is imported into Bombay is woven into the shapes and designs fancied by the Burmese and sent to Burma, the only province where Silk is commonly worn by the people.

57. The only other articles of some importance under this head are :

(1) *Unmanufactured Ivory* (tusks) imported from Zanzibar and the East African Coast into Bombay, whence the greater part is reshipped to London.

(2) *Precious Stones and Pearls*: mainly Pearls brought to Bombay from the Persian Gulf.

There was a slight decrease in the Ivory trade last year, but the trade of the two previous years had been above the average.

CLASS VII.—ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED.

58. *Cotton manufactures*.—In Twist and Yarn there was an increased trade, following on the increase recorded in the preceding year, the figures being :

lbs.	Rs. (lakhs.)
45,378,956	346.59
45,799,637	336.04
45,915,123	317.21
49,013,979	331.84
51,542,549	358.19

Of the increase of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds, more than two million pounds were in imports into Burma, where the trade was exceedingly active during the year, importers apparently considering that the pacification of the country had made such progress that they might expect a large demand for their goods after the troubles and interruption of trade in the years preceding.

The remainder of the increase was in Bengal, and on this subject the Collector of Customs makes some remarks which may be reproduced here :

“The figures of the total imports of twist and yarn, including grey and white and coloured, shew an increase in both quantity and value over last year; for though in 40s,

which comprise more than half the imports of grey and white twist, there was a slight falling off, there was an increase in some of the other counts—more especially in numbers higher than 40s. The trade in these goods during the year has been satisfactory to importers and dealers; prices remained at a remunerative level, and notwithstanding the increase in the imports, stocks at the close of 1887 were considerably lower than for the corresponding period of 1886. The year's trade shews that the position of foreign imported twist and yarn has been well maintained in the market notwithstanding the keen competition of the Indian-made article. The prosperity of the Indian weaving mills has no doubt contributed to this.

"It is noticeable how the supplies of grey and white twist from India are going up: for the three previous years the English and Indian supplies were about equal, but for the past year we have received 7,093,835 lbs. only from England, against 8,411,420 lbs. from India."

In *Cotton piece-goods* of all sorts—grey, white, and coloured—the trade is as follows:

Yards.	Lakhs of rupees.
1,646,595,021	2095.68
1,721,852,195	2116.54
1,731,565,005	2069.51
1,740,813,831	2059.67
2,155,419,391	2535.58
1,839,741,882	2331.72

The anticipation in the Review published last year that the causes of the sudden and large increase in imports in 1886-87 were not permanent has been realised, the trade being, as will be seen from the foregoing figures, very much smaller than in 1886-87. The increase of the trade in the last five years has been at the average rate of less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent annually, or in little more than the same ratio as the increase in the population.

The decline last year would have been larger than it was but for the abnormal activity of trade in Burma in these goods as well as in Cotton Twist and most other imports.

The value of Cotton manufactures (excluding Twist and Yarn) during the five years is:

Lakhs.
2164.24
2119.74
2111.05
2584.65
2392.44

an increase of about $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent or a little more than 2 per cent annually.

59. In both *Silks* and *Woollens* there was a large increase of trade in the year, in both cases due to the demand for Burma, consequent on the comparative restoration of order in the province. The Silks imported into Burma are reported by the Collector of Customs to have sold well, although the trade increased so much, no stocks being left in the hands of importers at the end of the year. The trade in Woollens was overdone, and heavy unsold stocks were left at the end of the year. There is, however, a growing demand for Woollens all over the country, and in addition to the mills at Cawnpore, Dháriwál (Panjab), and Bangalore, one is now being put up in Bombay. As Bombay has almost as

great facilities for this as for the cotton industry it is likely that this mill will be followed by others.

The values of the trade have been as follows (in lakhs of rupees) :

Silk goods.	Woollen goods.
120'13	121'70
127'33	123'43
110'90	139'18
138'37	152'88
174'38	171'57

60. The trade in *Apparel* increased largely during the year, and has now reached considerable dimensions :

Rs. (lakhs).

98'08

94'89

103'72

109'55

127'66

Although the goods comprised in this head are still largely required for European consumption, they are no longer entirely so consumed. It was mentioned in a previous review that natives had taken a fancy to fez caps, and now the Chief Collector of Customs in Burma reports a large increase in imports of Apparel in that province because the Burmese have taken a fancy to under-shirts and vests. There should be a good opening in Burma for Bombay cotton hosiery.

A part of the aggregate figures stated above represents the value of Boots and Shoes in which an increasing trade is being done.

61. Amongst other, manufactured articles may be mentioned the following :

Arms and Ammunition : a material increase, due however to a large importation on account of the Amir of Afghanistan, and not to ordinary trade.

Clocks and Watches : also a large increase, the number having risen from 96,052 to 125,309, much the largest yet recorded, and value from 10'59 to 11'84 lakhs. It will be observed that the number increased much more largely than the value, a result of the introduction of the Waterbury and other cheap watches to the people of India.

Corals : This trade makes no real progress. Last year 167,059 lbs. were imported against an average for the previous four years of 173,282 lbs.

Corals are mainly imported into Calcutta, which indeed is now the only real market for this article, the demand elsewhere than in India having fallen away to almost a vanishing point. From Calcutta corals are distributed for use in the North-Western Provinces and Rajputana and especially in Nepal, where coral beads worn as a necklace by men are still much esteemed.

It is stated that the coral fishery in Naples is in a declining condition. Only about 100 boats are now employed in it against 500 when the trade was flourishing and profits have fallen away greatly. Numbers of the fishermen

and of the workpeople employed in the industry have emigrated or taken to other work, and of the workpeople only one thousand are now employed out of four thousand who used to be engaged in the business. It is probable that if the Indian demand is maintained, while the trade in Naples continues to be restricted, there will be a considerable increase in the price of corals presently.

Earthenware and Porcelain.—Glass and Glassware.—In both there was a material increase of trade in the year, Glassware having risen from 50 to 57·89 lakhs and Crockery from 17 lakhs to 22·36 lakhs. Under Glassware the increase occurs in Beads and False Pearls in which there was an active trade and in lamps for Kerosene oil. There is no progress in window glass, and apparently it will be a long time yet before glazed windows will be commonly seen in native dwellings other than those of the very well-to-do. Belgian glass of this kind is beginning to make a prominent figure in the imports.

Fireworks and Candles: An active trade in these articles arose with the Jubilee festivities and terminated with them. The trade of the year was on a much smaller scale than that of 1886-87.

Matches exhibit a further increase over the increase of 1886-87: the value of the trade rose from 22·17 to 24·35 lakhs. This trade will certainly attain to considerable dimensions in the near future.

Paper.—The value of the trade rose from 31·67 to 41·83 lakhs, the increase being common to all kinds, printing, writing, and other kinds. Cheap German and Austrian papers are being vigorously pushed in the Indian market, as will be seen from the following figures of imports from the United Kingdom and Austria during last year. The Austrian imports of paper other than writing are comparatively very large:

	Printing. Rs. (lakhs).	Writing. Rs. (lakhs).	Other kinds. Rs.
From United Kingdom	12·32	9·41	4·63
From Austria	2·84	4·15	3·33

Belgian paper is also being pushed, the imports being mainly cheap writing papers and envelopes. At the same time that this development of the import trade has occurred there has been substantial and satisfactory progress in the Indian papermaking industry both as regards quantity and quality. The mills now make very good paper indeed and their supplies to Government offices extend over a wide range of qualities. Projects for new mills are talked of. It is remarkable, however, that no real attempt has as yet been made to make railway passenger tickets. Last year there were about 95½ million passengers on the Indian railways and probably there will be 100 millions this year. It would seem that the making of tickets for these constantly increasing numbers is an industry which would occupy a large mill in the manner most suitable for machine work, on an article of unvarying quality and great quantity.

Umbrellas.—Number imported 4,683,185, value 37·13 lakhs, a large increase on the trade of the preceding year. Of this number 3,218,441 were imported from England and 1,460,316 were paper umbrellas (kettisals) from China and the Straits.

Re-export Trade.

62. The figures of the trade for the last five years are as follow :

Rs. (lakhs).
303·56
288·73
309·31
351·96
410·14

Last year's trade was 16½ per cent larger than that of 1886-87, which again was nearly 14 per cent in excess of that of 1885-86. This trade has increased 35 per cent in the last five years, the rate of increase being nearly double that of the import trade in merchandise which in the same period has increased by only a little more than 18 per cent.

63. The following are the main items of the re-export trade, with their values in lakhs of rupees :

Articles of Food and Drink :

	1886-87. Rs.	1887-88. Rs.
Provisions	9·71	13·94
Spices	9·45	22·20
Sugar (refined)	19·72	18·30
Tea	15·51	12·80

Metals and Metalware :

Hardware and Cutlery	3·67	3·85
Copper	3·48	19·55
Iron	8·96	8·10

<i>Chemicals, Drugs, &c.</i>	5·76	5·17
--	------	------

Raw materials :

Gums and Resins	3·97	6·05
Ivory (unmanufactured)	17·23	18·24
Silk	3·60	4·21
Wool	44·32	52·25

Manufactured Goods :

Cotton twist and yarn	8·11	6·93
Cotton manufactures, piece-goods, &c.	149·07	164·83
Silk manufactures	3·76	4·65
Woollen manufactures	4·60	5·56
Apparel	8·32	9·17
Glassware	2·29	3·12

64. Most of this trade is concentrated in Western India, the value of re-exports from Bombay being 325·35 lakhs and from Karachi 47·01 lakhs,

making 372.36 out of the aggregate of 410.14 lakhs. The countries with which the trade is chiefly carried on are these :

	1886-87. Rs. (lakhs).	1887-88. Rs. (lakhs).
United Kingdom	89.67	119.17
Persia	101.83	101.15
Straits	26.23	35.19
East Coast of Africa, Zanzibar, and Mozambique	26.38	30.24
Arabia	25.82	24.66
Turkish Arabia	21.28	22.64
Aden	9.71	15.59
China	10.13	13.80
Ceylon	9.02	9.42
Mauritius	9.66	8.98
United States	5.71	6.06

Most of the wool, ivory, and gums goes to the United Kingdom, to which also was sent most of the copper re-exported last year (for exceptional reasons as stated elsewhere).

Exports of Indian produce and manufacture.

65. The value of the exports of last year exceeded that of 1886-87 by 1.7 per cent, while the trade of 1886-87 was larger than that of 1885-86 by a little over 5 per cent. In five years the value of the export trade has increased by only 1½ per cent.

The figures for the period are as follow :

Lakhs of rupees.

8508.57
8031.32
8073.47
8490.90
8637.

The development of the trade in recent years has been very slow indeed.

66. Classifying the articles in the export trade in the same way as in the import trade, the following figures shew the relative importance of each class :

I.—Animals, living :

1883-84. Rs.	1887-88. Rs.
12,78,636	13,41,821

II.—Articles of food and drink :

1883-84. Rs.	1887-88. Rs.
24,81,18,037	23,82,96,975

III.—Metals and Manufactures of Metals :

1883-84. Rs.	1887-88. Rs.
4,25,856	5,49,430

IV.—Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning Materials :

1883-84.	1887-88.
Rs.	Rs.
16,80,96,217	15,10,79,435

V.—Oils :

1883-84.	1887-88.
Rs.	Rs.
49,59,768	47,10,555

VI.—Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles :

1883-84.	1887-88.
Rs.	Rs.
34,94,33,396	35,60,01,532 -

VII.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured :

1883-84.	1887-88.
Rs.	Rs.
7,85,45,295	11,17,20,470

We find that the second, fourth, and fifth of these classes give a reduction in value in the five years, the others having increased, especially the seventh. To shew where the trade has increased or decreased the principal articles in which trade has increased and in which it has declined in value during the five years are placed here side by side :

<i>Extent of increase.</i>		<i>Extent of decline.</i>			
Rs. (000s.)	Per cent.	Rs. (000s.)	Per cent.		
Coffee	9,08	6'3	Indigo	75,03	16
Rice	92,96	11	Wheat	331,52	37'3
Provisions	22,80	75'3	Sugar	47,74	50'6
Spices	15,61	42'7	Opium	122,67	10'8
Tea	109,05	26'7	Oils	2,49	5'0
Dyes other than Indigo	17,26	27'8	Saltpetre	10,04	21'6
Cotton	2,91	0'2	Seeds	69,87	6'9
Hides and Skins	18,86	4	Silk, raw	14,68	23'4
Jute, raw	144,77	31'5	Teak timber	15,82	30
Wool, raw	21,65	28'6	Lac	5,40	9'7
Cotton manufactures	22,35	24'1			
Jute	41,22	30'9			
Silk	9,35	32'7			

67. These figures indicate very satisfactory progress in the manufacturing industries of India, for besides the development of the trade in manufactured Cotton, Silk, and Jute, the increase under the head of Provisions is due to the

creation of the manufacture of Flour on a large scale in mills worked by steam. The progress of the Tea industry also continues to be rapid, but in other respects no articles in which the trade is of extensive dimensions except Jute, which is a very fluctuating trade, exhibit great development. On the other hand, several of our staples have fallen away materially during the period under consideration, notably Opium, Sugar, Wheat, Indigo, raw Silk, Teak timber, and Oilseeds.

68. The following list shews the countries with which our export trade has increased or decreased in the same period :

	Increase. Per cent.		Decrease. Per cent.
Austria	21	United Kingdom	7'19
Germany	67	Belgium	7
Holland	35'9	France	13'8
Italy	28'4	Malta	72'6
Russia	214'8	Egypt	10
Spain	15'5	—	
—		South America	4'4
Zanzibar	6'4	—	
Mauritius	35'2	China Treaty Ports	18'9
—			
United States	20'7		
—			
Aden	50'7		
Arabia	59'25		
Ceylon	35		
China—Hong-Kong	5'4		
Japan	147'6		
Persia	28'8		
Straits	34'8		
Turkey (Asiatic)	38'4		
—			
Australia	88		

The most material decreases of the export trade are with Malta, Egypt, and the Treaty Ports of China. The decline in the opium trade accounts for the last, and the trade with Malta and Egypt is transit trade, the decline in which has been compensated by direct shipments. The same cause no doubt accounts for some if not all of the decrease of exports to England. We may say therefore that our export trade has actually declined only with Belgium, France, South America, and the Treaty Ports of China. The figures against the countries of the Continent other than Belgium and France shew how greatly direct trade is increasing with most of these countries. Our exports to Asiatic

countries, especially those lying between Bombay and Europe, have also increased much, as have the exports to Australia and the United States.

CLASS I.—ANIMALS, LIVING.

69. This is a small trade, chiefly in cattle, and to a smaller extent in horses (or rather ponies from Burma) mainly carried on with Ceylon and the Straits. The increase in the trade is due to shipments of live stock last year to Abyssinia.

CLASS II.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.

70. *Coffee*.—The exports of the year reached only 273,775 cwt., those of the year previous having been 370,458 cwt. But the value rose from 150.22 lakhs to 152.97 lakhs in consequence of a great rise in price caused partly by failure of the Brazilian coffee crop and partly by speculation.

The prices of Coffee per cwt. stood thus in London :

	1886.	1887.	1888.
January	54s. 6d.	78s. 6d.	72s. 6d.
April	58s.	91s.	69s. 6d.
June	57s. 6d.	91s.	72s.
December	74s.	88s.	

Though the excessively high prices which prevailed from April to December 1887 have since fallen, prices still remain much higher than they were before the rapid increase which commenced after the middle of 1886. Under the influence of these high prices and with a good harvest, the exports in the present year are very active.

71. *Rice not in the husk*.—There was a material recovery in the trade during the year from the depression of the preceding year, but the exports were smaller than they were six years previously.

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
31,029,721	844.01
26,831,715	832.89
21,702,136	712.28
27,813,844	916.72
26,460,500	876.48
28,148,706	922.51

Exports from Burma were smaller than in the preceding year, prices having been kept on a level too high for the markets of the Straits Settlements, which take a large quantity of Burma rice, by a continued demand for Upper Burma where the harvests were deficient. This demand, it may be added, still continues with the same results.

The slightly restricted export from Burma was, however, more than compensated by a very large increase in the exports from Bengal where the rice harvest was a good one.

These are the principal countries to which Indian rice was exported in the last two years :

	1886-87.	1887-88.		1886-87.	1887-88.
	Cwts.	Cwts.		Cwts.	Cwts.
Egypt . . .	4,370,150	7,100,118	Malta . . .	1,119,230	913,511
United Kingdom	8,108,021	6,843,115	West Indies . .	288,683	444,616
Ceylon . . .	3,027,752	3,470,427	Aden . . .	326,065	380,307
Straits . . .	4,434,999	3,202,961	Germany . . .	128,316	360,578
Mauritius . .	1,222,757	1,898,267	Réunion . . .	414,665	290,504
Arabia . . .	1,054,389	959,705	Persia . . .	216,116	288,739
South America	732,335	914,317	France . . .	89,280	241,755

The figures against Egypt and Malta do not mean that these quantities are consumed locally. As has often been mentioned before, the shipments to Egypt are shipments to Port Saïd "for orders," the cargoes being taken on thence in the same vessel to the European market found for them between the date of departure from India and of arrival at Port Saïd. It may be noted that the quantity thus shipped indicates pretty correctly the condition of the markets and the activity of speculation in the business.

The shipments to Malta are intended for storage in the great granaries of the island until a demand arises. The use of the granaries for this purpose has greatly diminished in the last three or four years, and it is probable that the practice of shipping to Port Saïd is superseding that of storage as much less expensive and troublesome.

Including the trade to Egypt as European trade, it appears that 15,485,462 cwts., or about 55 per cent of the total exports, were sent to Europe for distillation, starch manufacture, and consumption as food. All the remainder was exported entirely for consumption as food in Asia, Africa, and America, a large proportion being destined for coolly-importing Colonies. Direct exports to Germany are beginning to take appreciable dimensions.

The exports of unhusked rice, mainly to Ceylon, are relatively unimportant.

72. *Wheat.*—The exports of the last five years have been :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
20,956,495	887.75
15,830,754	630.91
21,060,519	800.23
22,263,320	862.58
13,538,169	556.24

The principal countries to which India has exported wheat in the same period are :

	(In thousands of hundred weights.)				
	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
United Kingdom	10,508	7,445	12,071	9,667	6,040
Belgium	2,593	1,738	2,661	2,404	596
France	3,398	3,312	2,145	2,803	2,559
Holland	193	134	86	207	60
Italy	445	701	1,218	5,212	3,074
Malta	124	93	34	84	10
Spain (including Gibraltar)	107	93	270	184	258
Egypt	3,306	2,149	2,296	1,317	660
Mauritius and Réunion	91	35	34	57	42
Aden and Arabia	27	82	174	168	147

With the exception of Spain, the decline was general, exports to England falling by as much as $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The reduction in the total quantity exported to all countries was more than 39 per cent. Exports to Italy fell off largely, probably more because of the difficulty of competing with Russia when that country had an abundant harvest and we had a poor one, than because of the increase in the duty on foreign wheat (an increase amounting to nearly 360 per cent), for of course the duty affected Russian and Indian wheat alike.

The price of wheat (Gazette average) in England was lower in 1887-88 than in 1886-87 by about $17d.$ a quarter, but the lower average rate of exchange and freights more than compensated for the fall in price, and there would have been a very active export if there had been any large surplus quantity of wheat to export. The spring harvests of 1885 and 1886 in the Panjab and the North-Western Provinces were however on the whole very bad, and stocks ran so low and prices so high that there was really no room for business. The trade would have declined much more than it did but for the facts that there had been a large extension of wheat cultivation in Behar which gave supplies to Calcutta, and that the harvests in Central India afforded supplies to Bombay, when the supply from the North-West and the Panjab to both those ports fell off. Karáchi, which depends exclusively on the Panjab and Sind for its exports of wheat, found its trade collapse as far back as October 1886, the quantity exported having fallen first from 6,241,000 cwt. to 2,613,000 cwt., and then to only 661,000 cwt. The table appended, shewing the quantity exported from each Province, exhibits the very fluctuating character of the wheat trade, and the remarkable decline in it last year.

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Bombay . . .	8,970,603	8,993,108	10,608,680	12,606,144	8,541,621
Sind . . .	4,372,832	4,271,860	6,241,017	2,613,748	660,758
Bengal . . .	7,611,535	2,563,204	4,189,672	7,037,957	4,334,768
Madras . . .	1,525	1,315	1,872	998	1,005
Burma . . .	...	2,267	19,278	4,473	17
Total . . .	<u>20,956,495</u>	<u>15,831,754</u>	<u>21,060,519</u>	<u>22,263,320</u>	<u>13,538,169</u>

In a note circulated in February last, Sir Edward Buck, Secretary in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, wrote as follows touching recent harvests :

"The true cause of the diminishing export from the Western Ports in the current year seems to be the short outturn, not only of wheat, but of other food-crops in Northern India. The reports on recent harvests indicate that both in 1885-86 and in 1886-87 there was a material deficiency in the outturn of important food-grains in the North, owing to the untoward character of the weather. In the Panjab the food-grain harvests of 1885-86 and 1886-87 were deficient on account of failure of the rains, and in the latter year also on account of the severe frosts which prevailed in January and February 1887. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the winter and spring crops were much damaged in 1885-86 and 1886-87 by blight, and in the latter year the spring crops were also damaged by frost."

It may be added here that the winter rainfall of the Panjab (November to March) was 73 per cent of the normal average in 1885-86, 57 per cent in 1886-87, and 39 per cent in 1887-88. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh it

was 94 per cent in 1885-86, 11 per cent in 1886-87, and 17 per cent last winter.

The table appended of the railborne imports of wheat (quantities expressed in maunds) from the interior to the three ports of Calcutta, Bombay, and Karáchi, shews how the trade was affected by lack of supplies consequent on the bad harvests :

	Into Calcutta.			Into Bombay.			Into Karáchi.		
	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1877-88.
From Panjab . . .	95,890	7,147	298	1,836,205	1,049,918	145,796	5,567,029	2,059,046	528,702
„ North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	5,844,912	4,936,954	1,970,450	2,068,978	1,318,454	643,358	269	17,893	4,273
„ Central Provinces.	13,082	7	47,894	6,930,872	7,582,158	7,571,653	...	...	...
„ Other tracts . . .	652,537	(a)4,228,447	(a)3,747,631	(b)4,480,443	(b)8,757,363	(b)4,473,491	1,481,978	963,055	591,103
Total . . .	6,606,441	9,172,555	5,766,273	15,316,498	18,707,923	12,835,298	7,049,276	3,039,994	1,124,078

(a) Chiefly from Behar.

(b) Chiefly from Berar, Khandeish, Nask, Ahmednagar, Rajputana, and Central India.

During the present year exports continue on an even smaller scale than in the corresponding period of last year, owing to the continuance of high prices caused by the exhaustion of food stocks referred to above, the trade of Calcutta being only about half that of the same time last year. Karáchi only has been able to export more than last year, but at the best the wheat trade of Karáchi is trifling compared to that of the other two ports.

The imports of wheat and wheatmeal and flour into the United Kingdom in the last four years, were as follow :

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
From the United States . . .	32,946,677	36,007,187	36,094,420	45,377,969
„ British North America . . .	2,446,331	2,026,021	3,851,494	4,923,657
„ Australasia	4,897,766	5,279,230	738,699	1,347,151
„ Russia	5,401,964	11,986,359	3,710,099	5,522,773
„ Egypt	999,578	109,983	40,632	197,787
„ India	8,009,909	12,101,963	11,028,665	8,509,095
	<u>54,702,225</u>	<u>67,510,743</u>	<u>55,464,009</u>	<u>65,878,432</u>
„ Other countries	7,515,291	9,778,250	6,679,567	7,962,798
Total	62,217,516	77,288,993	62,143,576	73,841,230

Thus, although imports from India fell off largely the total quantity imported in 1887 was much more than in the previous year, the United States, Canada, and Russia having supplied large quantities.

Much has been said recently of the great advantage which Russia has as an exporting country, by reason of "the fall in the value of the rouble," and it may be useful to shew how the facts stand and the real causes of them.

It is true that the imports into England from Russia were in 1887 larger than in 1886 (though less than half the imports of 1885), and that the imports in the present year are on a considerable scale. The Russian harvest of 1886 was fairly good, that of 1887 was excellent, the yield of wheat ranging far above the average. The yield of the last four years is given as follows in chetverts (Report on Russian Agriculture, 1886-87) :

1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
44,700,000	29,800,000	27,000 000	37,600,000

There was consequently a large surplus for export, and export in the present year has been greatly stimulated by the temporary advance in the price of wheat in England caused by the prospect of bad European harvests and the impossibility of obtaining large supplies at present from India or other countries. The European wheat crop of the present year is estimated to be between 13 and 14 per cent less than last year, and the harvest in the United States is about 12 per cent short. It is probable that next year Russia may be able to carry on but a limited trade in wheat, her stocks being exhausted and harvest deficient, and if our harvest next winter should be a good one we ought to do a fine trade, for the comparatively high prices which have lately prevailed are likely enough to continue.

The supplies to England have come in the last four years in the following proportions from the principal exporting countries :

United States and Canada	56·9%	49·2%	64·2%	68·1%
Australasia	7·8%	6·8%	1·2%	1·8%
Russia	8·6%	15·5%	5·9%	7·5%
Egypt	1·6%	0·1%	Nil	0·3%
India	12·8%	15·7%	17·7%	11·5%
Other countries	12·0%	12·6%	10·7%	10·8%
	—	—	—	—
	99·7	99·9	99·7	100·0

Our share last year was only 11½ per cent.

73. *Pulse, Oats, Barley, Millets.*—The trade in Pulse expanded greatly last year, and it is to be hoped that it may further increase now that it has at last assumed not inconsiderable proportions, and furnish in course of time another staple export. The trade of the last five years was as follows :

Cwt.	Rs. (lakhs).
414,109	12·71
608,233	17·00
331,606	11·36
467,485	13·84
1,426,058	35·57

As was remarked in a previous review, pulse is now commonly exposed for sale in grocers' shops in the United Kingdom, and if the masses there learn to appreciate this tasteful and nourishing food there may be a large future yet for Indian pulses. Of the total exports of the year 1,214,000 cwt. were shipped to the United Kingdom, the bulk of the remainder going to the coolie colonies—Mauritius, Ceylon, the Straits, Demerara, and the West Indies.

The trade in *Oats*, *Jowar*, and *Bajra*, still continues on a small scale. The exports of *Barley* fell from 272,000 cwt. in 1886-87 to 29,575 cwt. last year. It was stated in the review for 1886-87 that the export of that year was an unsuccessful attempt to commence a trade in the grain with England.

74. Of the trade in *Flour* it need only be said that there has been a further increase and to repeat the substance of the remarks made on the subject in the review for 1886-87:

lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
6,816,048	4.12
7,890,854	4.59
11,057,126	5.93
18,879,201	9.72
35,744,069	18.48
36,082,348	19.75

Starting from small beginnings it has already risen in a few years to comparatively large dimensions. A great development has been given to this industry by the successful working of steam flour mills in Bombay. Not only is there a considerable local demand but largely increasing quantities are being exported, and it may be said that a new and what will prove an important export trade has been created. As yet none is sent to Europe, trifling quantities only having been sent experimentally to Italy and Turkey, though nearly half a million pounds were sent last year to Alexandria. The bulk of the demand is from Aden and Arabia, Persia, Mauritius, Ceylon, the Straits, Zanzibar and Natal. Some of the flour sent to the Straits was for the French troops in Tongking, and to Aden for the Italian troops at Massowa. This year there has been a fairly large direct export to Abyssinia. The trade belongs practically entirely to Bombay.

75. The following figures shew the decline in the exports of *Sugar* which has resulted from the causes mentioned in the paragraph treating of the imports of Sugar:

Refined.	Raw.
Cwt.	Cwt.
203,693	1,426,827
55,323	1,015,596
24,942	1,142,598
33,340	953,066
37,723	1,008,565

76. *Tea*.—Exports increase year after year without a pause:

Million lbs.	Rs. (lakhs.)
59.912	408.39
64.162	404.47
68.784	430.61
78.703	472.80
87.514	517.44

The London market, as usual absorbed the bulk of the exports, which were thus distributed :

	lbs.
United Kingdom	84,182,275
Australia	2,471,927
Straits	380,271
Persian Gulf	319,904
United States	54,324

And the remainder in trifling quantities to other countries.

While the imports of Indian tea into England continue to increase those of Chinese tea continue to diminish :

	From India. Million lbs.	From China. Million lbs.
1884	66·085	144·410
1885	68·635	139·838
1886	80·987	145·111
1887	97·830	119·739
1888 (eight months)	55·361	73·482

In another year or two England will probably import as much Indian as China tea, and thereafter Indian tea will gradually oust Chinese tea from the English market. There still remain the Australian and American markets, the former with an average consumption of about 20 million pounds at least and the latter 70 million pounds. In other words, there is an outlet for Indian tea, if properly worked, which will double the Indian tea trade even without any expansion in the English market.

CLASS IV.—CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES AND NARCOTICS, DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS.

77. In *Chinchona Bark* there has been a further advance on the trade of 1886-87, the quantity exported having risen from 1,286,900 lbs. to 1,449,313 lbs., accompanied however by a largely reduced value, the result of a fall in prices. Nearly the whole of the export is from Madras, the bark produced in Bengal (at least in the Government plantations) being manufactured there for consumption in India.

78. *Opium*.—The exports were:

Chests.	Lakhs of rupees.
91,798	1148·13
91,963	1129·44
86,578	1088·26
87,956	1073·55
95,839	1107·76
90,096	1006·77

The average price of 1886-87 (Rs. 1,155 a chest) was $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent lower than five years ago (Rs. 1,250 a chest), and during the present year it is lower still (Rs. 1,117 a chest), this price being about $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent below that of 1882-83, the quantity exported being also smaller than in that year.

The exports of the year were thus distributed :

	Chests.
China—Hong-Kong	59,508
Treaty Ports	17,307
Straits	12,368
Cochin-China	670
Ceylon	102
Mauritius	67
United Kingdom	54
Zanzibar	19
Natal	1

79. *Indigo*.—This is one of those long established trades of India, like Opium and Silk, which give no indication of progress. The exports of the last six years were as follow :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
141,041	391'30
168,590	464'10
154,629	406'89
132,495	378'31
138,396	369'17
139,644	389'06

The trade of the last two years was smaller than in previous years. The exports were thus distributed :

	1886-87. Cwt.	1887-88. Cwt.
To United Kingdom	53,152	56,986
„ United States	28,133	21,350
„ France	14,171	17,406
„ Egypt	14,650	13,154
„ Austria-Hungary	9,357	11,780
„ Persia	7,445	5,229
„ Germany	4,596	6,392
„ Asiatic Turkey	3,748	2,841
„ Russia	416	1,668
„ Italy	1,407	1,533

The remainder to other countries in small quantities.

80. *Other Dye Stuffs*.—There was a considerable increase in the exports of *Cutch*, *Myrabolams*, and *Turmeric*, but with a heavy fall in price of the last mentioned. *Lac dye* and *Safflower* have now been reduced to absolutely insignificant dimensions.

CLASS V.—OILS.

81. Only *Castor* and *Cocoanut* oils are of any importance, and in neither of these does the trade expand with time.

Castor oil is exported—mainly for the lubrication of machinery—to England, Australia, the Straits, Mauritius, and China ; and Cocoanut oil—which is largely used as a basis in the preparation of perfumed hair oils—to England, France and other Continental countries, and the United States.

As observed elsewhere in this review, India has not yet commenced in any appreciable quantity the export of linseed, rape, poppy, til, or earthnut oil, though the seed is exported in great quantities for expression elsewhere, and that in fact we import a certain quantity of linseed and earthnut oil.

CLASS VI.—RAW MATERIALS AND UNMANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

This class is much the most important of the several classes of our exports, comprising as it does such great staples as Cotton, Jute, Seeds, Hides, Wool.

82. Cotton.—Exports for the last six years :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
6,168,278	1604.9
5,979,494	1438.37
5,066,057	1328.63
4,189,718	1077.72
5,432,648	1346.84
5,374,542	1441.28

Of this quantity the exports to England amounted last year to 2,139,698 cwt., being not quite 40 per cent of the whole. Only about a third of this is consumed in England however, quite two-thirds being re-exported to the Continent. The level of price for Cotton has fallen so low that many use cloth now made from the finer American or Egyptian cotton who used cloth made from the coarser Indian cotton ten or fifteen years ago. The Lancashire mills are moreover not nearly so extensively employed on the manufacture of the coarser kinds of goods for the Indian markets as they were before the Bombay manufactures took their present development. Hence their exports of goods to India are largely of the finer kinds in which the Bombay mills do not compete as yet to any great extent, and their consumption of Indian cotton has proportionately declined. Our cotton is now most largely used in India itself, on the European Continent where it is manufactured into blouses and other garments for the peasantry and artisans, and to a smaller extent in China for the same purpose and for wadding.

The exports of the year were slightly smaller than in the preceding year, and in the present year they will be much smaller for the last cotton crop was very deficient. The quantity of cotton sent to Bombay from Berar up to the end of March last was less than half the quantity sent in the same period in the previous year, and the quantity sent from the Central Provinces was only a third of the exports of the previous year. The prospects of the present crop are not very hopeful, and it is possible therefore that next year as well as the present and the last may be one of restricted trade in the export of cotton.

83. The trade in *Hides* and *Skins* has again fallen off. The numbers of them exported were :

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
Hides	8,607,724	8,493,384	6,817,653
Skins	4,947,579	4,077,259	3,817,124

As was said last year, this trade is almost confined to Bengal, whence five-sixths of the export are made, the hides of all Northern India being sent to Calcutta for export.

The Collector of Customs at Calcutta, which is the port whence the largest proportion of Indian hides and skins is shipped, says that there has been great

speculation there in hides for the last two or three years. Extensive purchases were made for Europe on the chance of a European war, and the war not having come off yet, large stocks have accumulated.

84. *Jute*.—Exports in the last six years :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
10,348,909	584.69
7,017,985	459.26
8,368,686	466.13
7,782,435	435.53
8,306,708	486.98
9,643,484	604.04

The Jute crop was a very good one, and exports on a considerable scale, though not so large as they were six years ago.

85. *Saltpetre*, like hides and jute, is practically an export of Calcutta. The trade of the year was lower than in 1886-87 or in the six years preceding. It is subject to great competition from nitrate of soda, and the restrictions to which the trade is necessarily subject in India for the protection of the salt revenue, no doubt makes competition more difficult with an article not subject to similar restrictions.

86. *Seeds*.—Exports of six years :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
13,139,206	720.03
17,355,588	1008.37
18,250,688	1074.52
17,280,147	994.83
15,866,604	919.85
10,060,400	938.50

The trade in the principal kinds of oilseeds was as follows in the last three years :

	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Castor	670,537	610,893	720,951
Earthnuts	655,670	945,895	1,261,637
Linseed	9,510,139	8,656,933	8,422,703
Poppy	695,097	612,654	456,308
Rape	3,721,840	2,659,649	2,081,300
Til or jinjili	1,759,343	2,114,484	2,747,270

Linseed and Rapeseed both did badly in the year, for the same reason which affected the trade in wheat. These seeds are most largely grown in the North-West and the Panjab and the failure of the winter rains which lessened the field of wheat also lessened the yield of these seeds. The trade in Poppy seed was also very bad. Tilseed, Castor seed, and Earthnuts, on the other hand, were exported in largely increased quantities. The trade in Mowra seed, to which reference was made last year as a new trade, was this year doubled, and it may be hoped that it will permanently keep a place as an article of export. There was an extraordinarily large shipment of Fenugreek seed to Italy from Madras the reason of which is not explained in the very imperfect and perfunctory account of Madras trade prepared locally, but it was probably a speculation.

Of the total export of 16 million cwt. of Seeds, about $8\frac{1}{2}$ million were destined for the European Continent, $6\frac{1}{4}$ million for England, and most of the remainder (almost all linseed) for the United States.

It must be mentioned that the competition of the Argentine Republic with India in the supply of Linseed to England, to the commencement of which attention was drawn in a former review, is becoming active: last year there were imported into England 268,000 quarters of Linseed from South America, of which 244,000 quarters from the Argentine Republic. The imports from Russia were also much larger than for the last four years, amounting to about 626,000 quarters. As with Wheat so with Linseed, while India had a bad outturn of both Russia had a good one.

87. *Silk*.—Exports are as follow in lbs.:

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
Raw (reeled) . . .	672,710	531,205	358,071	449,515	453,568
Chasam (waste) . . .	886,045	953,183	1,023,807	1,020,595	998,235
Cocoons	44,059	82,713	56,889	113,814	173,374

The total value of the trade was 48·08 lakhs compared with 48·43 lakhs in the preceding year and 62 $\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs five years ago. This trade, as there has been occasion to observe year after year for ten years past and more, is decaying steadily, and there seems to be little hope of its revival and restoral to the position it occupied half a century ago. The only real chance lies in the possibility of an extensive trade in the wild silks, but there are obstacles to the development of this which were mentioned in the review last year. At present the export of wild silk represents about 38 per cent of our total exports. The cocoons are practically all cocoons of wild worms.

88. *Teak timber*.—Exports for the last six years:

Cubic tons.	Lakhs of rupees.
59,187	61·12
46,471	52·54
47,556	53·21
50,076	55·05
23,946	22·31
40,446	36·73

The trade of 1886-87 was smallest known. With a revival in the shipbuilding trade in the autumn of 1887 there was a revived demand for teak and the exports of the year were on a much larger scale though still below the figures of previous years. The spurt has not yet died out in the shipbuilding yards and the export of teak still continues to be rather active.

89. There has also been a steady increase in the export of *Sandal wood*, of which two-thirds go to China, principally to be burnt before the gods.

90. *Wool*.—Exports:

Million lbs.	Rs. (lakhs).
20·036	75·58
18·928	71·36
23·149	87·23
23·208	89·95
23·877	97·23

The export of Wool until recently was mainly from Bombay to which it was brought for shipment from Karáchi, but with the development of Karáchi a larger proportion is now being shipped thence to England, and such direct shipments by cheapening cost should have the effect of increasing the trade.

CLASS VII.—ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED.

91. The value of the trade in the articles comprised in this class shews a steady and satisfactory increase from year to year :

	Rs. (lakhs).
1883-84	785.45
1884-85	859.03
1885-86	872.46
1886-87	933.17
1887-88	1,117.20

The increase in the five years being more than 42 per cent. This great development is mainly due to the expansion of the cotton spinning and weaving industry, the exports of cotton-twist and cloth having risen in value from 285.32 lakhs to 522.79 lakhs in the five years, an increase of over 83 per cent. The value of the cotton trade represents about 47 per cent of the whole value of this class: in 1886-87 it was about 46 per cent.

The following figures indicate the relative proportions of each class of manufactures and the progress made in the five years :

	1883-84. Rs. (lakhs).	1887-88. Rs. (lakhs).
Cotton yarn and cloth	285.32	522.79
Jute goods	133.41	174.63
Silk goods	28.57	37.93
Woollen goods	12.07	11.40
Tanned hides and skins	218.74	252.66
Lac	55.50	50.01
Coir goods	13.72	16.12

92. *Cotton yarn.*—Exports have much more than doubled in the last five years :

Million lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
49.87	192.61
65.89	244.11
78.24	275.52
91.80	333.68
113.45	407.74

The exports of cotton piece goods have not increased rapidly, the number of yards having risen from 55,564,000 in 1883-84 to 69,434,000 in 1887-88, the increase being about 25 per cent. The chief outlet for the woven goods of the mills is in India itself and it will no doubt continue to be the chief outlet, for mill woven goods are surely and rapidly superseding the handloom manufactures of the country. For yarn on the other hand the markets of China and Japan offer an extensive field for the Indian spinner though he may presently

find Japan closed against him, for that enterprising people has already about 300,000 spindles at work in steam mills and the industry will be greatly developed within a few years. But the Bombay spinner will probably continue to hold the field in China and he will also presently acquire other extensive markets in the other countries of Southern Asia and in Eastern Africa. As regards the market in China the following extract from the Report on the Trade of China for 1887 published by the Imperial Maritime Customs is interesting :

“ The reports of some of the Commissioners of Customs, as well in the north as in the south of China, make special reference to this commodity to point out that the yarn from Bombay is gradually taking the place of that from Manchester in the markets of China, and the average opinions of the dealers in the yarns, as expressed in these reports, gathered in from widely distant places, is that Bombay yarn is a better wearing article when woven into cloth than is Manchester yarn. India, at length, is sending to China a staple article of commerce mutually beneficial to both nations.”

The distribution of cotton yarn and piece goods last year was as follows :

	Yarn. lbs. (000s omitted).	Piece goods. Yards (000s omitted).
China	92,571	4,483
Japan	17,391	37
Aden	1,354	20,756
Straits	981	5,948
Asiatic Turkey	365	1,546
Java	283	...
Arabia	279	2,073
Persia	79	789
East Coast of Africa	66	24,718
Ceylon	32	6,931
Mekran and Sonmiani . . . . .	...	1,268

Thus while the bulk of the trade in Yarn is still with China and Japan, the greater part of the trade in Piece goods is carried on with the Eastern Coast of Africa (partly through Aden as an entrepôt) and with Ceylon and the Straits. A good deal of the Piece goods trade consists of Dyed and Printed cloth exported from Madras, while the largest part of the exports of Yarn is from Bombay. The relative proportion of the value of the trade from each of the three principal provinces will be seen from the figures below :

	Yarn. Rs. (lakhs).	Woven goods. Rs. (lakhs).
Bombay	389'69	69'69
Bengal	13'70	1'69
Madras	4'25	42'22

The price of Bombay yarn (20s) in Bombay last January was $6\frac{5}{16}$ annas per pound ; in January 1877 it was $7\frac{2}{3}\frac{3}{4}$ annas per pound, the fall in the period being 18'22 per cent, the fall in price of the same yarn in the same period at Hongkong being 19'8 per cent.

93. The following table shews the progress of the cotton spinning and weaving industry in India since 1876. Several new mills and

considerable extensions of existing mills are now in progress in Bombay and elsewhere :

Year.	Number of mills.	Number of spindles.	Number of looms.
1876	47	1,100,112	9,139
1877-78	53	1,289,706	10,533
1878-79	58	1,436,464	12,983
1879-80	58	1,470,830	13,307
1880-81	58	1,471,730	13,283
1881-82	62	1,550,944	14,386
1882-83	62	1,654,108	15,116
1883-84	74	1,895,284	16,251
1884-85	81	2,037,055	16,455
1885-86	86	2,110,847	16,455
1886-87	94	2,261,561	17,455
1887-88	95	2,302,982	18,415

94. *Jute goods*.—Export values :

Rupees (lakhs).

133'41

154'38

113'08

115'18

174'63

The considerable expansion of the year was mainly due to extensive shipments to Australia, the trade with which rose from 26'17 lakhs to 77'52 lakhs, giving an increase of 51'35 lakhs out of the total increase in the trade of 59'45 lakhs. This large increase was due to the fact that after some years of drought and consequent trade depression, there was a good wheat harvest in the Colonies and a successful sheep-shearing. Wheat and wool being exported in large quantities there was a remarkably active demand for bags and packs. The rest of the increased demand came from the Straits. These two Colonies, the United States, China (some of the gunny bags sent thither being intended for the States), South America, Natal and Cape Colony, and Egypt, take most of the gunny bags exported from India.

95. *Hides and skins*.—The Madras tanneries have made good progress and the exports of tanned hides and skins have now reached the considerable figure of 252 lakhs, of which 206 lakhs represent trade from Madras ports.

96. The other manufactures on the export-list are not of first rate importance. The trade in *Silk goods* (exported mainly from Bengal) is still of relatively

small dimensions, but is making some progress. *Lac*, on the other hand (also a Bengal trade) makes no progress at all.

97. Placing the principal exports of the year in the order of their importance, as represented by value, they stand thus :

	1885-87. Rs. (lakhs).	1887-88. Rs. (lakhs).
1. Grain and pulse	1802'71	1554'05
2. Cotton, raw	1346'84	1441'28
3. Opium	1107'76	1006'77
4. Seeds	919'85	938'50
5. Jute, raw	486'98	604'04
6. Cotton twist and manufactures	428'25	522'79
7. Tea	472'80	517'44
8. Hides and skins (untanned and tanned)	514'92	485'24
9. Indigo	369'17	389'06
10. Jute manufactures	115'18	174'63
11. Coffee	150'22	152'97
12. Wool, raw	89'95	97'23

Coasting Trade.

98. After having fallen each year from 1884-85 to 1886-87, the trade of last year gives a substantial increase, though it did not reach the figure of five years ago. The total trade, imports and exports, merchandise and treasure, was in the five years :

	Rs. (lakhs).
1883-84	6146'16
1884-85	5840'15
1885-86	5759'83
1886-87	5616'53
1887-88	6073'86

The increase in the year being about 8 per cent.

99. It will be remembered of course that in the coasting trade imports into one Indian port are exports from another, and the imports and exports of the year being 3094'21 and 2979'65 lakhs respectively, the actual value of the trade may be taken at about 3,000 lakhs, of which about 193 lakhs is the value of treasure, 695 lakhs foreign merchandise, and the remainder (being the bulk of the trade) Indian merchandise.

The trade is classed under three heads :

- (1) between ports in different Presidencies ;
- (2) between ports in the same Presidency ;
- (3) between British and non-British ports.

The first of these is much the most important, the last is the least important. The exports of merchandise last year, for instance, are thus recorded :

	Rs. (lakhs).
To ports in other Presidencies	1542'21
To ports within the Presidency	949'18
To non-British ports	295'20

The last head is increasing however, and if the anticipations formed of the results which will follow the opening of the Marmagaõ Railway should be realised the

record will be larger in future, for the produce brought down to Goa will be shipped to Bombay for export and similarly goods for that part of the country will be brought by sea to Goa and thence sent on by rail.

100. The articles which form the bulk of the coasting trade are, in foreign merchandise, mainly cotton yarn and piece goods, and in Indian merchandise the following :

Coffee.	Gunny bags.
Cotton.	Spirits.
Cotton yarn.	Provisions (largely Ghi and Salted fish).
„ piece goods.	Seeds.
Cocoanuts and kernel.	Spices.
Rice.	Sugar.
Hides and Skins.	Teak timber.
Jute.	Tobacco.

There was nothing of any particular moment in the trade of the year to merit special remark, except that Bengal exported unusually large quantities of rice and gunny bags to Bombay.

The following table gives the totals of the trade in merchandise in each of the last five years for each province :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.
	Lakhs of Rs.				
<i>Bengal :</i>					
Imports . . .	505'88	533'27	484'87	493'73	528'53
Exports . . .	632'40	614'55	607'16	683'66	793'78
<i>Bombay :</i>					
Imports . . .	1289'66	1224'56	1106'03	1109'38	1287'09
Exports . . .	1221'34	1187'75	1142'29	1094'71	1169'31
<i>Sindh :</i>					
Imports . . .	225'10	244'21	251'11	232'69	208'55
Exports . . .	139'89	103'89	113'99	110'25	150'74
<i>Madras :</i>					
Imports . . .	436'45	431'73	459'42	441'67	446'14
Exports . . .	411'43	460'10	424'35	415'69	444'58
<i>Burma :</i>					
Imports . . .	350'59	312'70	329'63	399'62	444'58
Exports . . .	214'68	207'74	227'26	210'49	228'18

Coasting shipping.

101. The following table gives the number and registered tonnage of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade during the last five years :

	<i>Entered.</i>		<i>Entered.</i>		<i>Entered.</i>	
	STEAMERS.		SAILING VESSELS.		NATIVE CRAFT.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1883-84 . . .	5,518	5,925,198	4,635	607,635	169,090	2,669,128
1884-85 . . .	5,484	5,547,657	4,503	495,284	174,701	2,781,479
1885-86 . . .	6,144	5,726,982	3,987	541,316	172,025	2,759,724
1886-87 . . .	6,807	6,325,181	2,876	325,959	175,868	2,898,715
1887-88 . . .	7,342	7,309,975	3,237	332,491	184,104	3,163,656
	<i>Cleared.</i>		<i>Cleared.</i>		<i>Cleared.</i>	
1883-84 . . .	5,574	5,975,597	4,629	458,240	156,429	2,553,672
1884-85 . . .	5,461	5,487,561	4,600	477,806	158,453	2,616,385
1885-86 . . .	6,127	5,679,231	3,992	506,052	156,694	2,612,819
1886-87 . . .	6,794	6,286,438	2,893	307,712	159,041	2,795,779
1887-88 . . .	7,308	7,237,769	3,301	314,386	166,928	2,954,636

Trans-Frontier Trade.

102. The following figures give the value of the trade in each of the last five years, in lakhs of rupees :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1883-84	550·91	525·72	1076·63
1884-85	551·46	612·23	1163·69
1885-86	517·09	719·29	1236·38
1886-87	512·43	774·05	1286·48
1887-88	562·69	831·35	1394·04

103. The fluctuations in the volume of trade are chiefly due to the condition of Upper Burma, the trade with which tract is included in the figures. It is to be hoped that the pacification of the country has made such progress that it will soon be possible to transfer the trade registration posts still maintained between Upper and Lower Burma to the new frontier. The effect on imports and exports between Upper and Lower Burma of the military operations which ended in the occupation of the country was that for two years imports were greatly restricted, while on the other hand the demands of the army of occupation and of the large force of military police as well as of the civil officials sent to Upper Burma increased the exports.

	Imports.	Exports.
1883-84	170·58	182·61
1884-85	202·39	207·14
1885-86	155·22	160·80
1886-87	135·77	209·56
1887-88	145·50	329·19

The exports of last year were also largely augmented by a great export of rice required in Upper Burma in consequence of the failure of the local crops in many tracts. This great demand has continued into the present year and exports still continue on a large scale.

The largest part of the trade with Upper Burma is still carried on the Irrawaddy, and it will be interesting to see what proportion of the trade will be diverted to the railway when the line is opened through to Mandalay.

The Chief Collector of Customs in Burma gives the following figures as representing the value of the trade between Mandalay and Bhamo during the last two years :

	1886-87.	1887-88.
Imports	13·91 lakhs	16·67 lakhs.
Exports	23·20 „	38·61 „

The imports are chiefly caoutchouc, jadestone, raw silk and silk goods, provisions, and orpiment, and the exports raw cotton and cotton goods and twist, provisions, and salt. The trade in salt fell last year to one half of the dimensions of the year before, from 46,010 maunds to 22,197 maunds.

104. If the trade between Upper and Lower Burma is deducted from the aggregate value of the frontier trade, as it should be, seeing that Upper Burma is now part of British India, there remains a balance of 919·35 lakhs representing the value of all the trade with countries on the other side of the British frontier.

If the trade between Mandalay and Bhamo is to be regarded as trade with South-Western China, which it is not entirely, the whole trade comes to about 97½ lakhs.

The following are the principal countries with which the trade is carried on, and the value of the trade with them last year :

	Rs. (lakhs).	
	Imports.	Exports.
Lus Beyla	4'74	2'85
Khelat	5'38	4'38
Sind-Peshin Railway (Southern Afghanistan)	26'62	207'78
Sewestan	4'92	6'72
Kabul	23'95	57'61
Bajaur	3'93	5'76
Kashmir	69'32	53'10
Ladakh	3'45	3'17
Thibet	7'29	5'16
Nepal	189'82	113'72
Karenni	35'15	18'14
Northern Shan States	3'21	5'07
Zimmé	24'79	2'63
Siam	4'48	9'12

It will be seen that the really important trade is restricted to (1) that which is carried across the border of Southern Afghanistan by rail, (2) with Nepal, (3) with Kashmir, (4) with Kabul. And then in a minor degree with (5) Karenni, (6) Zimmé, the trade with these two tracts being largely confined to the importation of teak timber.

105. The rail-borne trade across the South Afghan border is rapidly displacing the caravan trade, and with the further extension of the line to the Khwája Amrán range there will no doubt be a further large development of traffic. It must be observed, however, that the bulk of the trade is in exports and that more than half of these consists of railway material, while a substantial proportion of the remainder is sent to Quetta for the requirements of the large military and civil population established there. The trade with parts beyond Quetta is as yet not large, and perhaps it can hardly be expected to become so until Kandahar is reached.

106. Trade with Kabul is not progressing as it might have been expected to do, seeing that the railway runs right up to its border and that the country has been free for the last few years from serious political convulsions. Whether the stagnation of the trade is to be attributed to Russian customs restrictions on the other border of Northern Afghanistan, impeding the progress of transit trade between India and Central Asia, or to the illiberal fiscal régime of the Amir, or to tribal disturbances from time to time, it is certain in any case that the trade gives no indication of material increase.

The trade of the last five years has been as follows :

Imports.	Exports.
25'22	52'11
24'13	46'91
23'59	53'67
26'20	63'63
23'95	57'61

107. The trade with Kashmir, on the other hand, shews a substantial increase :

Imports.	Exports.
52'90	37'26
54'59	38'50
51'35	37'78
53'86	42'68
69'32	53'10

The increase last year was coincident with the adoption by the Ruler of the State of a sensible fiscal policy : he took off the heavy import duty levied on wheat and freed all exports.

There was a large increase in the imports of drugs, fruits, ghi, and timber, while the shawl trade advanced slightly following on a remarkable increase in the preceding year ; and the exports of cotton piece goods (European and Indian) and of food grains materially increased. The railway which has been commenced connecting Jammu with Sialkot must when complete develop the trade with Kashmir.

108. The trade with Nepal also increases very satisfactorily :

Imports.	Exports.
148'23	99'42
141'64	98'63
168'83	86'17
183'67	87'48
189'82	113'72

The bulk of the trade of Nepal crosses the Behar border. Of the total imports of last year 66'38 lakhs represented the value of trade passing over the border of Oudh and the North-Western Provinces, the other two-thirds being with Bengal. Of the exports about the same proportion—37'59 lakhs—crossed the Western borders, the rest being with Bengal. The very large increase in the exports was mainly due to a development of trade in cotton piece goods, brass and copper, provisions, betelnuts and other spices, and sugar.

109. It may be said here that the large imports of English cottons into India in 1886-87 were followed by a very active trade in their re-export over-sea and across the frontier.

The trade with the other countries with which we have commercial intercourse over the frontier is of a petty character and requires no remark except that the small trade with Thibet and Sikkim has been completely interrupted since the commencement of military operations in Sikkim last spring.

Government of India.
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1888-89:

- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
 - II.—Coasting Trade.
 - III.—Trans-Frontier Trade.
-

J. E. O'CONNOR,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
Honorary Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, Member of the International Statistical Institute.

SIMLA :
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1889.

CONTENTS.

GENERAL.

	PAGE.
Totals of imports and exports for last ten years and rate of increase or decrease each year—comparison of trade of last year with that of the year preceding—large increase in imports of cotton manufactures and in exports of most Indian staples, especially in cotton and jute and manufactures therefrom—comparatively recent origin of the trade in the larger Indian staples	1—4

GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS.

A considerable increase in imports in the year—imports of railway material	4
--	---

BALANCE OF TRADE.

Excess of exports generally, including Government transactions as well as ordinary trade, over imports—drawings of Secretary of State	5
---	---

TRADE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

Totals of the trade during last eight years—imports and exports—proportion of the Canal trade with England and France	5—6
---	-----

SHIPPING.

Total number and tonnage of all shipping and for steamers separately—steamers in ballast—Canal steamers—movement of shipping between India and other countries—nationalities of vessels—native craft—provincial share in movement of shipping	6—10
---	------

GOLD AND SILVER COIN AND BULLION.

Imports and exports of gold and silver for each of last eight years—table of net imports of gold and silver from 1859-60 to 1872-73 (14 years) and from 1873-74 to 1888-89 (16 years)—decrease in both and smaller coinage in second period—value of the precious metals retained in India since 1834	10—12
---	-------

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Gross and net revenue on imports and exports for each of last five years—increase in import revenue and decrease in export revenue last year	13
--	----

TRADE OF PROVINCES AND PRINCIPAL PORTS.

Imports and exports for last five years for each province, and rate of increase or decrease—proportion of the whole trade of India for last five years at each of the five chief ports, Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Madras, and Karáchi—foreign trade of the seven largest ports of India, merchandise only, for last six years	13—15
--	-------

TRADE WITH COUNTRIES.

Table shewing trade for each of the last six years with nineteen foreign countries, and the proportion taken by each of the whole trade—increases or decreases in imports and exports of merchandise last year for United Kingdom and other principal countries with which trade is carried on	15—17
--	-------

IMPORT TRADE IN MERCHANDISE.

Trade values for each of the last twenty years—variations in the prices at Calcutta of certain staple imports, since 1873—trade of last five years under each main group—the increase last year due chiefly to the expansion in the imports of cotton manufactures—Details of imports: Animals—Grain and pulse—Malt liquor—production and supply to troops of Indian brewed beer for last twelve years—Spirits, Wines—Provisions, salted fish, flour—Salt, decline in imports, increase of price, increase in duty—Sugar—Tea—Copper, Iron, Steel, Machinery—Railway material—Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning materials—Oils, Kerosene, Vegetable—Coal—Other raw materials—Cotton manufactures—Silk and Woollen goods—other manufactured articles

18—29

RE-EXPORT TRADE.

Total value—main items of the trade—countries with which the trade is chiefly carried on

29—30

EXPORTS OF INDIAN PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURE.

Trade values for each of last nine years—relative importance of each class—comparison of trade of last two years in the principal articles—Coffee—Rice—Wheat—Flour—Spices—Sugar—Tea—Chinchona bark—Opium—Indigo—Oils—Cotton—Hides and Skins—Jute—Manures—Saltpetre—Seeds—Silk—Teak timber—Wool—Cotton yarn and piece goods—Indian cotton mills—Jute goods—tanned Hides and Skins

30—45

COASTING TRADE AND SHIPPING

45—47

TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE

47—52

THE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH
FOREIGN COUNTRIES

for the official year ending March 31, 1889.

Sea-borne Foreign Trade.

THE aggregate value of the trade under all heads for the last ten years was as follows:

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Percentage of increase or decrease each year compared with preceding year.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Five years	1879-80	51,39,75,610	69,10,19,860	1,20,49,95,470	+ 11.15
	1880-81	59,29,70,482	75,94,06,850	1,35,23,77,332	+ 12.23
	1881-82	58,31,48,651	82,99,93,464	1,41,31,42,115	+ 4.49
	1882-83	63,45,61,977	84,38,17,237	1,47,83,79,214	+ 4.62
	1883-84	65,58,18,545	89,10,28,679	1,54,68,47,224	+ 4.63
Five years	1884-85	67,02,81,588	85,08,78,583	1,52,11,60,171	— 1.66
	1885-86	67,28,93,373	84,91,56,777	1,52,20,50,150	+ 0.05
	1886-87	69,71,47,812	90,11,31,715	1,59,82,79,527	+ 5
	1887-88	76,21,06,687	91,98,54,163	1,68,19,60,850	+ 5.24
	1888-89	80,41,52,780	98,68,16,684	1,79,09,69,464	+ 6.48

The total trade of the first five years was Rs. 6,99,57,41,355, the annual average being Rs. 1,39,91,48,271.

The total trade of the last five years was Rs. 8,11,44,20,162, the annual average being Rs. 1,62,28,84,032.

The average trade of the last five years was thus in excess of the average of the first five years by almost exactly 16 per cent.

The average imports and exports separately were as follows:

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
First five years	59,60,95,053	80,30,53,218
Last five years	72,13,16,448	90,15,67,584

NOTE.—A lakh = 1,00,000 rupees, a crore = one hundred lakhs, or 10,000,000 rupees, in conventional sterling 10 rupees = £1) £1,000,000.

The imports of the last five years were therefore in excess of those of the first five years by 21 per cent ; the increase in the exports in the same period being only about 12½ per cent.

Comparing the trade values of last year with those of the one immediately preceding, the following are the results :

	1887-88. Rs.	1888-89. Rs.	Increase per cent.
Imports of merchandise	62,38,48,130	66,57,03,181	+ 6.71
„ treasure	13,82,58,557	13,84,49,599	+ 0.14
Exports of merchandise			
(Indian)	86,37,00,218	92,64,27,346	+ 7.26
„ (foreign, re-ex-ports)	4,10,14,403	4,33,54,369	+ 5.70
„ treasure	1,51,39,542	1,70,34,969	+ 12.52
TOTAL	1,68,19,60,850	1,79,09,69,464	+ 6.48

The increase of Rs. 4,18,55,051 in the imports of merchandise was practically the result of a very large increase in the imports of Cotton piece goods and yarn, the increases and decreases in other large items of the import trade about balancing themselves. This trade increased by Rs. 4,00,49,314, being more than 14½ per cent, a very remarkable development in the course of a year.

The most prominent increases and decreases in other articles were :

Increases.	Decreases.
Coal.	Apparel.
Drugs, medicines and narcotics.	Metals (copper).
Glass and glassware.	Silk and silk goods.
Grain and pulse.	Spices.
Machinery and millwork.	Sugar.
Oils (petroleum).	Woollen goods.
Salt.	
Umbrellas.	

It is worth noting that the imports of petroleum were not affected by the imposition of an import duty. The increase in the case of salt was an increase in value only, the result of a rise in price: the quantity imported declined materially. The importation of food grains in largely increased quantities is also noticeable as a feature which has (happily) been absent from the returns in recent years. It is an indication of the pressure of high prices of food grains which has been sensibly felt in many parts of India during the past year and still unfortunately continues to be felt.

The decreases do not call for any special mention here, the decline in the importations of Copper alone being caused by anything but the ordinary fluctuations of the market and temporary variations of supply and demand.

The increase in the exports of Indian goods was large, amounting to Rs. 6,27,27,128 or 7½ per cent more than the value of the previous year. This increase was the outcome of an expanded trade in most of the great staples of

the trade as will be seen from the list appended, the increase in each is given:

	Rs.	Per cent.
	(000's omitted).	
Coffee	35,45	= 23.2
Cotton, raw	63,28	= 4.4
Cotton manufactures	1,14,66	= 21.9
Grain and pulse	40,32	= 2.6
Indigo	5,79	= 1.5
Jute, raw	1,85,68	= 30.7
Jute manufactures	82,51	= 47.2
Opium	44,03	= 4.4
Seeds	17,67	= 1.9
Tea	9,29	= 1.8

In other articles of smaller importance there was also an increased trade in the year. Hides and skins and wool were the only commodities of real importance in which the trade was smaller than in the preceding year and in neither case was the decline considerable. There was a smaller trade in some other articles also, but these are still of but secondary importance.

The increase in cotton and cotton goods and jute and jute goods is particularly noticeable. An increase of nearly 22 per cent in the value of the year's exports of cotton manufactures, following as it does on uninterrupted increases in previous years which have practically doubled the value in five years, is really striking, and cannot but encourage the expectation that in a few years more this industry must stand amongst the most prominent items of the Indian export trade. Even now it stands sixth on the list:

	Value in 1888-89.
	Rs.
	(000's omitted).
1. Grain and pulse	15,94,37
2. Cotton, raw	15,04,56
3. Opium	10,50,81
4. Seeds	9,56,17
5. Jute, raw	7,89,71
6. Cotton manufactures	6,37,45
7. Tea	5,26,73
8. Hides and skins	4,74,35
9. Indigo	3,94,86
10. Jute manufactures	2,57,15
11. Coffee	1,88,42
12. Wool, raw	96,87
13. Dyes and tans (other than indigo)	72,89
14. Timber	63,23
15. Spices	56,02
16. Provisions	55,35
17. Sugar	55,03
18. Silk, raw	51,87
19. Oils	43,03
20. Lac	40,03
21. Saltpetre	40,18

In looking down this list it is remarkable how much of the export trade is of comparatively recent origin. Much the largest proportion of it, in fact, is the

growth of the last 25 or 30 years. Thus the great export of Cotton followed the American War of Secession (1861-1865) and the commencement of the manufacture of cotton by machinery did not largely develop until much later. The export of jute in large quantities began after the Crimean War, and the manufacture of jute by machinery in India was of still later origin. The seed trade and the trade in wheat and rice took their present large proportions only after the opening of the Suez Canal. The great tea trade and the trade in coffee are the creations of the last quarter of a century. So with the exports of hides and skins, wool, and timber.

Another striking feature is the secondary importance of those historic industries which are often supposed to be characteristic of the East. Spices, silk, lac, oils, dyestuffs, saltpetre, now take but a small place in the list of Indian exports. There are two, but only two, exceptions: opium and indigo still hold their ground, but their progress is slow compared to the rapid advances made by the products of more recent origin and development.

In the re-export trade (exports of imported goods) there was a large increase in cotton yarn and piece goods and in tea. There was a considerable decrease in copper and some other articles, but cotton goods forming a great proportion of the trade the net result was an increase of about Rs. 23,40,000, or 5.7 per cent.

The import of treasure was almost the same as in the preceding year. There was a large increase in the exports of treasure, but these are relatively small.

Government Stores.

The total value of these transactions was Rs. 3,02,23,597, which was more than that of 1887-88 by about 8.6 per cent. The imports of that year however were comparatively small, having been 16 per cent less than those of 1886-87.

There was an increase in the imports of coal, arms and ammunition, books, machinery, metals, and a smaller importation of paper, telegraph and railway material, and other items of small importance. It may be of interest to note here the importations of railway material on account of the State for the last five years:

	Rs.
	(000's omitted).
1884-85	1,23,74
1885-86	2,29,95
1886-87	1,89,27
1887-88	1,24,86
1888-89	1,20,07
TOTAL	<u>7,87,89</u>

The average annual import having been Rs. 157½ lakhs.

Balance of Trade.

The excess of exports over imports, including treasure as well as merchandise, for each of the last ten years was (Rs., 000's omitted) :

	Including Govern- ment transactions.	Excluding Govern- ment transactions.
1879-80 . . .	16,42,61	17,70,44
1880-81 . . .	13,91,60	16,64,36
1881-82 . . .	22,63,20	24,68,45
1882-83 . . .	18,97,83	20,92,55
1883-84 . . .	21,02,91	23,52,10
1884-85 . . .	15,63,46	18,05,97
1885-86 . . .	13,85,58	17,62,63
1886-87 . . .	17,35,99	20,39,84
1887-88 . . .	13,31,78	15,77,47
1888-89 . . .	15,54,84	18,26,64

The average annual excess in these ten years comes to about Rs. 1687 lakhs including Government transactions and 1936 lakhs excluding them.

In the same period of ten years the drawings of the Secretary of State in Council Bills have been—

	£	Exchange. Pence.	Rs. (000's omitted).
1879-80 . . .	15,261,810	19'961	= 18,34,99
1880-81 . . .	15,239,677	19'956	= 18,32,79
1881-82 . . .	18,412,429	19'895	= 22,19,14
1882-83 . . .	15,120,521	19'525	= 18,58,60
1883-84 . . .	17,599,805	19'536	= 21,62,14
1884-85 . . .	13,758,909	19'308	= 17,10,24
1885-86 . . .	10,292,692	18'254	= 13,53,25
1886-87 . . .	12,136,279	17'441	= 16,70,03
1887-88 . . .	15,358,577	16'899	= 21,81,24
1888-89 . . .	14,262,859	16'379	= 20,89,92

the average being £14,744,356 or Rs. 1891'23 lakhs.

Trade through the Suez Canal.

The value of the trade to and from India carried through the Canal was, in—

	Rs. (000's omitted).	
1881-82 . . .	88,09,28	being 61'4 per cent of the whole trade.
1882-83 . . .	93,42,60	„ 62'2 „ „
1883-84 . . .	1,03,55,59	„ 65'8 „ „
1884-85 . . .	1,01,54,01	„ 65'6 „ „
1885-86 . . .	1,03,28,31	„ 66'2 „ „
1886-87 . . .	1,07,83,20	„ 66'1 „ „
1887-88 . . .	1,12,85,63	„ 66 „ „
1888-89 . . .	1,24,19,39	„ 68'2 „ „

These figures include all trade, State as well as private, imports and exports, and treasure as well as merchandise.

The imports into India carried through the Canal have always been much larger than the exports, the bulk of the imports coming from European countries

while an important proportion of the export trade is carried on with China and other countries in Asia and therefore does not pass through the Canal.

Imports—

	Rs.		
1883-84	53,17,13,129	being 78	per cent of all imports.
1884-85	53,93,80,958	" 77.5	" "
1885-86	55,00,18,010	" 77.3	" "
1886-87	58,04,77,792	" 79.7	" "
1887-88	61,41,50,461	" 77.9	" "
1888-89	66,69,20,188	" 80.1	" "

Exports—

	Rs.		
1883-84	50,38,46,197	being 56.5	per cent of all exports.
1884-85	47,60,20,177	" 55.8	" "
1885-86	48,28,13,642	" 56.8	" "
1886-87	49,78,42,597	" 55.2	" "
1887-88	51,44,13,074	" 55.8	" "
1888-89	57,50,18,871	" 58.2	" "

The value of the trade with England represented over 74½ per cent of the total trade. With France the trade was about 7.3 per cent of the whole. In 1887-88 the proportion to the whole of the trade with England and France was about 76 and 7 per cent respectively. The percentage of the trade with other countries carried through the Canal is much smaller than that of France.

Shipping.

The total number and tonnage of the shipping, steam and sailing, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered and cleared at Indian ports from and to foreign countries, during each of the last six years, are as follow :

	Number.	Tonn.	Average tonnage.
1883-84	11,662	7,250,603	628
1884-85	10,338	6,649,770	643
1885-86	10,562	7,294,589	691
1886-87	10,584	7,172,193	678
1887-88	10,893	7,189,465	660
1888-89	10,485	6,983,332	666

The number of vessels and the total tonnage both fell off in the year.

The following table is for steamers only. The percentage of steam to total tonnage was :

In 1883-84	. . . 63
1884-85	} . . . 65
1885-86	
1886-87	. . . 66
1887-88	. . . 68
1888-89	. . . 72.6

	Steamers entered. (Cargoes and ballast.)		Steamers cleared. (Cargoes and ballast.)	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1883-84 . . .	1,620	2,294,310	1,603	2,277,232
1884-85 . . .	1,495	2,157,501	1,489	2,174,680
1885-86 . . .	1,631	2,361,942	1,632	2,397,828
1886-87 . . .	1,602	2,342,690	1,620	2,398,164
1887-88 . . .	1,585	2,411,272	1,605	2,472,222
1888-89 . . .	1,608	2,506,931	1,632	2,561,431

The number and tonnage of steamers entering and leaving India without cargoes in the last six years were :

	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1883-84 . . .	416	540,909	33	33,837
1884-85 . . .	272	351,429	44	61,171
1885-86 . . .	301	397,549	47	74,614
1886-87 . . .	223	277,187	52	66,924
1887-88 . . .	196	250,420	73	111,285
1888-89 . . .	257	349,162	65	73,577

Out of the whole number of steamers cleared less than 4 per cent cleared without cargoes ; the average of clearances without cargoes in the previous five years was 3'13 per cent.

CANAL STEAMERS.

The following table shews the number and tonnage of steamers which entered at and cleared from Indian ports, via the Suez Canal, with the percentage of the steam tonnage passing through the Canal to the total steam tonnage engaged in the trade between India and foreign countries :

	Entries.		Clearances.		Total entries and clearances.		Percentage to total steam tonnage.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	
1883-84	839	1,405,007	1,091	1,746,785	1,930	3,151,792	69
1884-85	726	1,264,105	923	1,553,446	1,649	2,817,551	65
1885-86	773	1,336,638	1,039	1,722,003	1,812	3,058,641	64
1886-87	726	1,310,269	945	1,636,381	1,671	2,946,650	62
1887-88	784	1,407,997	949	1,637,738	1,733	3,045,735	62
1888-89	755	1,408,331	967	1,735,626	1,722	3,143,957	62

Of this total, the number entering from and clearing to the United Kingdom was 1,139 steamers representing 2,169,043 tons, or about 69 per cent of the whole tonnage.

MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

The movement of shipping during the past five years between India and the principal countries with which trade is carried on is shewn in the following table, the figures representing entries and clearances combined :

	1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.		1887-88.		1888-89.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
United Kingdom .	1,804	2,908,987	1,973	3,179,764	1,756	2,963,478	1,796	3,085,130	1,630	2,934,429
BRITISH POSSESSIONS—										
Australia . . .	78	109,346	135	190,632	136	196,018	92	144,819	78	123,640
Ceylon . . .	4,589	677,597	4,367	725,161	4,654	725,397	5,019	731,988	5,054	745,530
China—Hong-Kong.	134	203,474	144	222,699	160	262,857	163	267,359	181	300,066
Mauritius . . .	229	201,678	197	161,990	204	181,217	171	200,206	130	165,416
Straits Settlements.	609	522,197	718	695,758	775	711,208	603	611,664	541	575,977
Others . . .	274	251,271	321	291,291	192	182,822	260	248,820	316	375,020
TOTAL	7,717	4,874,550	7,855	5,467,295	7,877	5,223,997	8,104	5,289,985	7,930	5,220,078
FOREIGN COUNTRIES—										
Austria . . .	78	130,477	68	120,417	63	123,946	68	129,338	46	94,984
Belgium . . .	62	101,034	85	156,788	82	134,312	54	88,088	78	120,758
France . . .	205	315,269	189	277,107	176	274,641	148	229,461	160	275,389
Italy . . .	52	96,114	70	125,684	149	267,795	103	199,450	68	144,938
East Coast of Africa.	182	83,135	169	71,808	170	64,073	203	80,759	194	66,614
Egypt . . .	139	193,140	191	260,417	128	170,361	174	233,657	167	226,916
United States . .	176	243,090	123	180,817	140	198,805	147	229,419	111	177,267
Arabia . . .	451	113,655	478	123,609	628	178,789	556	153,722	486	127,985
China—Treaty Ports.	39	80,600	48	88,983	67	113,858	55	98,137	35	61,252
Persia . . .	280	119,430	230	104,209	213	112,988	271	128,250	267	118,329
Other countries . .	957	299,276	1,055	337,455	886	309,527	1,010	329,198	943	338,822
TOTAL	2,621	1,775,220	2,707	1,827,294	2,707	1,949,995	2,789	1,899,479	2,555	1,763,254

The tonnage employed in the trade with the United Kingdom was—

43·7	per cent of the whole in	1884-85.
43·6	"	1885-86.
41·3	"	1886-87.
42·9	"	1887-88.
42	"	1888-89.

NATIONALITIES OF VESSELS.

The figures for British, British Indian, and foreign vessels are given below :

	BRITISH.			BRITISH INDIAN.			FOREIGN.		
	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.	No.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1883-84 . . .	4,196	5,568,676	1,327	2,601	347,849	134	1,701	1,162,022	683
1884-85 . . .	3,791	5,208,966	1,374	2,345	287,326	123	1,551	1,007,674	650
1885-86 . . .	4,136	5,770,169	1,395	2,198	304,544	139	1,565	1,071,543	685
1886-87 . . .	3,892	5,633,776	1,448	2,021	272,080	135	1,516	1,103,725	727
1887-88 . . .	3,869	5,772,747	1,492	2,121	277,197	131	1,471	969,003	659
1888-89 . . .	3,690	5,713,012	1,548	2,196	311,054	142	1,251	793,171	634

The proportion in each case to the total tonnage has been as follows :

	British.	British Indian.	Foreign.
1883-84 . . .	76·8 %	4·8 %	16· %
1884-85 . . .	78·3 "	4·3 "	15·1 "
1885-86 . . .	79·1 "	4·2 "	14·7 "
1886-87 . . .	78·5 "	3·8 "	15·4 "
1887-88 . . .	80·3 "	3·8 "	13·5 "
1888-89 . . .	81·8 "	4·4 "	11·3 "

The following table gives the principal nationalities of the foreign vessels :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	
Austrian	No.	89	78	78	111	101	
	Tons	130,071	136,942	137,846	182,786	203,706	180,575
Dutch	No.	39	92	127	99	28	4
	Tons	42,241	95,846	150,060	115,304	24,782	2,992
French	No.	231	188	170	111	91	117
	Tons	286,683	212,039	176,835	107,393	77,292	103,838
German	No.	178	156	200	266	166	101
	Tons	163,081	160,771	205,629	263,779	182,160	110,265
Italian	No.	217	107	126	116	138	151
	Tons	248,608	143,904	164,788	183,422	206,238	214,806
Norwegian	No.	74	75	78	89	64	36
	Tons	67,248	63,402	63,541	72,882	59,911	28,966
Swedish	No.	34	10	21	8	16	5
	Tons	18,728	4,069	11,480	3,903	6,305	1,645
American	No.	44	52	45	52	68	32
	Tons	52,033	64,538	55,236	67,994	97,507	44,850
Arab	No.	646	663	597	504	642	555
	Tons	102,393	102,215	92,712	78,827	89,477	77,384
Turkish	No.	11	20	9	46	58	51
	Tons	9,041	9,053	5,070	14,026	13,890	12,012

The foreign flags are certainly not increasing.

NATIVE CRAFT.

The number and tonnage of native craft entered and cleared in each of the last six years are given below ; the proportion to the total tonnage being—

2·37 in 1883-84	2·28 in 1886-87.
2·19 in 1884-85	2·37 in 1887-88.
2·03 in 1885-86	2·38 in 1888-89.

	Vessels.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1883-84 . . .	3,164	172,056	54
1884-85 . . .	2,651	145,804	55
1885-86 . . .	2,663	148,333	56
1886-87 . . .	3,155	163,612	52
1887-88 . . .	3,432	170,518	50
1888-89 . . .	3,348	166,095	50

SHARE OF EACH PROVINCE IN MOVEMENT OF SHIPPING.

The following table shows the share of each of the maritime provinces of India in the movement of shipping with cargoes for the last six years :

		1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Bengal	No.	1,309	1,148	1,160	1,145	1,147	1,066
	Tons	1,706,140	1,541,764	1,568,322	1,646,298	1,683,421	1,656,576
Bombay	No.	2,030	1,947	1,969	2,025	2,027	1,939
	Tons	2,055,149	2,027,871	2,049,235	2,139,483	2,142,791	2,175,685
Sind	No.	723	742	828	712	795	767
	Tons	352,455	384,769	504,004	419,899	363,892	413,602
Madras	No.	3,917	3,478	3,476	3,537	3,692	3,588
	Tons	1,082,878	1,042,727	1,192,454	1,170,488	1,200,274	1,105,546
Burma	No.	989	910	1,014	1,052	1,003	768
	Tons	868,345	820,376	945,842	959,417	1,045,425	816,187

Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion.

The imports and exports of gold during the last eight years were—

	Imports.	Exports.	Balance net imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	4,85,63,920	1,24,078	4,84,39,842
1882-83	5,09,51,354	16,42,639	4,93,08,715
1883-84	5,46,94,568	69,517	5,46,25,051
1884-85	4,77,81,724	10,62,359	4,67,19,365
1885-86	3,09,15,409	32,86,062	2,76,29,347
1886-87	2,83,35,581	65,64,929	2,17,70,652
1887-88	3,23,60,530	24,35,720	2,99,24,810
1888-89	3,11,90,882	30,51,541	2,81,39,341

The imports and exports of silver in the same period have been—

	Imports.	Exports.	Net imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881-82	6,46,63,889	1,08,73,390	5,37,90,499
1882-83	8,35,80,218	87,77,949	7,48,02,269
1883-84	7,40,85,065	1,00,33,554	6,40,51,511
1884-85	9,11,00,254	1,86,43,941	7,24,56,313
1885-86	12,38,62,599	77,96,314	11,60,66,285
1886-87	8,21,97,613	1,06,40,232	7,15,57,381
1887-88	10,58,98,027	1,36,10,522	9,22,87,505
1888-89	10,72,58,717	1,47,91,928	9,24,66,789

The imports of gold last year were rather less than in 1887-88 and those of the last four years much below the average of former years. The imports of silver were slightly larger than in the preceding year and much in excess of the average.

Attached is a statement of the net imports of gold and silver for the period from 1859-60 to 1872-73 and from 1873-74 to 1888-89, the last year of the first period of fourteen years marking the commencement of the divergence in relative value of gold and silver.

Gold.

Year.	Net imports.	Year.	Net imports.
	Rs.		Rs.
1859-60 . . .	4,28,42,340	1873-74 . . .	1,38,26,378
1860-61 . . .	4,23,25,690	1874-75 . . .	1,87,35,354
1861-62 . . .	5,18,44,250	1875-76 . . .	1,54,51,315
1862-63 . . .	6,84,81,560	1876-77 . . .	20,73,498
1863-64 . . .	8,89,83,060	1877-78 . . .	46,81,290
1864-65 . . .	9,83,99,640	1878-79 . . .	-89,61,733
1865-66 . . .	5,72,44,760	1879-80 . . .	1,75,05,036
1866-67 (11 months) .	3,84,23,288	1880-81 . . .	3,65,51,990
1867-68 . . .	4,60,94,668	1881-82 . . .	4,84,39,842
1868-69 . . .	5,15,93,520	1882-83 . . .	4,93,08,715
1869-70 . . .	5,59,21,173	1883-84 . . .	5,46,25,051
1870-71 . . .	2,28,21,216	1884-85 . . .	4,67,19,365
1871-72 . . .	3,56,53,439	1885-86 . . .	2,76,29,347
1872-73 . . .	2,54,33,626	1886-87 . . .	2,17,70,652
		1887-88 . . .	2,99,24,810
		1888-89 . . .	2,81,39,341
TOTAL .	72,60,62,230	TOTAL .	40,64,20,251

Average annual import $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1859-60 \\ \text{to} \\ 1872-73 \end{array} \right\}$ Rs. 5,18,61,588. Average annual import $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1873-74 \\ \text{to} \\ 1888-89 \end{array} \right\}$ Rs. 2,54,01,266.

Silver.

Year.	Net imports.	Year.	Net imports.
	Rs.		Rs.
1859-60 . . .	11,14,75,630	1873-74 . . .	2,49,58,247
1860-61 . . .	5,32,80,090	1874-75 . . .	4,64,22,021
1861-62 . . .	9,08,64,560	1875-76 . . .	1,55,53,546
1862-63 . . .	12,55,01,570	1876-77 . . .	7,19,88,722
1863-64 . . .	12,79,67,190	1877-78 . . .	14,67,63,350
1864-65 . . .	10,07,87,980	1878-79 . . .	3,97,06,936
1865-66 . . .	18,66,86,730	1879-80 . . .	7,86,97,433
1866-67 (11 months) .	6,96,30,725	1880-81 . . .	3,89,25,741
1867-68 . . .	5,59,39,610	1881-82 . . .	5,37,90,499
1868-69 . . .	8,60,10,227	1882-83 . . .	7,48,62,269
1869-70 . . .	8,22,03,371	1883-84 . . .	6,40,61,540
1870-71 . . .	94,19,369	1884-85 . . .	7,24,56,313
1871-72 . . .	6,53,23,755	1885-86 . . .	11,60,66,285
1872-73 . . .	71,51,434	1886-87 . . .	7,15,57,381
		1887-88 . . .	9,22,87,505
		1888-89 . . .	9,24,66,789
TOTAL .	1,17,22,42,241	TOTAL .	1,10,05,64,577

Average annual import $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1859-60 \\ \text{to} \\ 1872-73 \end{array} \right\}$ 837.31 lakhs. Average annual import $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1873-74 \\ \text{to} \\ 1888-89 \end{array} \right\}$ Rs. 6,87,85,286.

In regard to gold it appears that in the fourteen years from 1859-60 to 1872-73 the average imports annually (net) amounted to say (in conventional terms at 2 shillings to the rupee) £5,186,000; in the second period, from 1873-74 to 1888-89, they amounted to only, say £2,540,000, or about half the annual imports of the first period. It should be noted that while the average of the second period was greatly affected by the remarkable diminution in imports during the famine period of the three years 1876-77 to 1878-79, the imports falling to the lowest point and the exports largely exceeding the imports in 1878-79, the average of the first period was affected in the contrary way by the excessive imports of the time of the Cotton Famine (1862-63 to 1864-65).

The annual net import of silver for the fourteen years previous to 1873-74 was about say £8,373,000; in the sixteen years since 1873-74 the net annual import has been say £6,878,000. As with gold however, so with silver, the imports were enormous from 1862 to 1866, and the average of the first fourteen years was greatly affected by that abnormal time.

The coinage of the Indian mints too has not increased, the average silver coinage for the fourteen years preceding 1873-74 having been 700·3 lakhs a year, and in the sixteen years since then, 656·9 lakhs, thus (lakhs of rupees):

1859-60	1,068	1873-74	237
1860-61	519	1874-75	490
1861-62	707	1875-76	255
1862-63	925	1876-77	627
1863-64	1,148	1877-78	1,618
1864-65	1,036	1878-79	721
1865-66	1,451	1879-80	1,025
1866-67 (11 months)	612	1880-81	425
1867-68	431	1881-82	219
1868-69	421	1882-83	651
1869-70	747	1883-84	366
1870-71	172	1884-85	579
1871-72	169	1885-86	1,029
1872-73	398	1886-87	462
TOTAL	9,804	1887-88	1,079
Annual average	700·3	1888-89	728
		TOTAL	10,511
		Annual average	656·9

In this period of thirty years the precious metals received and retained in the country amount (at the conventional value of 2s. to the rupee) to £113½ millions gold and £227 millions silver, or say £340½ millions of gold and silver, practically all the gold being withdrawn from circulation, to be hoarded or converted into ornaments, this latter operation being also to a large extent a form of hoarding. In the twenty-five years previous to 1859-60 the net imports were £101½ millions, so that altogether since 1834 some £442 millions of gold and silver have been received and retained in India.

Customs Revenue.

The gross sum received on imports (excluding salt) since 1884-85, was as follows :

	1884-85. Rs.	1885-86. Rs.	1886-87. Rs.	1887-88. Rs.	1888-89. Rs.
Arms and ammunition ..	1,49,940	1,69,740	2,17,107	2,23,704	2,60,892
Malt liquor	66,090	81,283	1,07,124	1,31,787	1,52,050
Spirits	34,49,926	36,30,746	42,97,083	46,29,349	48,28,544
Wines and liqueurs .	4,96,580	4,69,613	4,77,766	5,16,787	5,02,249
Opium	2,863	2,797	4,282	2,548	3,058
Mineral oil	—	—	—	1,37,090	11,74,891
Imports by post, &c. .	562	1,322	1,640	1,349	1,589
Total gross revenue .	41,65,961	43,54,501	51,05,002	56,42,614	69,23,273
Total net revenue .	40,95,618	42,65,513	49,92,553	54,97,810	67,62,838

The export revenue for the same years was—

	(Gross.) Rs.	(Net.) Rs.
1884-85	58,83,936	57,06,391
1885-86	74,38,495	72,76,281
1886-87	70,84,124	69,64,619
1887-88	75,64,985	73,90,653
1888-89	61,26,726	59,79,563

The net import duty increased by about 23 per cent, mainly as the result of the new duty of half an anna per gallon imposed since February 1888 on mineral oil, free until then.

The net export revenue on the other hand declined by 19 per cent, the exports of rice from both Burma and Bengal having been greatly restricted.

The total revenue (net) from imports and exports was slightly smaller than in the previous year :

	Rs.
1887-88	1,28,88,463
1888-89	1,27,42,401

Provincial Trade.

The figures of the trade of each province stand thus (lakhs) :

	1884-85.	1885-85.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	Increase or decrease per cent compared with 1887-88.
<i>Imported Merchandise.</i>						
Bombay	2,151'60	2,201'43	2,348'14	2,548'69	2,650'38	+ 3'99
Bengal	2,143'13	1,998'56	2,333'80	2,329'84	2,570'21	+ 10'32
Madras	482'42	425'03	531'81	532'70	579'60	+ 8'8
Burma	369'53	341'98	371'	568'93	500'54	- 12'02
Sindh	168'21	214'14	281'37	258'31	356'30	+ 37'93
<i>Exported Merchandise.</i>						
Bombay	3,273'28	3,129'83	3,422'05	3,439'50	3,890'85	+ 13'12
Bengal	3,283'21	3,311'20	3,559'83	3,710'85	3,782'08	+ 1'92
Madras	843'26	826'44	913'13	973'23	1,032'57	+ 6'1
Burma	528'71	678'03	658'66	663'17	610'88	- 7'88
Sindh	391'57	437'26	289'17	260'40	381'42	+ 46'48

Taking imports and exports of merchandise together the foreign trade of each province stood as follows during the year :

	Rs. (000's omitted).	Percentage on whole trade.
Bombay	65,41,23	39'99
Bengal	63,52,29	38'84
Madras	16,12,18	9'86
Burma	11,11,42	6'80
Sindh	7,37,72	4'51

As was anticipated in the review for 1887-88 the unprecedentedly high level attained by the trade of Burma has not been maintained, the figures of the year shewing a heavy decline in both imports and exports. But though much lower than last year the trade was larger than in any other previous year.

In every other province there was a more or less decided advance in the year in both the import and export trade, Sindh especially having entirely recovered from the depression caused in the two previous years by the short wheat harvests of the Panjab.

The trade and navigation of India with foreign countries have been distributed during the last six years in the following proportions between the five chief ports. Treasure is included in the trade here:

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
<i>Trade.</i>						
Bombay	41'55	43'51	43'79	42'78	43'37	44'03
Calcutta	38'45	36'97	35'97	36'9	35'87	35'6
Rangoon	5'06	4'67	4'93	5'01	5'9	5'2
Madras	5'28	5'43	5'0	5'58	5'44	5'3
Karachi	3'36	3'79	4'34	3'68	3'2	4'26
TOTAL	93'70	94'37	94'03	93'95	93'78	94'39
<i>Shipping.</i>						
Bombay	33'82	34'78	32'67	33'7	33'23	35'22
Calcutta	26'41	24'77	23'54	24'52	24'44	25'41
Rangoon	8'8	9'23	9'20	9'36	10'82	10'1
Madras	7'24	7'62	8'1	8'07	8'05	7'22
Karachi	4'21	1'00	8'05	6'62	5'65	6'71
TOTAL	82'08	83'01	81'56	82'27	82'19	84'66

The following figures shew the actual extent of the foreign trade of the seven largest ports of India in merchandise only, imports and exports (including re-exports), during the last six years (rupees, 000's omitted):

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Bombay	53,25,78	54,22,97	53,26,43	57,65,28	59,65,46	65,29,23
Calcutta	57,33,55	53,22,39	52,00,41	57,77,21	58,95,58	62,28,82
Rangoon	7,81,03	7,07,65	7,49,97	7,96,31	9,89,77	9,31,00
Madras	7,82,36	7,81,18	7,36,74	8,52,08	8,80,01	9,29,67
Karachi	5,04,83	5,59,75	6,51,40	5,70,54	5,18,68	7,37,72
Tuticorin	1,35,91	1,21,68	1,09,51	1,42,66	1,61,39	1,65,51
Chittagong	1,00,62	83,10	82,94	96,95	1,25,70	1,13,51

The increase of trade during this period in the five principal ports has been at the rate mentioned below :

Bombay	.	.	22·6	per cent.
Calcutta	.	.	8·6	"
Rangoon	.	.	19·2	"
Madras	.	.	18·8	"
Karáchi	.	.	46·1	"

It will be observed, however, that the trade of Karáchi is subject to violent fluctuation, and this must necessarily be the case as long as the trade is practically dependent exclusively on the harvests of the Panjab alone. The trade of this port in 1887-88 was very little larger than that of 1883-84 because it was restricted as a consequence of two bad harvests in the Panjab ; last year it was 46 per cent in excess of the trade of 1883-84 because the harvests were abundant. Future years will no doubt shew similar oscillations unless Karáchi becomes something more than the outlet-for a single province.

Trade with Countries.

The following table exhibits the value of the trade between India and the countries with which India has considerable or increasing commercial connections, and the proportion of the trade with each country to the total trade of India with all countries, for each of the last six years. The countries are enumerated according to the importance of the trade with them in 1888-89 (in rupees, 000's omitted) :

Countries.	1883-84.		1884-85.		1885-86.		1886-87.		1887-88.		1888-89.	
	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.	Imports and exports (merchandise and treasure).	Percentage on total trade of India.
1. United Kingdom.	86,76,92	55·09	84,11,84	55·3	84,63,92	55·61	87,73,84	54·88	92,18,24	54·81	98,30,66	54·89
2. { China—Hong-Kong.	12,95,34	8·37	12,32,43	8·1	23,30,53	8·74	14,16,23	8·86	14,37,36	8·35	14,74,43	7·95
{ China—Treaty Ports.	4,29,56	2·78	4,27,38	2·81	5,09,77	3·35	3,54,63	2·22	3,77,74	2·24	4,73,12	2·64
3. France . . .	9,22,71	5·97	8,88,94	5·84	7,40,80	4·87	8,59,47	5·38	8,16,75	4·85	9,61,92	5·37
4. Straits Settlements.	4,79,81	3·1	5,21,01	3·42	5,39,03	3·54	5,83,95	3·65	6,43,14	3·82	6,77,00	3·78
5. United States	3,63,18	2·35	4,67,68	3·07	4,45,·3	2·95	5,13,55	3·21	5,73,02	3·41	5,57,92	3·11
6. Belgium . . .	3,57,96	2·31	3,26,92	2·21	3,99,67	2·63	3,99,29	2·44	3,47,60	2·07	5,19,43	2·90
7. Italy . . .	4,32,15	2·79	4,03,82	2·65	4,54,88	2·99	5,86,66	3·67	5,37,42	3·19	4,19,35	2·34
8. Austria . . .	2,99,03	1·88	3,14,02	2·06	2,65,81	1·75	3,44,46	2·16	3,58,89	2·13	3,95,69	2·21
9. Egypt . . .	3,99,36	2·58	3,18,27	2·09	3,55,44	2·34	3,02,64	1·89	3,53,00	2·10	3,70,85	2·07
10. Ceylon . . .	2,64,50	1·72	3,25,21	2·14	2,90,78	1·91	3,09,60	1·94	3,27,60	1·95	3,19,71	1·98
11. Mauritius . . .	1,67,68	1·08	2,74,67	1·8	2,06,15	1·35	2,62,55	1·64	2,69,36	1·60	2,52,05	1·41
12. Persia . . .	2,24,89	1·45	2,17,58	1·43	2,10,38	1·38	2,15,46	1·35	2,19,99	1·31	2,42,88	1·36
13. Australia . . .	3,07,47	1·99	2,52,92	1·66	1,55,78	1·03	1,15,49	0·72	2,14,97	1·28	1,92,51	1·07
14. Arabia . . .	1,38,23	0·894	1,42,44	0·936	1,67,60	1·1	1,97,74	1·24	1,86,58	1·11	1,88,76	1·05
15. Germany . . .	73,81	0·477	66,22	0·435	52,83	0·347	94,49	0·59	1,22,68	0·73	1,75,35	0·98
16. Zanzibar, Mozambique, and other ports on the East Coast of Africa.	1,05,65	0·68	89,47	0·59	1,03,21	0·68	1,28,50	0·80	1,83,40	1·09	1,53,31	0·86
17. Aden . . .	79,82	0·516	1,04,17	0·685	93,82	0·616	97,23	0·61	1,19,35	0·71	1,21,92	0·68
18. Japan . . .	30,49	0·197	49,20	0·323	29,89	0·196	43,16	0·27	74,82	0·44	1,06,11	0·59
19. Turkey in Asia	89,12	0·576	95,15	0·632	76,68	0·504	83,61	0·52	94,88	0·56	1,05,94	0·59

Italy.

The trade of the year with the United States, Italy, Australia, Ceylon, Mauritius, and the East Coast of Africa was less than in the preceding year but except in the case of Italy the decline was not of any special importance. Our imports from Italy increased largely, reaching about 50½ lakhs, the largest sum yet recorded, but our exports thither fell from 452·75 lakhs to 350 lakhs, the decline being in great measure due to a reduction in the exports of wheat. This trade with Italy has fluctuated greatly as the following figure shew:

	Cwts.	Rs. (lakhs).
1884-85 . . .	700,875	25·26
1885-86 . . .	1,218,269	44·68
1886-87 . . .	5,212,305	207·81
1887-88 . . .	3,073,764	128·40
1888-89 . . .	1,125,058	48·44

The abundant harvests of Southern Russia so lowered prices that the Italian grower of wheat found competition with Russian grain difficult, and Indian wheat of course was largely excluded.

There was also a large decrease in the exports of oilseeds in common with the exports of those articles to other countries, and our exports of raw silk are hardly a fifth of what they used to be.

Australia.

The decline in the trade with Australia is chiefly due to the practical cessation of the imports of Copper from the Colonies. The imports in the last five years have been:

1884-85 . . .	Cwt. 70,994
1885-86 . . .	" 49,377
1886-87 . . .	" 50,436
1887-88 . . .	" 71,840
1888-89 . . .	" 41,330

The decline of this trade was the direct result of the operations of the copper syndicate. Since its fall the imports of copper into India have been resumed.

United States.

There are two features of some importance in the trade with the United States: (1) the imports thence of Petroleum and (2) the exports thither of raw jute. In both of these items there was a considerable decline in the year:

Imports of Petroleum—		Exports of Jute—	
1884-85 . . .	26,026,608 gallons.	1,726,193	Cwt.
1885-86 . . .	20,229,350 "	1,705,259	"
1886-87 . . .	29,144,942 "	1,686,257	"
1887-88 . . .	25,040,517 "	2,330,800	"
1888-89 . . .	20,653,975 "	1,681,870	"

It is possible that the reduction in each case may be of more than temporary importance. The competition of Russian with American petroleum in India has become most active, and (unless there is truth in the rumours now being circulated that indications exist of the approaching exhaustion of the oil sources at Baku) will probably increase in vigour.

The action of the Bagging Trust in the United States in raising prices has provoked a movement amongst cotton balers for the exclusion of jute altogether and the substitution of cotton. The movement is referred to elsewhere. If it should be persisted in and be successful there may be a permanent reduction in the exports of jute to the States.

The decline in the trade with Zanzibar is probably occasioned by the disturbed *Zanzibar.* condition of the country since questions arose between the Germans and the natives. We received from Zanzibar much less cloves and sent thither comparatively little cotton goods, but on the other hand there was a considerable import of ivory.

Of the countries with which our trade has increased it is not necessary to make special reference to any but Austria, Belgium, Germany, and Japan because of the rapid expansion of our trade with them.

In the last five years the imports from Austria have increased about 61 *Austria.* per cent, and the exports thither of Indian goods about 30 per cent. The imports of apparel, hardware and cutlery, printing paper and stationery, silk (mixed) goods, soap, toys, and woollen goods, have greatly increased, the development of the trade in woollens being particularly marked.

The exports of cotton (two-thirds of the whole export trade), indigo, and jute, have increased in the same period, cotton especially.

From Belgium there has been a large increase in the imports of aniline and *Belgium.* alizarine dyes, window glass and glassware, hardware and cutlery, iron and steel, paints and colours, and woollen goods. Belgian imports to India have increased in the last five years 113 per cent. Our exports thither, consisting mainly of cotton, wheat, and oilseeds, have increased in the same period about 50 per cent. It must be said, however, that while the imports from Belgium have steadily augmented from year to year our exports have fluctuated much and that the increase here noted is due to an unusually large export of wheat and cotton last year. The trade in wheat is largely the result of the increased taxation of imported wheat by the French Government. To evade it the Belgians have been exporting bread across the frontier to France, so that the protective duty has mainly had the effect of injuring French millers and bakers.

Our imports from Germany are as yet small, but they have been increasing *Germany.* rapidly, having risen in five years from 9.28 lakhs to 24.80 lakhs (an increase of 167 per cent). The imports are of a very miscellaneous character, the most prominent items being woollen goods, salt, beer and spirits, hardware and cutlery, and aniline and alizarine dyes.

Our exports to Germany have increased in about the same proportion as the imports, rising in five years from 56.53 lakhs to 149.33 lakhs, the increase being 164 per cent. They consist mainly of cotton, indigo, jute, and oilseed. With the establishment of lines of steamers trading direct between India and North Germany this trade ought to continue to expand.

Imports from Japan are quite trifling, averaging less than three lakhs *Japan.* annually in the last five years, and there are no indications of an increase unless the imports of Copper should be resumed. The increase of the trade is in the exports of Indian goods which have increased as follows:

1884-85 . . .	27.84 lakhs
1885-86 . . .	27.35 "
1886-87 . . .	37.41 "
1887-88 . . .	71.20 "
1888-89 . . .	103.53 "

so that the trade has been nearly quadrupled in the five years. This increase is the result of the development of the cotton yarn trade, the value of Indian yarn having risen in this period from 26½ lakhs to 93¾ lakhs. There has been a large increase in the exports of gunny bags though as yet that trade is comparatively small.

Import Trade.

The values of imported merchandise during the last twenty years stand thus :

		Exchange.			Lakhs of Rs.
		d.			
1869-70 . . .		23'25			3292'75
1870-71 . . .		22'375			3334'82
1871-72 . . .		23'125			3081'08
1872-73 . . .		22'75			3047'30
1873-74 . . .		22'351			3162'85
	<i>Average</i>	22'770	<i>Average</i>		3183'76
1874-75 . . .		22'221			3,64'52
1875-76 . . .		21'645			3711'26
1876-77 . . .		20'491			3536'71
1877-78 . . .		20'79			3932'60
1878-79 . . .		19'761			3656'62
	<i>Average</i>	20'981	<i>Average</i>		3660'34
				(increase) =	14'97%
1879-80 . . .		19'961			3974'21
1880-81 . . .		19'956			5030'88
1881-82 . . .		19'895			4699'21
1882-83 . . .		19'525			5000'30
1883-84 . . .		19'536			5270'39
	<i>Average</i>	19'774	<i>Average</i>		4795'
				(increase) =	31' %
1884-85 . . .		19'308			5314'93
1885-86 . . .		18'254			5181'15
1886-87 . . .		17'441			5866'14
1887-88 . . .		16'899			6238'48
1888-89 . . .		16'379			6657'03
	<i>Average</i>	17'656	<i>Average</i>		5851'54
				(increase) =	22'03%

Taking the prices of March 1873 as = 100, the following table shews the variations in the prices of staple imports since then at Calcutta :

	Grey shirtings, 8½lb.	Mule twist, white, No. 40.	Mule twist, Turkey red, No. 40.	Copper, sheathing.	Iron, flat, bolt, &c.	Total.
March 1873 . . .	100	100	100	100	100	500
June 1874 . . .	97	92	106	95	108	498
March 1875 . . .	86	92	102	103	93	476
„ 1876 . . .	86	90	92	99	79	446
January 1877 . . .	78	90	85	92	67	412
„ 1878 . . .	73	78	87	86	60	384
„ 1879 . . .	76	75	78	80	56	365
„ 1880 . . .	81	84	75	83	73	396
„ 1881 . . .	82	82	69	81	56	370
„ 1882 . . .	78	84	69	89	71	391
„ 1883 . . .	82	74	54	80	60	350
„ 1884 . . .	75	74	62	77	62	350
„ 1885 . . .	76	72	58	64	54	324
„ 1886 . . .	84	67	57	57	50	315
„ 1887 . . .	81	62	57	65	53	318
„ 1888 . . .	79	75	59	90	61	364
„ 1889 . . .	81	75	57	98	65	376
July 1889 . . .	78	77	57	66	69	347

Grouping the imports under the general heads of the classification presented in the returns, the following figures shew the trade in the last five years :

I.— <i>Animals, living</i> (almost all horses):	Lakhs. 20·73 25·68 26·12 25·61 29·53	II.— <i>Articles of food and drink:</i>	Lakhs. 632·73 585·19 678·96 749·70 746·91
III.— <i>Metals and manufactures of metals, including machinery and mill-work, railway plant and rolling stock:</i>	876·50 855·32 836·11 1078·48 996·63	IV.— <i>Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials:</i>	87·39 86·16 95·29 102·25 124·73
V.— <i>Oils:</i>	122·95 96·11 140·84 148·68 207·28	VI.— <i>Raw materials and un-manufactured articles:</i>	305·22 325·19 314·91 394·40 411·57
VII.— <i>Manufactured and partly manufactured articles:</i>	3269·40 3207·49 3773·91 3739·35 4140·38		

The gross total value of all classes of imported merchandise amounted to the considerable sum of Rs. 66,57,03,181. This was Rs. 4,18,55,051—or 6·7 per cent—in excess of the previous year's trade, and very much the largest figure yet reached.

The great feature of the year was the expansion of the trade in cotton manufactures, the increase in which was over 400 lakhs, or but little less than the total increase in the import trade generally. It was in the main a speculative increase justified by the condition of the English manufacturing industry rather than by the condition of the Indian consuming market. Imports in the present year of yarn and of white piece goods are smaller than in the same period of last year, and it is probable, considering the condition of the Indian market and that manufacturers in England have agreed to work short time, that other kinds of cotton goods will decline too.

The imports of machinery and millwork, of coal, drugs, glass, oils, provisions, and umbrellas also increased more or less, the import of mineral oil, notwithstanding the imposition of a duty, being very large. An unsatisfactory feature is the considerable increase in the imports of grain. For many years, since the termination of the famine years in 1879, hardly any grain was imported by India, but this year there has been a relatively considerable import.

Trade was somewhat restricted in certain articles, but the restriction was of no special importance and represented only ordinary fluctuations, except in the cases of copper and salt. The importation of copper practically almost ceased during the year in consequence of the high level of prices maintained by the action of the Syndicate, and both the importation and consumption of salt were restricted as the result of the increase of duty in January 1888. Consumption is, however, increasing again.

ANIMALS, LIVING.

The number imported amounted to 7,483—a very large increase on the imports of previous years. There is a considerable and steady demand for horses for the tramways of Calcutta and Bombay and for remounts for the army. The new arrangements for the rearing of remounts in India will probably not shew any appreciable effect on the trade for some time to come.

ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.

As remarked before, the high level of prices in India and scarcity in various tracts have given a stimulus to this trade which was lacking after the termination of the last famine period. The imports in the last few years were insignificant :

1884-85 . . .	60,889	cwt.
1885-86 . . .	78,757	„
1886-87 . . .	47,003	„
1887-88 . . .	29,289	„
1888-89 . . .	326,758	„

Almost all the grain, consisting largely of wheat, was imported from the Persian Gulf and Arabia into Bombay and Sindh.

The importation of malt liquor in 1887-88 was the largest known until then, and last year the import was larger still. The quantity imported in each of the last five years was :

1,066,913	gallons.
1,299,408	„
1,715,638	„
2,138,518	„
2,398,580	„

The development in the last three years is no doubt due to the importation of very light ales, foreign and English, which people may drink without serious apprehension of the consequences. The increase in the consumption of imported ales has not, however, apparently interfered with the production of beer in India. This continues to increase, and, as will be seen from the figures appended, the quantity brewed in India is now more than double the quantity imported. Deducting the purchases for the army the quantity of Indian beer available for the civil population last year was about as large as the quantity of beer imported. The competition between the two has become effective since

breweries have been established in the plains, and it may be said that the industry has taken firm root. Its progress in the last twelve years is noteworthy:

	Total production. Gallons.	Bought for Troops. Gallons.		Total production. Gallons.	Bought for Troops. Gallons.
1877	2,162,888	954,933	1883	2,597,298	2,027,169
1878	1,522,769	869,276	1884	2,778,680	2,030,499
1879	1,569,026	872,296	1885	3,150,342	2,256,801
1880	1,974,578	1,298,773	1886	4,317,724	3,339,361
1881	2,448,711	1,764,927	1887	4,860,282	4,178,628
1882	2,594,667	1,699,914	1888	5,299,919	3,141,227

The importation of Spirits was also large—1,119,367 gallons, of which 367,361 gallons whisky and 351,370 gallons brandy. For some years past the consumption of whisky has been overtaking that of brandy which until last year was still imported in the largest quantities. Whisky now leads the list of spirits in India. The importation of wines and liqueurs makes no progress.

The increase in the imports of salted fish is remarkable:

Salted fish.

	lbs.
1884-85	12,153,960
1885-86	11,249,600
1886-87	12,165,889
1887-88	13,214,188
1888-89	19,780,445

The bulk of the fish is brought to Burma from the Straits and the sudden activity of the trade last year followed on the increase of the salt duty there in January 1888 from three annas a maund to one rupee a maund. Imported fish is not taxed, and the local fish curers found, after the increase of the salt duty, that competition with the imported article was difficult. The local salt manufacturers, on the other hand, found themselves by reason of certain administrative arrangements in an excellent position for underselling imported salt and took advantage of the occasion. Special enquiry into both results of the increase of duty on imported salt has been in progress since last March under the orders of the Government of India and possibly it may be found necessary eventually to take measures to equalise the incidence of the salt tax on imported salt fish and on that locally made with taxed salt as well as on locally made and imported salt.

The importation of Flour still continues though on a decreasing scale. *Flour.* The flour mills in Bombay not only supply local requirements almost entirely but are able to export largely, while the Calcutta mills are not only not able to export but cannot meet the local demand which was supplied by the importation last year of about 1,126,000 lbs. from Hongkong, Singapore, Australia, and other places.

The imports decreased by about 6 per cent, falling from 423,897 tons to *Salt.* 398,810 tons. Salt is imported practically into only Bengal and Burma, the imports into Bombay, Sindh and Madras being relatively trifling. The causes of the decline of last year may be thus stated: (1) the increase in the rate of duty, which was raised in January 1888 in Bengal from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2½ the maund and in Burma from three annas to one rupee the maund, undoubtedly restricted consumption; (2) in Burma there had been an abnormally large

import just before the increase of duty, speculators having probably obtained information of the intention of Government: the large stocks thus accumulated were of course drawn on and exhausted before new supplies were landed at the higher rate of duty; (3) local manufacture, as stated in the preceding paragraph, was very active in Burma for many months after the increase of duty and has indeed continued active even up to the present; (4) salted fish, cured with untaxed salt and imported free of duty, to some extent took the place of fish cured locally with taxed salt; (5) the Chinese administration of Yunnan has interfered to prevent the importation of salt from Upper Burma into that province and has materially reduced the dimensions of what was an active trade; (6) the price of imported salt, irrespective of the increase of duty, has been greatly increased, apparently in consequence of the action of the English Salt Syndicate, as will be seen from the annexed statement of the average prices of Liverpool salt in Calcutta, exclusive of duty:

		Rupees per 100 maunds.	
1881-82	. . .	51.9	to 60.4
1882-83	. . .	48.9	„ 55.9
1883-84	. . .	56.3	„ 62.3
1884-85	. . .	52.5	„ 57.9
1885-86	. . .	55.9	„ 60.6
1886-87	. . .	68.5	„ 74.4
1887-88	. . .	73.5	„ 80.8
1888-89	. . .	88.3	„ 102.6

The increase of price occurred in January 1888, just when the duty was raised and prices were kept until the following May at an extraordinarily high level. They fell in June but rose again and still remain (in August 1889) at a level of about 22 to 31 per cent higher than in December 1887. The prices for each month of these years are given here:

	1887-88.		1888-89.		1889-90.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
April . . .	62.75	— 67.25	120.5	— 138.75	88.8	— 94
May . . .	57.2	— 62.2	110.2	— 137.4	85.62	— 90
June . . .	58.25	— 62.87	77.4	— 133.5	85.7	— 92.2
July . . .	60.1	— 64.5	77.37	— 94.63	87.5	— 94.25
August . . .	55.62	— 60.75	77.25	— 94	86.3	— 94.4
September . . .	55	— 62	69.38	— 74.25		
October . . .	57.38	— 61.5	78.5	— 83		
November . . .	61	— 65.5	85.25	— 91.25		
December . . .	70.5	— 72	90.25	— 96.75		
January . . .	78.2	— 88.2	92.3	— 97.8		
February . . .	128.75	— 149	90.37	— 96.25		
March . . .	137.75	— 154.25	90.5	— 94.25		

This increase, it may be repeated, is in addition to the increase of price caused by the elevation of duty.

The circumstances stated sufficiently account for the decline in the salt trade of last year. It should be noted that imports actually declined only in

Burma. In Bengal there was a substantial increase, but the increased importations more than kept pace with consumption, for while the imports increased by 6 per cent the quantity bonded increased by 67 per cent. At the end of the last three years the quantity bonded was :

	Bengal.	Burma.
	Tons.	Tons.
March 1887 . . .	32,081	1,718
„ 1888 . . .	41,583	3,270
„ 1889 . . .	69,660	15,533

The increase of price in Bengal caused by the action of the Salt Syndicate ought to have had the effect of enabling Sámbar salt to compete with Liverpool salt closer to the coast than had previously been feasible, for the increase is from 15 to 20 rupees per 100 maunds, but the railways find it more profitable to carry Liverpool salt from Calcutta up the line than to bring salt from Sámbar and Agra down the line. They have therefore given more favourable rates to Liverpool salt and by preventing competition have kept up the price of salt to the people.

The operations of the Italian Company at Aden, referred to in previous reviews as having obtained a monopoly of the manufacture of salt at that place, are beginning to shew prominently in the trade accounts. The importation of salt from Aden commenced in 1886-87 with 2,325 tons; they amounted the following year to 15,004 tons; last year we imported from Aden 17,397 tons.

A recovery of prices in Europe has had the effect of diminishing the imports into India and also of interrupting the trade which had been stimulated by depressed markets in Europe in the export of refined sugar from England, the Continent, and Java, to India. Practically all the imports of last year were from Mauritius, China, and the Straits, as used to be the case until within the last three or four years:

	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
United Kingdom . . .	30,605	19,279	37,340	47,297	617
Mauritius	1,265,937	896,772	1,377,041	1,296,648	1,406,215
China	221,814	190,556	244,859	316,035	115,814
Straits Settlements . . .	44,236	38,754	53,842	92,626	89,927
The European Continent . .	16,981	272	11,637	12,840	2,355
Other countries	37,301	25,533	24,836	43,033	2,782
TOTAL	1,616,874	1,171,186	1,749,555	1,808,479	1,617,710

The imports were on a larger scale than has yet been known, amounting to 4,767,004 lbs. with a declared value of 31.79 lakhs. The bulk of the imports is from China and the Straits into Bombay. Thence about half was reshipped chiefly to the ports in the Persian Gulf whence it is distributed in Persia and the adjacent countries. A considerable quantity is also sent by land from Bombay through India into Northern and Southern Afghanistan. Indian tea-planters apparently do not find this trade good enough for them as yet.

METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS.

Copper.

The effect of the high prices of Copper maintained by the French Syndicate which recently collapsed is clearly manifest in the reduced imports of the year :

	Cwt.
1884-85 . . .	552,420
1885-86 . . .	652,973
1886-87 . . .	615,049
1887-88 . . .	532,635
1888-89 . . .	98,490

Importations in the first three months of the present year are already three times as large as they were in the same period of last year.

Iron and Steel.

The importations of Iron fell away somewhat though still remaining at a high level, while the imports of Steel increased: they have about doubled in five years :

	Iron. Cwt.	Steel. Cwt.
1884-85 . . .	3,602,276	289,928
1885-86 . . .	3,493,179	278,788
1886-87 . . .	3,280,389	349,317
1887-88 . . .	4,321,587	420,927
1888-89 . . .	4,002,793	542,388

No practical development of the iron making industry has as yet been made in India. The Barákar Works, where an industry of the first magnitude might be created by the expenditure of capital and the application of skill, are still limited to the production of cast iron in comparatively trifling quantities, although the State and the public require and import close on a quarter of a million tons of iron and steel yearly, without including the quantities imported in other shapes such as machinery and millwork and railway material.

Imports of Lead and Tin increased, those of Quicksilver and Spelter declined, the latter heavily.

Machinery and Millwork.

The continued progress made in manufacturing enterprise and in the tea industry in India requires the importation of large quantities of machinery yearly. Last year's imports were exceptionally large as a consequence of the opening of several new mills in different parts of India :

	Rs.
1884-85 . . .	1,48,41,238
1885-86 . . .	99,15,532
1886-87 . . .	1,37,14,591
1887-88 . . .	1,80,02,178
1888-89 . . .	2,31,68,714

Railway plant and rolling-stock.

A small decline in the imports which were valued at 249'32 lakhs against 257'76 lakhs in the year before. These figures do not include importations on account of the Government.

CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES AND NARCOTICS, AND DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS.

Chemicals.

Value in 1887-88 20'14 lakhs; value last year 25'67 lakhs, the increase resulting principally from a larger trade in dynamite.

The very low price to which Quinine has fallen has greatly stimulated its *Quinine.* import. The average import recently has been between 12 and 13,000 lbs., but last year we imported over 24,000 lbs. The fall in price has enabled quinine to more than resume its place in India and has for the time slightly restricted the use of the alkaloids made in the country.

No less than 52½ million ounces of aniline and alizarine dyes, worth *Dyeing materials.* 27·80 lakhs, were imported last year. Comparison with previous years is not possible because alizarine dyes, which are now grouped with aniline, were not until last year enumerated at all. But it is certain that the increase is very large, and the actual quantity imported is assuming quite formidable proportions considering the injury done by the use of these dyes in fabrics of the superior kinds.

Total value of imports in this class :

	1887-88. Lakhs.	1888-89. Lakhs.
Chemicals	20·14	25·67
Drugs, Medicines and Narcotics	43·96	56·96
Dyeing and Tanning materials	38·15	42·10
	<u>102 25</u>	<u>124·73</u>

OILS.

The importation of Mineral Oil has made remarkable progress in the *Mineral Oil.* last few years :

	Gallons.	Rs. (lakhs).
1883-84	13,883,838	56·17
1884-85	27,306,999	115·82
1885-86	21,311,942	85·18
1886-87	31,949,633	125·99
1887-88	31,421,559	127·45
1888-89	39,951,885	186·13

It will be seen that the quantity imported last year—nearly 40 million gallons—was almost three times as large as the imports of six years ago. The fact is that, as has been stated in previous reviews, the use of mineral oil as an illuminant is now quite common in India, and is indeed in urban tracts the rule rather than the exception.

Russian oil, the importation of which commenced only three years ago, is competing with remarkable activity with American oil, as will be seen from the following figures. It is said to be on the whole not quite equal to American oil in quality, but it is appreciably cheaper :

	From United States. Gallons.	From Russia. Gallons.
1883-84	12,715,837	...
1884-85	26,026,608	...
1885-86	20,229,350	...
1886-87	20,144,942	1,577,392
1887-88	25,040,517	5,036,055
1888-89	20,653,075	17,516,002

These large importations of mineral oil have affected the domestic economy of the natives in two ways: the oil has displaced vegetable oils, and the tinned iron cans in which the import is made have in many places displaced the earthen jar and the brass pot to a large extent. An importation of 30 or 40 million gallons of oil means also an importation of from 6 to 8 million cans of 5 gallons each. These millions of cans were for some considerable time cut up by tinsmiths for the manufacture of other articles, but now they are also commonly used to hold and convey grain and other stores, water and other liquids, and they are amongst the most common objects in an Indian bazaar. They are also used, ingeniously if unornamentally, as building materials in the repairs of roofs.

Vegetable Oils.

The increase in the importation of vegetable oils is noteworthy considering that India produces them herself and exports them:

	Cocoanut.	Earthnut.	Linseed.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1884-85 . . .	40,796	94,289	247,057
1885-86 . . .	220,567	166,342	297,185
1886-87 . . .	556,562	134,656	307,943
1887-88 . . .	684,017	517,727	310,448
1888-89 . . .	711,056	449,954	386,799

Mauritius and Ceylon send us the cocoanut oil; the earthnut oil we import from the Straits; the linseed from England.

RAW MATERIALS AND UNMANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

Coal.

Imports were slightly smaller (833,478 tons) than the unusually large quantity (848,878 tons) imported in the previous year. Bombay takes about three-fourths of the imports. In India in 1888, 1,695,466 tons of coal were raised, the bulk (1,380,594 tons) in Bengal where the quantity of coal imported was only 19,376 tons. If coasting freights were reduced Bengal could supply coal to Burma, Madras, and Bombay.

Coal represents close on half of the total value of imports in this class. Of the rest the following list contains the important items:

	Rs. (lakhs).
Raw Silk	90'59
Ivory	29'45
Precious Stones and Pearls	16'24
Raw Cotton	15'06
Gums and Resins	14'89
Raw Wool	12'49

Nothing in the circumstances of the trade in these articles calls for particular observation.

ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED.

Cotton manufactures.

In Twist and Yarn there was an increased trade, following on the increase recorded in the preceding year, the figures being:

	lbs.	Rs. (lakhs).
1883-84	45,378,956	346'59
1884-85	45,799,637	336'04
1885-86	45,915,123	317'21
1886-87	49,013,979	331'84
1887-88	51,542,549	358'19
1888-89	52,587,181	374'68

The largest part of the increase in the trade in 1887-88 occurred in Burma, into which province last year's imports were much smaller. In Bombay and Bengal they were also much smaller, but Madras and Sindh imported cotton yarns in very large quantities. The trade of the two years in each province is exhibited below (in thousands of yards):

	1887-88.	1888-89.
Bengal . . .	15,453	15,056
Bombay . . .	15,374	15,005
Sindh . . .	1,676	2,683
Madras . . .	13,758	15,813
Burma . . .	5,281	4,029

Comparing the trade of last year with that of 1883-84 it will be found that while the quantity has increased about 16 per cent, the value has increased by only about 8 per cent, indicating a heavy reduction in prices.

In *Cotton piece goods* of all sorts—grey, white, and coloured—the trade is as follows:

	Yards.	Lakhs of rupees.
1882-83 . . .	1,640,595,021	2095.68
1883-84 . . .	1,721,852,195	2116.54
1884-85 . . .	1,731,565,005	2069.51
1885-86 . . .	1,740,813,831	2059.67
1886-87 . . .	2,155,419,391	2535.58
1887-88 . . .	1,839,741,882	2331.72
1888-89 . . .	2,126,247,806	2716.01

The value of Cotton manufactures (excluding Twist and Yarn) during the five years is:

Lakhs.
2119.74
2111.05
2584.65
2392.44
2776.45

The very active trade of 1887-88 in Silks and Woollens was caused by importations into Burma. The business was overdone and last year's imports into that province were on a more restricted scale. In Bombay also they were more limited.

The failure of the Woollen Mills at Dhariwal in the Panjab has been a blow to the industry, but it must be noted that the failure was in no way due to any causes of a general nature affecting the expansion of the industry in India. The causes were quite special, and it is probable that under better conditions of management the mills will be reopened and commence a prosperous career. In any case their place is already filled by mills which have commenced work in

Of the other articles enumerated in this class the following are the most important. The value of the trade in each of the last two years is specified :

	1887-88. Rs. (lakhs).	1888-89. Rs. (lakhs).
Arms and ammunition	11'56	14'83
Books and printed matter	18'17	21'41
Building materials	11'66	16'32
Cabinet-ware and furniture	8'97	10'06
Candles	9'79	7'80
Carriages and carts	6'67	7'25
Clocks and watches	11'84	10'07
Corals, real	16'02	14'18
Earthenware and porcelain	22'36	22'48
Glass and glassware	57'89	65'80
Instruments and apparatus :		
Musical	7'81	9'15
Scientific	8'05	9'21
Jewellery and Plate	9'69	11'63
Matches	24'35	19'45
Paints and colours, and painters' materials	26'53	30'79
Leather and leather goods excluding Boots and Shoes	14'97	16'69
Paper and pasteboard	41'83	41'05
Ships, parts of	19'59	18'91
Soap	9'49	10'23
Stationery	21'91	22'38
Toys and requisites for games	13'95	15'80
Umbrellas	37'13	41'06

On the whole, this list seems to shew that in respect of these smaller articles, the increased imports of most of which may be taken as indicating progress amongst the people, the standard of comfort has been fairly maintained. Candles are imported in smaller quantities, but they have been practically superseded by mineral oil except in Burma where it is meritorious to place lighted candles before shrines, and there was besides a heavy import in the previous year. Corals have also declined, chiefly in consequence of the complications with Thibet. Clocks and watches are smaller in value, as well as in numbers, and matches were imported in excessive quantity in 1887-88, and there was a decline last year. Parts of Ships were imported very largely in 1887-88 for use in Burma, and there was a slight decline last year.

In each of the other articles there was a material increase, and it may be said that in regard to imports of these classes the fall in exchange has been compensated by the fall in price, that they are obtained now as cheaply as ten years ago, and occasionally more cheaply, and that exchange has not operated to restrict consumption in this country.

The smallness of the imports of Soap will attract attention. The people of India do not spend on an average more than four-fifths of a pie (say at present rates of exchange one-third of a farthing) annually on imported soap. There is but little soap made in India, but if the imports are multiplied by three to take account of local manufacture the average cost of the soap consumed in India is about one farthing per head of the population annually. In a warm climate the consumption might well be somewhat larger.

Some people seem to think the importation of Umbrellas a curiosity, but if it is considered that about, say, $4\frac{1}{2}$ million umbrellas are imported annually for a population which is now about 260 millions it will probably be admitted that the imports, though increasing, are insufficient, especially seeing that there is no manufacture as yet in India of either ribs or covering or indeed any part of an umbrella.

Re-export Trade.

The figures of the trade for the last six years are as follows :

Rs. (lakhs).	Increase or decrease compared with previous year.
303'56	+ 8'3%
288'73	— 4'9%
309'31	+ 7'1%
351'96	+ 13'8%
410'14	+ 16'5%
433'54	+ 5'7%

This trade has increased nearly 43 per cent in the last six years, and is now beginning to be of some importance although small compared with the exports of Indian produce.

The following are the main items of the re-export trade, with their values (ooo's omitted) :

	1886-87. Rs.	1887-88. Rs.	1888-89. Rs.
<i>Articles of Food and Drink :</i>			
Provisions	9,71	13,94	12,60
Spices	9,45	22,20	17,44
Sugar (refined)	19,72	18,30	20,07
Tea	15,51	12,80	20,58
<i>Metals and Metalware :</i>			
Hardware and Cutlery	3,67	3,85	4,49
Copper	3,48	19,55	3,77
Iron	8,96	8,10	8,19
<i>Chemicals, Drugs, &c.</i>	5,76	5,17	5,53
<i>Raw materials :</i>			
Gums and Resins	3,97	6,05	10,94
Ivory (unmanufactured)	17,22	18,24	20,92
Silk	3,60	4,21	4,27
Wool	44,32	52,25	61,95
<i>Manufactured Goods :</i>			
Cotton twist and yarn	8,11	6,93	11,15
Cotton manufactures, piece goods, &c.	1,49,07	1,64,83	1,70,52
Silk manufactures	3,76	4,65	6,44
Woollen manufactures	4,60	5,57	7,74
Apparel	8,39	9,22	9,13
Glassware	2,29	3,12	3,71

Most of this trade is concentrated in Western India, the value of re-exports from Bombay last year being Rs. 3,60,88,614 and from Karáchi Rs. 51,13,284, the trade from these two ports being thus 95 per cent of the whole.

The only heavy decrease in the list stands against Copper. It was explained in the review of the trade of 1887-88 that shipments of copper were sent to England attracted by high prices: last year there were no such exports.

The export of foreign tea was largely in excess of the trade of previous years. Most of it was sent to the coasts of the Persian Gulf from Bombay, the total quantity exported amounting to 2,328,756 pounds. The dimensions of the trade are large enough to attract the attention of tea-planters and merchants in India.

The countries with which the re-export trade is chiefly carried on are stated below. Values are given in rupees, the last three figures being omitted:

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
United Kingdom	89,67	1,19,17	1,22,24
Persia	1,01,83	1,01,15	1,12,91
Straits	26,23	35,19	30,01
East Coast of Africa, Zanzibar, and Mozambique	26,38	30,24	27,74
Arabia	25,82	24,66	30,62
Turkish Arabia	21,28	22,64	27,75
Aden	9,71	15,59	18,74
China	10,13	13,80	13,05
Ceylon	9,02	9,42	12,34
Mauritius	9,66	8,98	11,21
United States	5,71	6,06	2,38

Most of the wool, ivory, and gums goes to the United Kingdom. There was a notable decline in the trade to the United States, much of the decrease being under the head of Spices (cloves). It may be that direct trade is developing between Europe, America and the East African Coast for the produce of which Bombay has been so largely used as a depôt.

Exports of Indian produce and manufacture.

The figures for the last ten years are as follow:

	Lakhs of rupees.	Increase or decrease per cent.
1879-80	6495'08	+ 10'6
1880-81	7197'41	+ 10'8
1881-82	7925'52	+ 10'1
1882-83	8059'81	+ 1'7
1883-84	8508'57	+ 5'5
1884-85	8031'32	- 5'6
1885-86	8073'47	+ 0'5
1886-87	8490'90	+ 5'2
1887-88	8637'	+ 1'7
1888-89	9264'27	+ 7'2

It will be seen that the progress of the trade was interrupted in 1884-85 and that it did not fully recover until 1887-88 when the value reached and exceeded the level of four years previously. The advance made in 1887-88 has been maintained and improved in 1888-89.

Classifying the articles in the export trade in the same way as in the import trade, the following figures shew the relative importance of each class :

I.—Animals, living :

1883-84.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
12,78,636	13,41,821	11,21,462

II.—Articles of food and drink :

24,81,18,037	23,82,96,975	24,84,19,096
--------------	--------------	--------------

III.—Metals and Manufactures of Metals :

4,25,856	5,49,430	5,35,231
----------	----------	----------

IV.—Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning Materials :

16,80,96,217	15,10,79,435	15,58,54,613
--------------	--------------	--------------

V.—Oils :

49,59,768	47,10,555	43,03,061
-----------	-----------	-----------

VI.—Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles :

34,94,33,396	35,60,01,532	38,50,99,114
--------------	--------------	--------------

VII.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured :

7,85,45,295	11,17,20,470	13,10,94,769
-------------	--------------	--------------

Comparing last year with that which preceded it, we find a substantial increase in articles of food and drink, a large increase in raw materials and in manufactured articles, and a small increase under drugs, narcotics, &c.

If we compare the figures of last year with those of 1883-84, six years before, we find remarkable and most satisfactory progress under manufactured articles, the increase being about 67 per cent. The only other class which has substantially progressed in the same period is that of raw materials, in which the increase is a little over 10 per cent. In none of the other classes is there any increase worth mentioning and in some there has been a decline.

Comparing now the particular articles of the trade in the last two years, their values appear as follow (ooo's omitted) :

	1887-88.	1888-89.
1. Grain and pulse	15,54,05	15,94,37
2. Cotton, raw	14,41,28	15,04,56
3. Opium	10,06,78	10,50,81
4. Seeds	9,38,50	9,56,17
5. Jute, raw	6,04,04	7,89,71
6. Cotton manufactures	5,22,79	6,37,46
7. Tea	5,17,44	5,26,73
8. Hides and Skins	4,85,24	4,74,35
9. Indigo	3,89,06	3,94,86
10. Jute manufactures	1,74,64	2,57,15
11. Coffee	1,52,97	1,88,42
12. Wool, raw	97,23	96,87

ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.

Coffee.

The exports of 1887-88⁸ reached only 273,775 cwt., those of the year previous having been 370,458 cwt. But the value rose from 150.22 lakhs to 152.97 lakhs in consequence of a great rise in price caused partly by failure of the Brazilian coffee crop and partly by speculation. Last year's exports amounted to 365,299 cwt. The prices of Coffee per cwt. stood thus in London :

	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
January	54s. 6d.	78s. 6d.	72s. 6d.	89s.
April	58s.	91s.	69s. 6d.	91s.
June	57s. 6d.	91s.	72s.	88s. 6d.
December	74s.	88s.	87s. 6d.	

Under the influence of the excessively high prices which have prevailed since the end of 1886 and with a good harvest, the exports last year were active, but the trade generally has no promising features of future development, and it is doubtful whether it will a few years hence maintain even its present level.

Rice not in the husk.

The trade was bad last year. In 1887-88 although the exports from Burma were low, Bengal rice was shipped in quantities which more than made up the deficiency from Burma. Last year, however, the exports from Bengal declined greatly for the harvest was inferior and prices kept at a high level. From Burma they have also fallen off, with the result that the aggregate of the trade gives unsatisfactory figures :

	Cwt. .	Lakhs of rupees.
1882-83	31,029,721	844.01
1883-84	26,831,715	832.89
1884-85	21,702,136	712.28
1885-86	27,813,844	916.72
1886-87	26,460,500	876.48
1887-88	28,148,706	922.51
1888-89	22,768,229	784.53

Attached are the exports from each province for the last five years :

Exports of Rice (husked) in cwts. (000's omitted).

	Burma.	Bengal.	Madras.	Bombay.	Sindh.
1884-85	13,507	6,035	1,403	677	80
1885-86	19,084	6,879	1,181	521	149
1886-87	18,216	5,902	1,564	639	139
1887-88	17,879	7,996	1,438	764	72
1888-89	14,205	6,417	1,538	589	19

The exports from Burma have fallen steadily since 1885-86, bad crops and high prices in Lower Burma combining with a great demand for Upper Burma, both for the consumption of the people as well as of the troops and military police, to restrict the quantity available for export. In the current year, however, exports are progressing up to the present on a considerable scale, the harvest of 1888, which is now being shipped, having been much better than those of the two preceding years.

The countries to which Indian rice is exported are these :

	1886-87. Cwt.	1887-88. Cwt.	1888-89. Cwt.
<i>Europe :</i>			
• United Kingdom	8,108,021	6,843,115	4,260,371
Malta	1,119,230	913,511	1,213,171
France	89,280	241,755	229,509
Egypt	4,370,150	7,100,118	6,327,791
Italy	63,597	19,778	78,685
Germany	128,316	360,578	37,821
Other countries	18,443	6,607	39
TOTAL	<u>13,897,037</u>	<u>15,485,462</u>	<u>12,147,387</u>
<i>Asia :</i>			
Ceylon	3,027,752	3,470,427	3,331,373
Straits	4,434,999	3,202,961	3,050,336
Arabia and Aden	1,380,454	1,340,012	982,239
Persia	216,116	288,739	105,521
Other countries	429,804	349,778	194,556
TOTAL	<u>9,489,125</u>	<u>8,651,917</u>	<u>7,664,025</u>
<i>Africa :</i>			
Mauritius, Réunion, and Eastern Coast	1,868,571	2,398,368	1,579,207
Other countries	129,050	167,783	148,806
TOTAL	<u>1,997,621</u>	<u>2,566,151</u>	<u>1,728,013</u>
<i>America :</i>			
West Indies	288,688	444,616	307,653
South America	732,335	914,317	849,234
United States	29	15,018	5,005
Canada	10,010	...	...
TOTAL	<u>1,031,062</u>	<u>1,373,951</u>	<u>1,161,892</u>
<i>Australia</i>	<u>45,654</u>	<u>71,225</u>	<u>66,661</u>

The exports to Europe (including therein for this purpose Egypt, as the shipments to that country are only nominally trade with it, being to Port Saïd for orders) were about 53 per cent of the whole : in 1887-88 they were 55 per cent of the whole. The lesser half is all used for food in Asiatic countries and in cooly-employed colonies elsewhere. The rice sent to Europe is more largely used for distillation and the manufacture of starch than for food.

The exports of rice from Saigon and Bangkok are large, and increasingly important from the latter place. In the last five years the exports have been :

	From Saigon. Tons.	From Bangkok. Tons.
1884	508,767	279,036
1885	436,905	217,179
1886	495,839	215,381
1887	406,541	402,165
1888	498,291	455,541

The two ports exported last year 953,832 tons against 1,138,411 tons exported from India. Their exports to Europe only reached about 178,000 tons,

their principal customers being in China, the Straits, and the Eastern Archipelago. In these regions these two ports have practically thrust Indian rice from the market.

Wheat.

The exports of the last six years have been :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
20,956,495	887.75
15,830,754	630.91
21,060,519	800.23
22,263,320	862.58
13,538,169	556.24
17,610,081	752.27

The principal countries to which India has exported wheat in the same period are (in cwts., 000's omitted) :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
United Kingdom	10,508	7,445	12,071	9,667	6,040	9,038
Belgium . . .	2,593	1,738	2,661	2,404	596	2,478
France . . .	3,398	3,312	2,145	2,803	2,559	3,131
Italy . . .	445	701	1,218	5,212	3,074	1,125
Egypt . . .	3,306	2,149	2,295	1,317	660	1,658
Other countries .	706	486	669	860	609	180

Exportation was on a restricted scale, although much larger than in 1887-88, and in the present year the trade has fallen off again.

The table appended shews the exports from each province in each of the last six years (in cwts., 000's omitted) :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Bombay . . .	8,971	8,993	10,609	12,606	8,541	10,654
Sind . . .	4,373	4,272	6,241	2,614	661	4,004
Bengal . . .	7,611	2,563	4,190	7,038	4,335	2,951

The wheat harvest in those tracts whence Calcutta is supplied for export was a failure, the crops being more or less deficient in Behar, Oudh, and the North-Western Provinces. Prices at the same time ranged very high, and hence exports from Calcutta fell to a very low level. In the Central Provinces, Berar, the Punjab, and Sindh, on the other hand the wheat harvest was good throughout—in some tracts excellent—and exportation was active from Bombay and Karáchi.

In connection with the discussion at present proceeding touching the need of improving the quality of Indian wheat by the elimination of dirt, it may be pointed out that the most effectual way of doing this is to adopt the American system of elevators. The Russians are now introducing them in order to be better able to compete with India, and as they must be introduced here sooner or later the sooner the thing is done the better. While the exports from India have been on a comparatively small scale during the last two years and are likely to continue small for a third year, the Russian exports of wheat, with a succession of splendid harvests, have been very large in the last two years especially in 1888. The quantities exported were :

	Cwt.
1886 . . .	25,581,000
1887 . . .	38,247,000
1888 . . .	59,305,000

which was more than three times our export last year.

The trade in Flour was but little larger than in the previous year, amounting to 36,290,371 lbs. It is to be hoped that the trade is as yet very far from its limit of expansion. The exports so far are chiefly to Aden and Arabia, Ceylon and the Straits, Mauritius, Zanzibar, Abyssinia, and Cape Colony, practically none of our wheat-flour going to Europe which takes the bulk of our wheat. Flour.

Pepper and ginger are the only two of commercial importance. The trade was rather larger than in the previous year, aggregating 56 lakhs against 52. Spices.

There is no improvement to record in the exports of either raw or refined Sugar :

Refined. Cwt.	Raw. Cwt.
203,693	1,426,827
55,323	1,015,596
24,942	1,142,598
33,340	953,066
37,723	1,008,565
34,523	978,955

Exports still continue to increase from year to year :

lbs. (000's omitted).	Rs. (lakhs).
59,912	408.39
64,162	404.47
68,784	430.61
78,703	472.80
87,514	517.44
97,011	526.73

The London market, as usual, absorbed the bulk of the exports, which were thus distributed :

	1887-88. lbs.	1888-89. lbs.
United Kingdom .	84,182,275	93,222,078
Australia . .	2,471,927	2,880,596
Straits . .	380,271	81,222
Persian Gulf .	319,904	461,337
United States .	54,324	154,828

And the remainder in trifling quantities to other countries.

While the imports of Indian tea into England continue to increase, those of Chinese tea continue to diminish. The following are the imports from India and China into England in the last five years (quantity stated in lbs., 000's omitted) :

	From India.	From China.
1884 . . .	63,208	143,771
1885 . . .	64,382	139,673
1886 . . .	73,467	145,308
1887 . . .	84,645	119,799
1888 . . .	89,847	105,735

The Australian market has a present capacity for about 30 million pounds of tea annually, the imports into the Colonies in the season 1888-89 having been

24,125,000 pounds from China and only 3 million pounds from India and Ceylon. The United States and Canadian markets take probably from 70 to 80 million pounds. The trade with Australia is slowly expanding, but Indian tea seems as far off as ever from getting a hold of the American markets.

CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES AND NARCOTICS, DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS.

Chinchona bark. There has been a further advance in the trade, the quantity exported having risen from 1,286,900 lbs. in 1886-87 to 1,449,313 lbs. in 1887-88, and to 3,074,090 lbs. last year. This expansion was accompanied by a largely reduced value, the result of a fall in prices which has been so heavy that chinchona has been sold below the cost of production. Production in fact has outrun consumption for the time being. Nearly the whole of the export is from Madras, the bark produced in Bengal (at least in the Government plantations) being manufactured there for consumption in India. It may be said in this connection that it is now made into sulphate of quinine at a cost which is not higher than that of the imported drug, low as that is.

Opium.

The exports were :

	Chests.	Lakhs of rupees.
1882-83	91,798	1148.13
1883-84	91,963	1129.44
1884-85	86,578	1088.26
1885-86	87,956	1073.55
1886-87	95,839	1107.77
1887-88	90,096	1006.77
1888-89	87,789	1050.81

The average price of 1886-87 (Rs. 1,155 a chest) was $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent lower than five years ago (Rs. 1,250 a chest), and in 1887-88 it was lower still (Rs. 1,117 a chest). Last year, however, the average value rose to Rs. 1,197 a chest.

The exports were thus distributed :

	1887-88. Chests.	1888-89. Chests.
China—Hong-Kong	59,508	56,166
„ —Treaty Ports	17,307	16,725
Straits	12,368	13,995
Cochin-China	670	725
Ceylon	102	90
Mauritius	67	5
United Kingdom	54	51
Zanzibar	19	18
Natal	1	13
Arabia	...	1

Indigo.

This is one of those long established trades of India, like Opium and Silk, which give no indication of progress. The exports of the last seven years were as follow :

Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
141,041	391.30
168,590	464.10
154,629	406.89
132,495	378.31
138,396	369.17
139,644	389.06
142,447	394.86

The exports in the last three years have been thus distributed :

	1886-87. Cwt.	1887-88. Cwt.	1888-89. Cwt.
To United Kingdom .	53,152	56,986	59,762
„ United States .	28,133	21,350	25,123
„ France . . .	14,171	17,406	11,492
„ Egypt . . .	14,650	13,154	13,555
„ Austria-Hungary .	9,357	11,780	10,994
„ Persia . . .	7,445	5,229	5,022
„ Germany . . .	4,596	6,392	8,088
„ Asiatic Turkey .	3,748	2,841	3,073
„ Russia . . .	416	1,668	2,199
„ Italy . . .	1,407	1,533	1,610

Prices ruled very high during the year.

OILS.

This trade did badly last year, the value of the exports falling from 47'10 lakhs to 43'03 lakhs, the result chiefly of a restricted export of castor oil, for which there was but a limited demand in England and Australia, the two countries to which this oil is mainly exported. Coconut oil, which is mainly shipped to England, the Continent, and the United States (for use principally as a basis in the preparation of toilet oils and soaps), was more largely shipped. But our trade in oils is not progressive as the figures for the five years will shew :

53'40 lakhs
39'55 „
45'88 „
47'10 „
43'03 „

and it is perhaps useless to expect any substantial development as long as the bulk of the exports consists of castor and coconut. In course of time when India begins to manufacture oil from the linseed, rapeseed, poppy seed, and other oilseeds which are now exported in such great quantities, this head of the trade returns will become increasingly important, but there is no indication as yet of the commencement of this industry.

RAW MATERIALS AND UNMANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

The exports of the last seven years have been as follow :

Cotton.

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
1882-83 . . .	6,168,278	1604'9
1883-84 . . .	5,979,494	1438'37
1884-85 . . .	5,066,057	1328'63
1885-86 . . .	4,189,718	1077'72
1886-87 . . .	5,432,648	1346'84
1887-88 . . .	5,374,542	1441'28
1888-89 . . .	5,331,536	1504'56

These figures, it will be observed, give no indication of an increasing trade. The causes of the lack of progress are the increased consumption of cotton in the Indian mills, deficient harvests, and the increasing use of American and Brazilian cotton in competition with Indian, the fall of prices having much

- stimulated the use of the finer and longer stapled descriptions. The exports of the last two years were made chiefly to the countries noted below :

	1887-88.	Cwts. (000's omitted). 1888-89.
United Kingdom	2,140	1,776
Italy	774	781
Austria	688	755
Belgium	676	873
France	487	549
China	202	139
Germany	139	190
Russia	134	150

It should be remembered that a large proportion (about three-fourths in 1888) of the cotton sent from India to England is re-shipped thence to the Continent, which in fact consumes about four-fifths of our exports. So also about four-fifths of the exports are shipped from Bombay :

	1887-88.	1888-89.
Bombay	3,929	4,198
Madras	658	595
Bengal	618	375
Sindh	131	130
Burma	37	32

Hides and Skins. The trade in Hides continues to decrease, but in Skins there has been greater activity. The numbers exported were :

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Hides	8,607,724	8,493,384	6,817,653	6,606,142
Skins	4,947,579	4,077,259	3,817,124	4,356,561

The British Consul at Venice reports that there was a decline there in the price of Calcutta hides "which are alleged to be of inferior quality and are gradually losing favour with local merchants." If this is the case the matter is of some importance, for the export of hides to Italy has been a large trade and it seems to be declining. These are the figures :

	Cwt.	Rs. (lakhs).
1884-85	96,593	36.18
1885-86	100,863	36.96
1886-87	70,453	28.02
1887-88	48,929	19.27
1888-89	53,105	19.14

Wool. Exports in the last seven years :

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
	10,348,909	584.69
	7,017,985	459.26
	8,368,686	466.13
	7,782,435	435.53
	8,306,708	486.98
	9,643,484	604.04
	10,553,143	789.71

The Jute crop, following that of 1887, was again a very good one, and the exports reached a high figure, prices at the same time having increased nearly 20 per cent.

A movement has lately been initiated in the United States for the substitution of cotton bagging instead of jute for cotton bales. The movement originated with resentment at high prices maintained by the Jute Bagging Trust, but it is claimed for cotton bagging that its merits are greater than those of jute, and it is possible that the substitution may be generally made. In this case some 30,000 tons of jute, used for this purpose, will no longer be required. But this quantity is not more than about 7 per cent of the average of the shipments to foreign ports, and the reduction in the exports, even if the movement amongst cotton balers in the United States should take full effect, will probably not appreciably affect the trade generally. The total export to the United States from India last year was 1,681,870 cwts., and 30,000 tons are 35 per cent of this quantity.

The chief consumers of jute are (cwts., 000's omitted) :

	1887-88.	1888-89.
United Kingdom	6,313	7,498
United States . .	2,331	1,682
Germany . . .	351	684
Italy	266	184
Austria . . .	183	203
Spain	124	104
France	54	161

But the United Kingdom reships a large proportion of the jute sent thither, mostly to the Continent. Such re-exports from England in 1888 amounted to about 103,000 tons, being about a third of the quantity exported to England last year.

The export of animal bones for manure is beginning to take rather large dimensions, the exports of last year amounting to 35,393 tons, valued at 17.41 lakhs. The bones are sent mostly to England, smaller quantities going to Ceylon. *Manure.*

This is another of those old Indian trades which seem to have no capacity for expansion, fluctuating only from year to year within certain narrow limits. The trade is practically no larger now than it was twenty years ago. As stated in previous reviews, the protection of the salt revenue requires that saltpetre refineries should be worked under restriction, and no doubt such restriction does enhance the cost of production and make competition with nitrate of soda difficult, so far as the trade to Europe is concerned. A substantial proportion of the trade however (about 30 per cent) is with China, the Straits, and Eastern Africa. *Saltpetre.*

Exports of seven years :

	Cwt.	Lakhs of rupees.
1882-83 . . .	13,139,206	720.03
1883-84 . . .	17,355,588	1008.37
1884-85 . . .	18,250,688	1074.52
1885-86 . . .	17,280,147	994.83
1886-87 . . .	15,866,604	919.85
1887-88 . . .	16,060,400	938.50
1888-89 . . .	15,569,978	956.17

Seeds.

The trade in the principal kinds of oilseeds was as follows in the last four years :

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Castor . . .	670,537	610,893	764,293	585,769
Earthnuts . . .	655,670	945,895	1,261,637	827,997
Linseed . . .	9,510,139	8,656,933	8,422,703	8,461,374
Poppy . . .	695,097	612,654	456,308	730,455
Rape . . .	3,721,840	2,659,649	2,081,300	3,061,586
Til or jinjili . . .	1,759,343	2,114,484	2,747,270	1,537,444

A material increase in the price of Rapeseed accounts for the larger value of a smaller quantity of seeds exported.

Cotton seed is specified separately in the returns for the first time this year. The exports amounted to 135,581 cwt., worth just over three lakhs. The quantity is probably not a tenth of the quantity available for export, and it may be observed here that the United Kingdom imported in 1888 more than five million hundredweight of cotton seed (value £1,657,432), of which only 81,300 cwt. came from India, the bulk being imported from Egypt and Brazil India should take a larger share in this trade.

The trade in seeds is carried on mainly with England and the European Continent. England takes the bulk of the linseed exported, some also going to the United States, and the Continent the bulk of the other descriptions of seeds.

Silk.

Exports are as follow in lbs. :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Raw (reeled) . . .	672,710	531,205	358,071	449,515	453,568	433,473
Chasam (waste) . . .	886,045	953,183	1,023,807	1,020,595	998,235	1,313,874
Cocoons . . .	44,059	82,713	56,889	113,814	173,374	374,567

The total value of the trade was 51.87 lakhs compared with 48.08 lakhs in the preceding year, 48.43 lakhs in 1886-87, and 62 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs six years ago. Of the silk 51,595 lbs., of the chasam 233,090 lbs., and of the cocoons 334,038 lbs. were the product of wild worms. It will be noticed that the export of cocoons and of waste increases as that of reeled silk declines.

Teak timber.

Exports for the last seven years :

Cubic tons.	Lakhs of rupees.
59,187	61.12
46,471	52.54
47,556	53.21
50,076	55.05
23,946	22.31
40,446	36.73
52,609	57.52

The cause of the increased export was stated in the review of trade last year in the following words: " With a revival in the shipbuilding trade in the autumn of 1887, there was a revived demand for teak, and the exports of the year were on a much larger scale, though still below the figures of previous years. The spurt has not yet died out in the shipbuilding yards, and the export of teak still continues to be rather active."

Exports :	Million lbs.	Rs. (lakhs).
	20'036	75'58
	18'928	71'36
	23'149	87'23
	23'208	89'95
	23'877	97'23
	21'961	96'87

There was a material rise in the price of wool during the year, the increase being one of the contributory causes of the disaster which has recently overtaken one of the few woollen mills which India as yet possesses.

It should be noted here that wool buyers in England, whither most of our Indian wool is exported from Bombay and Karáchi, have made a stand against the practice of sanding which obtains so largely in packages of Indian wool. If a similar resolute stand were made by buyers of Indian wheat, oilseeds, cotton, and other merchandise, the adulteration and falsification of which are habitually and systematically practised, much good to trade would ensue. But all that is done is to make an allowance for admixtures of foreign matters, the necessary consequence being, as is the case with all trade allowances, that the goods are falsified to the fullest extent of the margin allowed. Strangely enough, in the case of wheat, some of the trade in England object to a reduction of the percentage allowance for dirt!

ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED.

The increase in the value of the articles comprised in this class is one of the most satisfactory features of Indian trade.

	Rs. (lakhs).
1883-84 .	785'45
1884-85 .	859'03
1885-86 .	872'46
1886-87 .	933'17
1887-88 .	1117'20
1888-89 .	1310'95

The increase in these six years is about 67 per cent. This great development is mainly due to the expansion of the cotton spinning and weaving industry, the exports of cotton twist and cloth having risen in value from 285'32 lakhs to 637'45 lakhs in the six years—an increase of 123 per cent. The value of the cotton trade represents more than 48 per cent of the whole value of this class: in the two preceding years, 46 and 47 per cent respectively.

The following figures indicate the relative proportions of each class of manufactures and the progress made in the six years:

	1883-84 Rs. (lakhs).	1888-89 Rs. (lakhs).	Increase or decrease. Per cent.
Cotton yarn and cloth	285'32	637'45	+ 123'4
Jute goods . . .	133'41	257'15	+ 92'7
Silk goods . . .	28'57	28'85	+ 0'98
Woollen goods . . .	12'07	12'21	+ 1'16
Tanned hides and skins	218'74	261'41	+ 19'5
Lac	55'50	40'00	— 27'9
Coir goods	13'72	17'39	+ 26'7
Apparel	6'70	11'30	+ 68'6

In this list of eight classes of manufactures there are three exceptions to the general progress of the trade in the products of these industries. Silk goods, woollen goods, and lac make practically no progress, the last mentioned

having in fact retrogressed. There are sufficient reasons for the lack of vitality in these industries. The silks and woollens which are exported are not of the ordinary descriptions worn by large numbers of people, but are rather to a considerable extent what may be termed art fabrics characteristic of India, appealing to the tastes of a comparatively restricted circle of consumers. Some of the silks are "corahs" sent to Europe to be dyed and brought back to India. Lac is an article whose extended or restricted use is greatly dependent on fashion, and it is doubtful whether this trade will ever develop into large proportions. Its principal uses are in the manufacture of sealing wax, in the fastening of knife-handles, and in the stiffening of tall silk hats, and for each of these purposes the demand seems more inclined to diminish than to increase.

In the other industries mentioned, however, the progress made is very satisfactory—in cotton and jute remarkably so.

Cotton yarn.

The exports of cotton yarn have increased 158 per cent in the last six years, being at the rate of more than 26 per cent annually.

Million lbs.	Lakhs of rupees.
49·87	192·61
65·89	244·11
78·24	275·52
91·80	333·68
113·45	407·74
128·91	520·71

The exports of cotton piece goods in the same period have been (in yards, 000's omitted):

55,564
47,908
51,528
53,360
69,434
70,244

Substantial as this progress is, it falls far short of the advance made in the export of yarns; and as long as the Chinese and Japanese maintain their preference for weaving their cloth themselves from imported yarn instead of importing it ready made, the export of our yarns must necessarily augment much faster than that of piece goods.

The distribution of the exports in the last two years was as follows:

	Yarn, lbs. (000's omitted).		Piece goods, yards. (000's omitted).	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
China	92,571	101,248	4,483	14,617
Japan	17,391	23,143	37	131
Aden	1,354	1,327	20,756	15,445
Straits	981	1,844	5,948	5,205
Asiatic Turkey	365	503	1,546	1,710
Java	283	327	...	...
Arabia	279	261	2,073	2,716
Persia	79	139	789	1,160
East Coast of Africa	66	64	24,718	19,864
Ceylon	32	26	6,931	5,945
Mekran and Sonmiani . . . . .	...	...	1,268	1,211
Other countries	50	24	886	2,240

The bulk of the yarn (about 82 per cent) consists of No. 20, the rest being lower than that number.

The trade was thus distributed between the provinces last year :

	VALUE IN LAKHS OF	
	Yarns.	Woven goods.
Bombay .	497·12	75·48
Bengal .	17·28	1·41
Madras .	6·15	38·54
Sindh .	...	1·31
Burma .	0·15	...
TOTAL .	520·70	116·74

Bombay thus possesses more than 95 per cent of the trade in yarns and more than 64 per cent of the trade in woven goods. It should be mentioned, however, that much of the exports of woven goods from Madras consists of cloths dyed in Madras, the pieces having been woven either in Madras, or in Bombay, or in England, and that, in fact, Bombay is the centre of the Indian cotton spinning and weaving industry in India. The progress of this industry since 1876 is shewn in the table appended :

Year.	Number of mills.	Number of spindles.	Number of looms.
1876-77 .	47	1,100,112	9,139
1877-78 .	53	1,289,706	10,533
1878-79 .	58	1,436,464	12,983
1879-80 .	58	1,470,830	13,307
1880-81 .	58	1,471,730	13,283
1881-82 .	62	1,550,944	14,386
1882-83 .	62	1,654,108	15,116
1883-84 .	74	1,895,284	16,251
1884-85 .	81	2,037,055	16,455
1885-86 .	86	2,110,847	16,455
1886-87 .	94	2,261,561	17,455
1887-88 .	97	2,375,739	18,840
1888-89 .	105	2,624,578	21,676

The mills are located as follows :

	Mills.	Spindles.	Looms.
Bombay Presidency	75	1,956,100	17,653
Bengal (suburbs of Calcutta)	7	238,568	...
Madras	8	148,266	470
North-Western Provinces	6	117,100	1,940
Central India (Indore)	1	25,976	464
Central Provinces	3	67,880	600
Hyderabad	3	52,232	549
Mysore	2	18,456	...

There is also a mill at Pondichery and another in Travancore of which returns have not been received, and it is stated that there are 15 in course of erection in the Bombay Presidency.

Upwards of 89,000 persons are stated to have been employed in the mills at the end of 1888-89.

It may be of some interest to remark, in connection with the progress of this industry, that its development has brought with it a great increase in the importation of building materials, coal, chemicals, dyeing materials (alizarine), and machinery and millwork. Any success therefore that foreign cotton manufacturers may have in their endeavours to compete with the Indian industry, while it will be to their own profit, will be to the loss of those interested in the other industries mentioned.

The value of the exports of manufactured jute in the last six years has been (in lakhs of rupees) :

1883-84	133'41	1886-87	115'18
1884-85	154'38	1887-88	174'63
1885-86	113'08	1888-89	257'15

The exports of gunny-bags and cloths in the last six years have been as follows, the quantities being stated in numbers for bags and yards for cloth, 000's being omitted in both cases :

	Bags.	Cloth.
1883-84	63,646	7,049
1884-85	82,779	15,344
1885-86	63,760	20,154
1886-87	64,570	12,799
1887-88	74,367	13,683
1888-89	99,790	15,160

Comparing the trade with that of the previous year there was a very marked expansion, the result mainly of increased shipments of bags to England, China, and Japan. Satisfactory as the conditions of this industry were last year with good prices and a large demand, the trade is necessarily subject to far greater fluctuations than the cotton trade, for people must clothe themselves whether crops are large or small, and the demand for cotton yarn and cloth must be constant, whereas the demand for coverings for cotton, grain, or other merchandise must expand or contract with the condition of harvests and the quantity of goods available for transport. Hence we see in the foregoing figures fluctuations of a very violent kind from year to year, such as have as yet been entirely absent from the figures of the cotton trade.

The industry is practically concentrated in Lower Bengal and in the vicinity of Calcutta. The statistics of these Bengal mills are given as follows for the last ten years :

	Mills.	Spindles.	Looms.
1879-80	20	67,648	4,780
1880-81	19	66,274	4,893
1881-82	19	87,071	5,464
1882-83	18	92,033	5,413
1883-84	21	108,802	5,919
1884-85	22	127,892	6,706
1885-86	23	125,578	6,612
1886-87	22	132,907	6,787
1887-88	23	143,566	7,255
1888-89	24	149,937	7,681

The extension of the industry as shown in the increase of spindles and looms cannot but be regarded as very satisfactory. At present, however, the

mills are contending, like the cotton mills of Lancashire and Bombay, with the position created by production having overtaken consumption, and they are working short time.

Tanning is an important industry in Madras. The exports of tanned *Hides and Skins*. hides and skins (mainly from Madras) in the last five years have been as follows, most of the exports being to England :

	Cwt.	Rs. (lakhs).
1884-85 .	231,584	207.57
1885-86 .	274,566	234.22
1886-87 .	238,955	233.79
1887-88 .	272,449	252.66
1888-89 .	272,960	261.41

Coasting Trade.

After having fallen continuously from 1884-85 to 1886-87, there was a substantial recovery in the trade of 1887-88, but it has not been maintained. The total trade, imports and exports, merchandise and treasure, was, in the last six years :

	Rs. (lakhs).
1883-84 . . .	6146.16
1884-85 . . .	5840.15
1885-86 . . .	5759.83
1886-87 . . .	5616.53
1887-88 . . .	6073.86
1888-89 . . .	6016.61

The trade of the year was not quite one per cent under that of 1887-88. It will be remembered of course that in the coasting trade imports into one Indian port are exports from another, and the imports and exports of the year being 3061.65 and 2954.96 lakhs respectively, the actual value of the trade may be taken at about 3,000 lakhs, of which about 184 lakhs is the value of treasure, 675 lakhs foreign merchandise, and the remainder (being the bulk of the trade) Indian merchandise.

The trade is classed under three heads : (1) between ports in different Presidencies ; (2) between ports in the same Presidency ; (3) between British and non-British ports. The first of these is much the most important, the last is the least important. The exports of merchandise in the last two years, for instance, are thus recorded (in lakhs of rupees) :

	1887-88.	1888-89.
To ports in other Presidencies . . .	1542.21	1495.87
To ports within the Presidency . . .	949.18	938.30
To non-British ports	295.20	337.06

It was observed in the last review of trade that the last head was increasing, and that if the anticipations formed of the results which would follow the opening of the Marmagaõ Railway should be realised the record would be larger in future, for the produce brought down to Goa would be shipped to Bombay for export and similarly goods for that part of the country would be brought by sea to Goa and thence sent on by rail. The anticipation has been realised as will be seen from

the following figures of the imports from Goa into the port of Bombay and the exports from the port of Bombay to Goa (merchandise only in both cases) for the last five years :

	Imports from Goa.	Exports from Bombay.
	Rs.	Rs.
1884-85	5,00,155	13,93,810
1885-86	4,77,450	15,43,434
1886-87	6,66,392	16,57,651
1887-88	11,88,094	14,84,880
1888-89	80,62,354	21,83,281

It may be said that the excess of the trade of last year over that of the previous year represents the value of produce for which, before the construction of the railway, there was no market.

The articles which form the bulk of the coasting trade are, in foreign merchandise, mainly cotton yarn and piece goods, and in Indian merchandise the following :

Coffee.	Gunny bags.
Cotton.	Spirits.
Cotton yarn.	Provisions (largely Ghi and Salted fish).
„ piece goods.	Seeds.
Cocanuts and kernel.	Spices.
Rice.	Sugar.
Hides and Skins.	Teak timber.
Jute.	Tobacco.

The chief features in the trade of the year were the great augmentation of trade between Bombay and Goa, a large increase in the imports of salted fish into Burma, and a decline in exports of merchandise from Bengal. But these exports from Bengal in the preceding year had been abnormally active, as a consequence of speculation, and the restriction of last year is not therefore of importance.

The following table gives the totals of the trade in merchandise in each of the last six years for each province :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.
	Lakhs of Rs.					
<i>Bengal :</i>						
Imports .	505'88	533'27	484'87	493'73	528'53	500'86
Exports .	632'40	614'55	607'16	683'65	793'78	720'28
<i>Bombay :</i>						
Imports .	1289'66	1224'56	1106'03	1109'38	1287'09	1286'02
Exports .	1221'34	1187'75	1142'29	1094'71	1169'31	1216'80
<i>Sindh :</i>						
Imports .	225'10	244'21	251'11	232'69	208'55	209'01
Exports .	139'89	103'89	113'99	110'25	150'74	150'72
<i>Madras :</i>						
Imports .	436'45	431'73	459'42	441'67	446'14	433'13
Exports .	411'43	460'10	424'35	415'69	444'58	469'44
<i>Burma :</i>						
Imports .	350'59	312'70	329'63	399'62	444'58	432'16
Exports .	214'68	207'74	227'26	210'49	228'18	213'99

Coasting shipping.

The following table gives the number and registered tonnage of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade during the last six years :

Entered.

	STEAMERS.		SAILING VESSELS.		NATIVE CRAFT.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1883-84	5,518	5,925,198	4,635	607,635	169,090	2,669,128
1884-85	5,484	5,547,657	4,503	495,284	174,701	2,781,479
1885-86	6,144	5,726,982	3,987	541,316	172,025	2,759,724
1886-87	6,807	6,325,181	2,876	325,959	175,868	2,868,715
1887-88	7,342	7,309,975	3,237	332,491	184,104	3,163,656
1888-89	7,316	7,245,685	3,241	244,691	185,659	3,089,476

Cleared.

1883-84	5,574	5,975,597	4,629	458,240	156,429	2,553,672
1884-85	5,461	5,487,561	4,600	477,806	158,453	2,616,385
1885-86	6,127	5,679,231	3,992	506,052	156,694	2,612,819
1886-87	6,794	6,286,438	2,893	307,712	159,041	2,795,779
1887-88	7,308	7,237,769	3,301	314,386	166,928	2,954,636
1888-89	7,307	7,212,990	3,370	251,666	167,221	2,952,926

Trans-Frontier Trade.

The following figures give the value of the trade in each of the last six years, in lakhs of rupees :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1883-84	550.91	525.72	1076.63
1884-85	551.46	612.23	1163.69
1885-86	517.09	719.29	1236.38
1886-87	513.00	774.61	1287.61
1887-88	572.63	831.28	1403.92
1888-89	636.72	771.80	1408.52

These figures are inclusive of the trade between Lower and Upper Burma, the values of which are :

	Imports.	Exports.
1883-84	170.58	182.61
1884-85	202.39	207.14
1885-86	155.22	160.80
1886-87	135.77	209.56
1887-88	155.54	329.19
1888-89	214.10	302.13

These figures, since 1885-86, no longer represent trade with countries external to British India, and should therefore be excluded. They will not appear in future returns of the frontier trade, for, since the 1st June 1889, stations have been established in Upper Burma for the registration at Bhamo of trade with China, and for the registration at Maymyo in the Mandalay district and Hlaing-det in the Meiktila district of trade with the Shan States.

The actual foreign trade of the last four years is thus :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1885-86	361.87	558.49	920.36
1886-87	377.23	565.05	942.28
1887-88	417.09	502.09	919.18
1888-89	422.62	469.67	892.29

It is thus apparent that, excluding Burma, our trans-frontier trade has not been flourishing and expanding. Last year's trade was about 3 per cent less than that of 1887-88 which again was smaller than that of either of the two preceding years.

The decline in the trade of the year, amounting to about 27 lakhs, arises largely, so far as concerns merchandise, as follows :

<i>In imports from</i>		<i>In exports to</i>	
	Lakhs.		Lakhs.
Kabul	5'02	Trans-frontier by rail	14'34
Kashmir	3'50	Kabul	4'81
Nepal	25'59	Kashmir	4'03
		Nepal	1'92
		N. Shan States	2'08
		Karennee	1'27

On the other hand there were increases :

<i>In imports from</i>	Lakhs.
Thibet	1'71
Karennee	17'55
Zimmé	8'40

and in exports to Zimmé of about 1½ lakhs.

The following are the principal countries with which the trade is carried on, and the value of the trade with them in the last two years (lakhs of rupees) :

	1887-88.		1888-89.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
Lus Beyla	4'74	2'85	4'42	2'42
Khelat	5'38	4'38	5'00	3'96
Sind-Peshin Railway (Southern Afghanistan)	26'62	207'78	34'55	193'44
Sewestan	4'92	6'72	5'81	6'98
Kabul	23'94	57'61	19'35	52'68
Bajaur	3'93	5'76	3'42	4'91
Kashmir	69'32	53'10	81'23	49'57
Ladakh	3'45	3'17	3'03	2'99
Thibet	7'32	5'15	9'03	4'75
Nepal	189'82	113'72	152'81	111'54
Karenni	35'15	18'14	52'59	11'66
Shan States	3'27	5'08	2'15	2'97
Zimmé	24'79	2'63	35'14	4'68
Siam	4'48	9'12	3'85	10'82

The really important trade is restricted to (1) that which is carried across the border of Southern Afghanistan by rail, (2) with Nepal, (3) with Kashmir, (4) with Kabul. And then in a minor degree with (5) Karenni, (6) Zimmé, the trade with these two tracts being largely confined to the importation of teak timber. As pointed out, however, last year the bulk of the trade by rail consists of exports, more than half of these being railway material (108'87 lakhs) which cannot properly be regarded as trade at all, and a substantial proportion of the remainder

consists of supplies of various kinds for the troops, civil establishments, and population of Quetta, which also cannot be regarded as external trade. It is not possible to say how much of these goods goes beyond Quetta until a system of registration is established there, but it is probably not very wide of the mark to say that at least five-sixths of the imports and exports trans-frontier by rail may be disregarded in considering the foreign trade of India.

The trade of the last six years has been as follows :

Kabul.

Imports.	Exports.	Total.
25'22	52'11	77'33
24'13	46'91	71'04
23'59	53'67	77'26
26'20	63'63	89'83
23'94	57'61	81'55
19'35	52'68	72'03

The trade is in fact much smaller than it was ten years ago, and it is doubtful whether it can increase materially unless some at least of the existing conditions are essentially modified. It must be remembered that the exports to Kabul have hitherto represented not only trade with Northern and Central Afghanistan but also trade with the tracts trans-Oxus. These tracts are now practically closed to goods from India by (1) the Russian customs regulations which are essentially protective and prohibitive and (2) the difficulty of competition between goods that reach their destination by animal carriage as ours must do from Peshawar to Balkh, and goods that reach their destination or approach very close to it by rail, as the Russian goods do. The Russians, in addition to the advantages they possess in the railway—a much more efficient means of monopolising the markets than a customs preventive line—are about to establish a Bank and are in other ways fostering their trade. Our trade on the other hand, after it leaves Peshawar, has to pass through a country where the custom is to take toll on every camel load in the most rigorous and indiscriminating way. With such differences in conditions it is easy to understand that British and Indian goods exported to Afghanistan from India can find no market beyond Kabul and that Russian goods must fill the markets north and west of that city. The Political Officer in the Khaiber writes in August 1888: "If the officials in Afghanistan could be induced to treat the merchants and carriers in a more generous and liberal spirit, not only would trade greatly increase, but there is a certainty of their income being equally raised. But crushing tolls and other measures are not only injuring their revenue, but are also ruining the trade with India and driving the camel and mule owners from this line to other localities, or—what is even worse—inducing them to sell their animals and gain a living by other means."

To the causes mentioned must be added, as accounting for some of the decrease in last year's trade, the disturbances in Badakshan and Afghan Turkestan and the Amir's prolonged stay there for the purpose of quelling them.

The imports from Kabul are not of much importance. Chief amongst them are horses, madder (*manjit*), fruits, ghi, raw silk. The trade in silk appears to be on the point of extinction; the imports of manjit declined much last year, but the fall in price was remarkable and is unexplained.

Of the exports to Kabul the principal are cotton goods, indigo, sugar, and tea. The trade in cotton goods is declining, as the figures appended of the exports in the last three years shew :

	<i>European.</i>		<i>Indian.</i>	
	Quantity Cwt.	Value Rs. (lakhs).	Quantity Cwt.	Value Rs. (lakhs).
1886-87 .	15,768	21.72	25,243	16.51
1887-88 .	19,260	27.09	19,957	12.83
1888-89 .	15,269	20.92	18,591	12.08

The next important article, and indeed the only other one of real importance, is tea. The following figures shew the condition of this trade :

	<i>Foreign.</i>		<i>Indian.</i>	
	Cwt.	Rs. (lakhs).	Cwt.	Rs. (lakhs).
1886-87 .	12,434	13.45	3,655	1.57
1887-88 .	6,529	7.01	2,180	1.29
1888-89 .	8,662	8.94	2,333	1.06

The trade in Indigo presents much the same features. Sugar has increased, but it is not of importance compared with the others already mentioned.

On the whole the prospects of trade with Kabul are unsatisfactory.

The trade with Kashmir has also decreased slightly :

	Rs. (lakhs).	
	Imports.	Exports.
	52.90	37.26
	54.59	38.50
	51.35	37.78
	53.86	42.68
	69.32	53.10
	81.23	49.57

The foregoing figures give a most remarkable increase in imports, but they include remittances of treasure by the Darbár on account of the Jammu waterworks and the railway to the same place. Excluding these remittances, and taking only merchandise for each of the last three years the account stands thus :

	Rs. (lakhs).	
	Imports.	Exports.
1886-87 .	48.76	42.62
1887-88 .	53.73	52.58
1888-89 .	50.22	48.56

There was therefore a decrease of about 7 per cent in the trade of the year. The imports of shawls fell off in the year to less than half the value of the previous year, the decline being from 12.68 lakhs to 6.07 lakhs. This trade was specially fostered by the late Ruler of Kashmir and has declined since his death. In other items trade increased.

In exports there was some decline in cotton piece goods which constitute half of the whole export trade. Under the administrative régime which has been substituted for the Maharaja's personal rule, and with the completion of the railway from Sialkot to Jammu, it is reasonable to anticipate a considerable development of trade within the next year or two.

The trade with Nepal shews some decline after the very high figures of *Nepal*. the preceding year :

	Rs. (lakhs).	
	Imports.	Exports.
1883-84 .	148·23	99·42
1884-85 .	141·64	98·63
1885-86 .	168·83	86·17
1886-87 .	183·67	87·48
1887-88 .	189·82	113·72
1888-89 .	152·81	111·54

The imports and exports of merchandise only for the last three years are :

Rs. (lakhs).	
Imports.	Exports.
166·97	86·06
164·40	112·01
138·81	110·09

The bulk of the trade of Nepal crosses the Behar border. Of the total imports of last year 57 lakhs represented the value of trade passing over the border of Oudh and the North-Western Provinces, the remainder, about 96 lakhs, being with Bengal. Of the exports about 35 lakhs crossed the Western borders, and 76 lakhs those of Bengal. The reduction in the trade of the year, it will be observed, occurs principally in imports and is entirely accounted for by reduced imports of rice, wheat, and other grains. The cause of the reduction is thus stated by the Collector of Champáran: "Food grains were not imported on the usual scale in consequence of the short harvest in Nepal. Crops were as bad in Nepal as in our territory, and for some time the Darbár laid an embargo on the export of such articles." This prohibition is also mentioned in the report of the Director of Agriculture, North-Western Provinces, who says: "For some months traders in Nepal were, it is said, prohibited by the Nepal Darbár from taking these articles (grain and firewood) across the frontier, as it was thought necessary to maintain local stocks for the sake of providing supplies for the camps of high Nepalese officials on tour." The importations of timber have certainly fallen off greatly, from 31·36 lakhs in 1886-87 to 23½ lakhs in 1887-88, and to 20½ lakhs last year. The trade in firewood, however, is insignificant.

The decline in exports is not important: in the principal article (cotton piece goods) there was a small increase.

In the trade with Thibet there has been no decrease during the year such as might have been anticipated from political conditions :

	Imports Rs. (lakhs).	Exports Rs. (lakhs).
1886-87 .	9·46	5·88
1887-88 .	7·32	5·15
1888-89 .	9·03	4·75

The trade crosses the frontiers of three provinces—the North-West, the Panjab, and Bengal—and, while the trade with Bengal was practically extinguished as the result of the military operations against the Thibetans in Sikkim,

it increased considerably over the frontier of the North-Western Provinces having been in fact diverted. The following figures shew this :

	Trade with North-West- ern Prov- inces.	Trade with the Panjab.	Trade with Bengal.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1886-87	7,49,617	2,25,823	5,58,605
1887-88	8,17,511	64,564	3,65,226
1888-89	12,92,325	78,798	7,349

There are only three articles of any consequence in this small trade with Thibet—borax, salt, and raw wool. In each of these there was an increase of trade last year, the development of the trade in salt being conspicuous, following as it did immediately on the increase of the duty on salt in British India from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2½ a maund. Salt imported over the Himálayas not being charged with any duty, the increase of 8 annas a maund in taxed salt enabled the untaxed salt to compete with it over a wider area. Most of the salt brought into India by land comes from Thibet into the North-Western Provinces and from Towang into Assam, but the great bulk of the imports is from Thibet. The total imports from all places and the imports from Thibet are stated below :

	Total imports.	Imports from Thibet.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
1886-87	21,264	19,296
1887-88	25,613	24,398
1888-89	44,200	38,389

This quantity of 44,200 cwt. would represent a revenue of about one and a half lakhs of rupees if taxed at the Indian rate.

The trade with Karennee and Zimmé practically consists of the import of teak timber floated down the Salween river :

	From Karennee.		From Zimmé.	
	Tons.	Rs. (lakhs).	Tons.	Rs. (lakhs).
1886-87	79,746	31'55	49,073	12'32
1887-88	75,797	34'58	65,102	22'40
1888-89	92,558	52'16	63,881	30'32

As will be seen from the review of the seaborne foreign trade the teak trade was in good condition last year, prices being high and the demand satisfactory. Felling in the forests above the Salween was consequently active.

Government of India.
FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

REVIEW

OF THE

TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1889-90 :

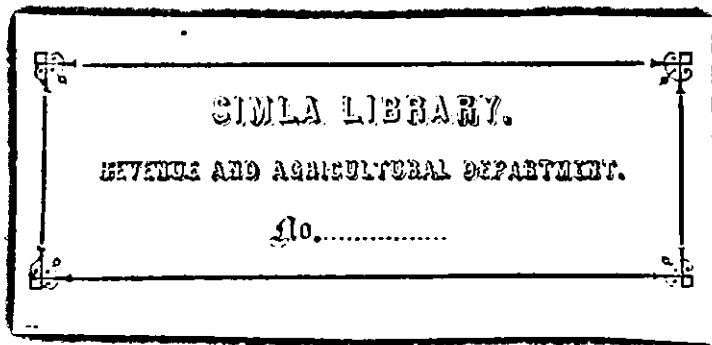
- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
 - II.—Coasting Trade.
 - III.—Trans-Frontier Trade.
-

J. E. O'CONNOR,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.
Honorary Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, Member of the International Statistical Institute.

SIMLA :
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1890.



CONTENTS.

<i>Page</i>	
GENERAL.	
Totals of imports and exports for ten years and rate of increase or decrease each year— comparison of trade of last two years	1—2
GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS.	
Comparative imports—imports of railway material	2—3
BALANCE OF TRADE.	
Excess of exports over imports—drawings of Secretary of State	3
TRADE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.	
Totals of imports and exports	3—4
SHIPPING.	
Total number and tonnage of shipping—Canal steamers—movement of shipping between India and other countries—nationalities of vessels—native craft—provincial share in movement of shipping	4—5
GOLD AND SILVER COIN AND BULLION.	
Imports and exports of gold and silver—net imports from 1859-60 to 1888-89—value of gold and silver retained in India since 1834—coinage of silver in the Indian Mints	6—7
CUSTOMS REVENUE.	
Gross and net revenue on imports and exports	7—8
TRADE OF PROVINCES AND PRINCIPAL PORTS.	
Imports and exports for each province, and rate of increase or decrease—proportion of the whole trade of India at each of the five chief ports, Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, Madras, and Karachi—foreign trade of the seven largest ports of India	8—9
TRADE WITH COUNTRIES.	
Trade with nineteen principal countries, and the proportion taken by each of the whole trade—relative importance of trade with United Kingdom—increase of trade with Russia, Germany, and Belgium	9—13
IMPORT TRADE IN MERCHANDISE.	
Trade values for twenty years—variations in the prices at Calcutta of certain staple imports, since 1873—Details of imports	13—25
RE-EXPORT TRADE.	
Total value—main items of the trade—countries with which the trade is chiefly carried on	26—27
EXPORTS OF INDIAN PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURE.	
Trade values for ten years—Details of exports	27—41
COASTING TRADE AND SHIPPING	41—43
TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE	44—50

THE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH
FOREIGN COUNTRIES

for the official year ending March 31, 1890.

Sea-borne Foreign Trade.

THE aggregate value of the trade under all heads for the last ten years was as follows (in rupees, 000's omitted) :

		Imports.	Exports.	Total.	<i>Percentage of increase or decrease each year compared with preceding year.</i>
Five years	1880-81	. 592,970	759,407	1352,377	+ 12.23
	1881-82	. 583,149	829,993	1413,142	+ 4.49
	1882-83	. 634,562	843,817	1478,379	+ 4.62
	1883-84	. 655,818	891,029	1546,847	+ 4.63
	1884-85	. 670,282	850,878	1521,160	— 1.66
Five years	1885-86	. 672,893	849,157	1522,050	+ 0.05
	1886-87	. 697,148	901,132	1598,280	+ 5
	1887-88	. 762,107	919,854	1681,961	+ 5.24
	1888-89	. 804,153	986,816	1790,969	+ 6.48
	1889-90	. 840,194	1052,388	1892,582	+ 5.67

The annual average trade of the first five years was Rs. 1462,381,211.

The annual average trade of the last five years was Rs. 1697,168,406, being in excess of the average of the first five years by 16 per cent.

After a pause in 1884 and 1885 the trade has been increasing at a normal rate during the last four years.

Comparing the trade values of last year with those of the one immediately preceding, the following are the results (rupees, 000's omitted) :

	1888-89.	1889-90.	<i>Increase or decrease per cent.</i>
Imports of merchandise	. 665,703	665,601	— 0.01
„ treasure	. 138,450	174,593	+ 26.1
Exports of merchandise			
(Indian)	. 926,427	991,011	+ 6.97
„ (foreign, re-exports)	. 43,354	42,958	— 0.91
„ treasure	. 17,035	18,419	+ 8.13
TOTAL	. 1790,969	1892,582	+ 5.67

Imports of merchandise were not quite up to the level of the previous year. In that year there was a very active trade in cotton goods which was not sustained last year, for the trade declined materially, the only important extension being in coloured goods. There was also a heavy decline in the import of railway material and in coal. Some articles however increased, with the net result that the aggregate value of the import trade hardly diminished. The principal increases and decreases were as follows :

Increase.	Decrease.
Apparel.	Coal.
Machinery and millwork.	Cotton goods and yarn.
Metals (copper and zinc).	Iron and steel.
Oils.	Railway material.
Provisions.	Umbrellas.
Silk and silk goods.	Woollen goods.
Sugar.	

The large increase in exports of Indian goods was mainly due to an active trade in cotton, jute, rice, and oilseeds, and to a considerable increase in prices. The principal articles are shewn below in parallel columns :

Increased.	Decreased.
Cotton, raw.	Coffee.
Cotton, manufactured.	Dyes (indigo).
Grain and pulse (rice).	Hides and skins.
Jute, raw.	Opium.
Jute, manufactured.	
Seeds.	
Tea (small increase).	
Wood.	
Wool, raw.	

Re-exports of imported merchandise were slightly smaller.

Imports of treasure increased very largely, silver having been imported in somewhat greater quantity than in the last few preceding years, and gold in quite unusual quantity. This increase in the import of gold has continued in the present year.

Government Stores.

The total value of these transactions was Rs. 27,655,061, being about $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent less than that of 1888-89 and slightly under the figure of 1887-88. They were smaller than the transactions of any of the four preceding years.

Railway materials, which constitute the largest importations on account of the State, have been declining continuously since 1885, as the following figures shew :

	Rs. (000's omitted).
1884-85 . .	12,374
1885-86 . .	22,995
1886-87 . .	18,927
1887-88 . .	12,486
1888-89 . .	12,007
1889-90 . .	10,857
TOTAL . .	89,646

The value of the average annual import of railway material has been about 15 million rupees, being just about half of the average value of all imports on account of Government.

The other principal articles imported by the State are metals (mainly iron and steel, copper and zinc), and hardware and cutlery, arms and ammunition, coal, woollen cloth, apparel (including boots and shoes), coal, cement, machinery and millwork, books, paper and stationery, and telegraph material. The only noticeable variation in the list occurs under the head of paper. The importation of printing paper has entirely ceased and that of writing paper has materially declined, owing to the substitution of paper made in the Indian mills whose productions have now attained a very fairly high level of quality.

Balance of Trade.

The excess of exports over imports, including treasure as well as merchandise, for each of the last ten years was (Rs., 000's omitted) :

	Including Government transactions.	Excluding Government transactions.
1880-81 .	139,160	166,436
1881-82 .	226,320	246,845
1882-83 .	189,783	209,255
1883-84 .	210,291	235,210
1884-85 .	156,346	180,597
1885-86 .	138,558	176,263
1886-87 .	173,599	203,984
1887-88 .	133,178	157,747
1888-89 .	155,484	182,664
1889-90 .	187,097	212,194

The average annual excess in these ten years comes to about 171 million rupees including Government transactions, and 197 millions excluding them.

In the same period the drawings of the Secretary of State in Council Bills have been—

	£	Exchange, Pence.	Rs. (000's omitted),
1880-81 .	15,239,677	19'956	= 183,279
1881-82 .	18,412,429	19'895	= 221,914
1882-83 .	15,120,521	19'525	= 185,860
1883-84 .	17,599,805	19'536	= 216,214
1884-85 .	13,758,909	19'308	= 171,024
1885-86 .	10,292,692	18'254	= 135,325
1886-87 .	12,136,279	17'441	= 167,003
1887-88 .	15,358,577	16'899	= 218,124
1888-89 .	14,262,859	16'379	= 208,991
1889-90 .	15,474,496	16'565	= 224,187

the average being £14,765,624 or 193 million rupees.

Trade through the Suez Canal.

The value of the trade carried through the Canal last year was Rs1306,113,000, being 68 per cent of the whole trade. Ten years ago (1880-81) it was Rs812 millions, being not quite 59 per cent of the whole.

The imports brought to India by this route were about 80 per cent of the whole import trade and exports sent the same way were about 58 per cent of the whole.

Shipping.

The total number and tonnage of the shipping, steam and sailing, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to foreign countries, during each of the last five years, are as follow :

—	Number.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1885-86	10,562	7,294,589	691
1886-87	10,584	7,172,193	678
1887-88	10,893	7,189,465	660
1888-89	10,485	6,983,332	666
1889-90	10,673	7,315,586	685

Steamer tonnage represented about 73 per cent of the whole : five years ago it was only 65 per cent of the whole. The total number of steamers which entered and cleared was 3,356, with an aggregate burden of 5,331,695 registered tons, the average tonnage of each steamer being 1,589 tons: Less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the steamers which cleared left without taking away some cargo.

Of the 3,356 steamers, about half (1,608) passed through the Suez Canal, their tonnage (3,055,364 tons) being 57 per cent of the whole.

Of the total of 7,315,586 tons, the entries from and clearances to the United Kingdom were 2,710,389, or 37 per cent. Five years ago the proportion was $43\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and the actual tonnage was also larger by about 15 per cent. Entries from and clearances to British possessions have increased in the same period (in tonnage) by about $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and the tonnage of vessels from and to foreign countries by about λ per cent, Germany and Russia being the two countries in the navigation of which from and to India the greatest increase has occurred. The development of the petroleum trade with Batoum has caused the shipping intercourse with Russia to increase from 2 ships and 2,124 tons in 1885 to 30 vessels and 51,537 tons last year. The increase of direct trade with Germany has in five years raised the shipping trade with that country from 23 vessels and 28,457 tons to 64 vessels and 98,908 tons.

The tonnage of vessels sailing under the British flag represented ^{1.36}87 per cent of the whole, a larger proportion than in previous years.

The tonnage of vessels under foreign flags was only 12 per cent of the whole : in 1883 the proportion was 16 per cent.

The proportion of tonnage of vessels under British Indian registry was only about 4 per cent of the whole. The number of these vessels is large, amounting to 2,168, but their tonnage is small, the average for each vessel being only 141 tons. The average tonnage of British vessels is 1,612 tons, that of foreign

vessels only 660 tons. The total number of vessels under foreign flags which entered and left last year was 1,341, aggregating 885,304 tons, the principal flags being :

	No.	Tons.
Austrian	100	181,939
German	138	180,996
Italian	114	177,200
French	121	116,404
Arab	620	79,994
Norwegian	68	61,877
American	31	44,043
TOTAL	1,192	842,453

There has been some material increase in Austrian and Italian shipping in recent years, and the German flag on the whole shews a tendency to increase though fluctuating. But all the others are more rarely seen in Indian ports than used to be the case.

The native craft employed in the foreign trade do not increase. They represent ~~less than~~ $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the whole tonnage. Except for intercourse with the Straits and the Malayan Archipelago, Ceylon, the Maldives, and the Coast from Karáchi to Maskat, these craft will no doubt eventually disappear from the foreign carrying trade, and be superseded by steamers.

The following table shews the share of each of the maritime provinces of India in the movement of shipping with cargoes in the last five years :

—		1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Bengal	No.	1,160	1,145	1,147	1,066	1,042
	Tons	1,568,322	1,646,298	1,683,421	1,656,576	1,675,515
Bombay	No.	1,969	2,025	2,027	1,939	1,862
	Tons	2,049,235	2,139,483	2,142,791	2,175,685	2,004,030
Sind	No.	828	712	795	767	927
	Tons	504,004	419,899	363,892	413,602	492,701
Madras	No.	3,476	3,537	3,692	3,588	3,520
	Tons	1,192,454	1,170,488	1,200,274	1,105,546	1,195,697
Burma	No.	1,014	1,052	1,003	768	894
	Tons	945,842	959,417	1,045,425	816,187	980,567

The proportion last year was—

Bombay and Sind,	about 39	per cent.
Bengal	26	„
Madras	19	„
Burma	15	„

The proportion of shipping in Madras is nearly double the proportion which that Presidency has of the foreign trade, but there is an active intercourse of native craft between the coasts of Madras and the Maldives, Ceylon, and the Archipelago. These greatly swell the tonnage.

Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion.

The imports and exports of gold during the last ten years were (rupees, 000's omitted)—

	Imports.	Exports.	Balance net imports.
1880-81 . .	36,720	168	36,552
1881-82 . .	48,564	124	48,440
1882-83 . .	50,951	1,642	49,309
1883-84 . .	54,694	69	54,625
1884-85 . .	47,781	1,062	46,719
1885-86 . .	30,915	3,286	27,629
1886-87 . .	28,336	6,565	21,771
1887-88 . .	32,361	2,436	29,925
1888-89 . .	31,191	3,052	28,139
1889-90 . .	50,710	4,557	46,153

The imports and exports of silver in the same period have been—

	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.
1880-81 . .	53,162	14,236	38,926
1881-82 . .	64,663	10,873	53,790
1882-83 . .	83,580	8,778	74,802
1883-84 . .	74,085	10,034	64,051
1884-85 . .	91,100	18,644	72,456
1885-86 . .	123,862	7,796	116,066
1886-87 . .	82,197	10,640	71,557
1887-88 . .	105,898	13,611	92,287
1888-89 . .	107,259	14,792	92,467
1889-90 . .	123,885	14,506	109,379

The importation of gold last year was much larger than it has been since 1884-85, when the rapid increase in the silver price of gold caused the purchases of the more valuable metal to shrink to very small proportions. The imports of the year were in fact not very much below the average of the years which preceded the great divergence in the relative value of the two metals. During the present year they still continue on a large scale, and if the decline in the silver price of gold should continue there will probably be a continued purchase of gold. Silver also was imported during the year on a large scale.

Since 1859-60 the net imports of the precious metals have been (rupees, 000's omitted)—

	Gold.	Silver.
From 1859-60 to 1872-73 .	726,062	1172,242
From 1873-74 to 1889-90 .	452,573	1209,943
Total .	<u>1178,635</u>	<u>2382,185</u>

The total value of both amounts to $\text{R}3560,821,094$, or, at the conventional rate of 2s. to the rupee, about $\text{£}356,000,000$, to which may be added $101\frac{1}{2}$ millions imported from 1834 to 1859, making altogether since 1834 some $\text{£}457\frac{1}{2}$

millions, not reckoning what has been imported across the land frontier of which there is no account. It will be noticed that for every rupee's worth of gold two rupees' worth of silver has been imported and that the average import of gold since 1873 has been only about half what it was from 1859 to that year; also that the average import of silver in the later period has been appreciably smaller. The average of the first period was affected by the years of the American Civil War when in exchange for Indian cotton both gold and silver flowed into the country in abnormal quantities. The average of the second period was affected in the opposite way by the years of the Madras famine.

The silver coinage of the British Indian mints from 1859-60 to 1889-90 has amounted to ₹2117,300,000. There are no statistics of the coinage in the mints of the Native States.

Customs Revenue.

The gross sum received on imports (excluding salt) since 1885-86 was as follows:

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arms and ammunition	168,740	217,107	223,704	260,892	238,667
Malt liquor	81,283	107,124	131,787	152,050	174,390
Cider and other fermented liquor	2,887	1,184	1,336	1,510	2,188
Spirits	3,630,746	4,297,083	4,629,349	4,828,544	4,923,713
Liqueurs	42,754	52,031	60,768	64,564	69,427
Wines	423,972	424,551	454,683	436,175	422,937
Opium	2,797	4,282	2,548	3,058	2,853
Mineral oil	—	—	137,090	1,174,891	1,623,923
Imports by post, &c.	1,322	1,640	1,349	1,589	1,329
Total gross revenue	4,354,501	5,105,002	5,642,614	6,923,273	7,459,427
Total net revenue	4,265,513	4,992,553	5,497,810	6,762,838	7,241,159 Co

The net export revenue for the same years (levied exclusively on rice) was—

	Rs.
1885-86	7,276,281
1886-87	6,964,619
1887-88	7,390,653
1888-89	5,979,563
1889-90	7,057,213

The net import duty increased by about 23 per cent in 1888-89, mainly as the result of the new duty of half an anna per gallon imposed since February 1888 on mineral oil, free until then. Last year there was a further increase of 7 per cent.

The net export revenue of 1888-89 was less by 19 per cent than the revenue of the preceding year, the exports of rice from both Burma and Bengal having been greatly restricted. Last year there was a material recovery, though the revenue was not quite so large as in 1887-88. The exports of rice from Bengal continued small in consequence of poor harvests and high prices.

The total revenue (net) from imports and exports was much larger than in the two previous years, owing chiefly to the import tax on petroleum :

	Rs.
1887-88 . . .	12,888,463
1888-89 . . .	12,742,401
1889-90 . . .	14,298,372

Provincial Trade.

The figures of the trade of each province stand thus (ooo's omitted) :

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
<i>Imported Merchandise.</i>					
Bombay .	220,143	234,814	254,869	265,038	264,230
Bengal .	199,856	233,380	232,084	257,021	251,316
Madras .	42,503	53,181	53,270	57,960	61,663
Burma .	34,198	37,100	56,893	50,054	54,544
Sindh .	21,414	28,137	25,831	35,630	33,848
<i>Exported Merchandise.</i>					
Bombay .	312,983	342,205	343,950	389,085	394,069
Bengal .	331,120	355,983	371,085	378,208	396,727
Madras .	82,644	91,313	97,323	103,257	115,149
Burma .	67,803	65,866	66,317	61,088	77,813
Sindh .	43,726	28,917	26,040	38,143	50,209

Taking imports and exports of merchandise together the foreign trade of each province stood as follows during the year in rupees (ooo's omitted) :

	1888-89.	Percentage on whole trade.	1889-90.	Percentage on whole trade.
Bombay .	654,123	39·99	658,300	38·73
Bengal .	635,229	38·84	648,043	38·13
Madras .	161,218	9·86	176,812	10·4
Burma .	111,142	6·80	132,357	7·79
Sindh .	73,773	4·51	84,057	4·95

Trade increased in every province, most largely in Burma whence the export of rice was active, and but slightly in Bengal and Bombay. The rate of increase per cent in each province was as follows last year: Bombay, 0·64; Bengal, 2; Madras, between 9 and 10; Burma, 19; Sindh, about 14. In Bengal the small increase which is shewn is due rather to increased export values—prices of jute and rice, for instance, having largely increased—than to an increase in the quantities exported. Imports were not so large as in the preceding year.

In Bombay also the import trade was slightly smaller, and the increase in export values was mainly due to the large quantity of cotton available for export combined with an increase in the price of it. This abundant supply of cotton saved the trade of Bombay from exhibiting an actual decline in the year. The quantity of wheat exported from Bombay was hardly half of that exported in the preceding year. Indeed, Karáchi alone exported more wheat than Bombay and Calcutta put together, and but for the circumstance that the Punjab had a good crop available for export from Karáchi the export of wheat from India would have been insignificant.

Both the import and export trade of Madras was large, considerable quantities of cotton, sugar, indigo, and seeds having been exported.

The trade and navigation of India with foreign countries have been distributed during the last seven years in the following proportions between the five chief ports. Treasure is included in the trade here :

—	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
<i>Trade.</i>							
Bombay . . .	41'55	43'51	43'79	42'78	43'37	44'03	43'95
Calcutta . . .	38'45	36'97	35'97	36'9	35'87	35'6	34'04
Rangoon . . .	5'06	4'67	4'93	5'01	5'9	5'2	5'76
Madras . . .	5'28	5'43	5'0	5'58	5'44	5'3	5'58
Karachi . . .	3'36	3'79	4'34	3'68	3'2	4'26	4'53
TOTAL	93'70	94'37	94'03	93'95	93'78	94'39	93'86
<i>Shipping.</i>							
Bombay . . .	33'82	34'78	32'67	33'7	33'23	35'22	31'48
Calcutta . . .	26'41	24'77	23'54	24'52	24'44	25'41	24'74
Rangoon . . .	8'8	9'23	9'20	9'36	10'82	10'1	10'9
Madras . . .	7'24	7'62	8'1	8'07	8'05	7'22	8'26
Karachi . . .	5'81	6'61	8'05	6'62	5'65	6'71	7'76
TOTAL	82'08	83'01	81'56	82'27	82'19	84'66	83'14

The following figures shew the actual extent of the foreign trade of the seven largest ports of India in merchandise only, imports and exports (including re-exports), during the last seven years (rupees, 000's omitted) :

—	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Bombay . . .	532,578	542,297	532,643	576,528	596,546	652,923	657,480
Calcutta . . .	573,355	532,239	520,041	577,721	589,558	622,882	631,124
Rangoon . . .	78,103	70,765	74,997	79,631	98,977	93,100	108,937
Madras . . .	78,236	78,118	73,674	85,208	88,001	92,967	103,393
Karachi . . .	50,483	55,975	65,140	57,054	51,863	73,772	84,057
Tuticorin . . .	13,591	12,168	10,951	14,266	16,139	16,551	22,647
Chittagong . . .	10,062	8,310	8,294	9,695	12,570	11,351	15,126

The increase of trade during this period in these ports has been at the rate mentioned below :

Bombay . . .	23'45	per cent.
Calcutta . . .	10'07	„
Rangoon . . .	39'48	„
Madras . . .	32'15	„
Karachi . . .	66'5	„
Tuticorin . . .	66'63	„
Chittagong . . .	50'33	„

The increase in the trade of the three last named ports is noticeable. If the Chittagong-Assam railway should be constructed Chittagong is destined to become a place of considerable trade.

Trade with Countries.

The following table exhibits the value of the trade between India and the countries with which India has considerable or increasing commercial connections, for each of the last five years. The countries are enumerated according

to the importance of the trade with them in 1889-90 (in rupees, 000's omitted) and the figures include the value of imports and exports, including treasure :

—	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
1. United Kingdom	846,392	877,084	921,824	983,066	1020,852
2. { China—Hong-Kong	133,053	141,623	143,736	142,443	142,081
{ China—Treaty Ports	50,977	35,463	37,724	47,312	44,729
3. France	74,080	85,947	81,675	96,192	91,457
4. Straits Settlements	53,903	58,396	64,314	67,700	74,193
5. Belgium	39,967	39,039	34,760	51,943	65,182
6. United States	44,828	51,355	57,302	55,792	56,866
7. Italy	45,488	58,666	53,742	41,935	47,952
8. Egypt	35,544	30,264	35,300	37,085	41,696
9. Austria	26,681	34,446	35,889	39,569	37,864
10. Ceylon	29,078	30,960	32,760	31,971	37,146
11. Germany	5,283	9,449	12,268	17,535	33,462
12. Mauritius	20,615	26,255	26,936	25,205	29,772
13. Persia	21,038	21,546	21,999	24,288	27,625
14. Australia	15,678	11,549	21,497	19,251	22,137
15. Arabia	16,760	19,774	18,658	18,876	21,195
16. Zanzibar, Mozambique, and other ports on the East Coast of Africa.	10,321	12,850	18,340	15,339	15,755
17. Japan	2,989	4,316	7,482	10,611	12,876
18. Aden	9,382	9,723	11,935	12,192	11,973
19. Turkey in Asia	7,668	8,361	9,488	10,594	11,706

Our trade with the world last year was thus distributed (rupees, 000's omitted):

	With Europe.	With Africa and adjacent islands.	With Asia.	With America.	With Australia.
Bengal	461,359	18,437	106,134	49,431	12,682
Bombay	441,500	34,396	179,321	2,399	683
Sindh	69,369	8,283	5,748	650	8
Madras	143,989	4,405	23,038	4,662	718
Burma	64,926	24,071	35,590	7,222	548
TOTAL	1181,143	89,592	349,831	64,364	14,639

Analysing this table we find that our trade with Europe is 69 per cent ; with Asia 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent ; with Africa over 5 per cent ; with the American Continent 4 per cent ; and with Australasia under 1 per cent ; of our whole trade. The trade set against Africa, however, is not all trade with that Continent, a considerable proportion being trade with Egypt which is really European trade, owing to the practice of making Port Saïd a port for orders. This Egyptian trade amounts to about 39 $\frac{3}{4}$ millions of rupees, and if we deduct from Africa on this account 35 millions (which would be a moderate deduction) and add this sum to the total value of trade with Europe, the totals (000's omitted) and percentages in each case would work out as follows :

	Total value.	Propor- tion.
Europe	1216,143	71·5 per cent.
Asia	349,831	20·6 „
America	64,364	3·8 „
Africa	54,592	3·2 „
Australasia	14,639	0·86 „

Bengal has a larger trade than any other province with Europe, America, and Australia, though Bombay stands but little behind as respects European trade; and Bombay has the largest trade with African and Asiatic countries.

The increase during the year in the trade with the United Kingdom amounted to a little under 38 millions of rupees, or, say, nearly four per cent. The increase in the trade with the other countries mentioned amounted to nearly sixty millions of rupees, or nearly eight per cent.

In the twenty years which have elapsed since 1871 the total trade of India has increased by about 77 per cent, but the trade with England has increased by only 56 per cent, and, as will be seen from the table of percentages given below, the proportion which trade with England bears to the whole trade is slowly declining. From a proportion of about 63 per cent of the whole in 1870 it fell to about 56½ per cent in 1880, the opening of the Suez Canal having caused a diversion of trade which formerly went through England. Five years later the proportion was about 55½ per cent, and now it is about 54 per cent. England, however, still has more than half the whole Indian trade and her Colonies have a substantial proportion of the remainder. If England's share of the trade is declining, the decline is very slow, and the actual augmentation of the trade, though not relatively so large as that with other countries, will be regarded as very satisfactory when it is borne in mind that the trade with England today is as large as was the whole trade of India with the world twenty years ago.

The subjoined table shews for each country the proportion per cent which the trade with it bears to the whole trade of India. The countries are placed in order of importance of last year's trade.

—	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
1. United Kingdom	55.61	54.88	54.81	54.89	53.94
2. { China—Hong-Kong	8.74	8.86	8.55	7.95	7.51
{ China—Treaty Ports	3.35	2.22	2.24	2.64	2.36
3. France	4.87	5.38	4.85	5.37	4.83
4. Straits Settlements	3.54	3.65	3.82	3.78	3.92
5. Belgium	2.63	2.44	2.07	2.90	3.44
6. United States	2.95	3.21	3.41	3.11	3.
7. Italy	2.99	3.67	3.19	2.34	2.53
8. Egypt	2.34	1.89	2.10	2.07	2.2
9. Austria	1.75	2.16	2.13	2.21	2.
10. Ceylon	1.91	1.94	1.95	1.78	1.96
11. Germany	0.347	0.59	0.73	0.98	1.77
12. Mauritius	1.35	1.64	1.60	1.41	1.57
13. Persia	1.38	1.35	1.31	1.36	1.46
14. Australia	1.03	0.72	1.28	1.07	1.17
15. Arabia	1.1	1.24	1.11	1.05	1.12
16. Zanzibar, Mozambique, and other ports on the East Coast of Africa.	0.68	0.80	1.09	0.86	0.83
17. Japan	0.196	0.27	0.44	0.59	0.68
18. Aden	0.616	0.61	0.71	0.68	0.63
19. Turkey in Asia	0.504	0.52	0.56	0.59	0.62

In respect of most of these countries there is nothing particular to remark in the trade of the year, the fluctuations being ordinary increases or decreases in established trade. There are, however, three countries which call for notice in consequence of the sudden growth of commercial intercourse with them in recent years.

From Russia an import trade has been created in the last four years which last year amounted to about $7\frac{1}{2}$ million of rupees, the imports consisting almost entirely of petroleum from Batoum. Contemporaneously with this import trade an export trade has been developed, the value of which has averaged in the last four years $4\frac{1}{3}$ million rupees, the average of the trade of the previous ten years having been only one million. The exports consist mainly of raw cotton, seeds, and indigo. The yarn and cloth spun and woven by the Russians from this raw cotton are sent into the markets of Central Asia whence Indian cottons are rigorously excluded by the fiscal régime of the Russian authorities. Indigo from India is also kept out from the same region by heavy duties and the people compelled to obtain the dye, or stuffs dyed therewith, through Russia.

The sudden increase in our trade with Germany merits attention. The following are the figures of imports and exports of merchandise in each of the last five years :

	Imports	Exports
	(in Rs., 000's omitted).	
1885-86 .	1,201	4,082
1886-87 .	1,603	7,846
1887-88 .	1,945	10,323
1888-89 .	2,480	15,055
1889-90 .	5,639	27,823

The increase has amounted to 533 per cent in five years, imports 369 per cent, exports 581 per cent. If this rate of increase, or anything approximating to it, should be maintained in the future, the trade between Germany and India will be one of considerable dimensions in the next ten years. Some attribute the marked increase in imports from Germany in the two last years to the operation of the English Merchandise Marks Act, the rigid administration of which has had the effect of interfering with the transshipment trade and has led to the establishment of direct trade with India. This may be the case as regards some of the imports, but a material portion of the increase in the trade of the year was in the import of salt, the price of which ranged at a very high level in Calcutta and Rangoon throughout the year. The German lines of steamers established recently for direct intercourse with India must necessarily come out laden with salt until the import trade has so far increased that they can fill up with better cargo.

With Belgium the development of trade has not been nearly as great as with Germany, but the actual trade is very much larger.

The figures for merchandise for the last five years are as follow :

	Imports	Exports
	(in Rs., 000's omitted).	
1885-86 .	2,667	37,300
1886-87 .	2,952	36,086
1887-88 .	3,046	31,713
1888-89 .	5,267	46,677
1889-90 .	8,738	56,444

Imports have increased 228 per cent and exports 51 per cent in this period, the total trade giving an increase of 63 per cent, or more than three times as much as might be regarded as a fair average increase.

Import Trade.

The values of imported merchandise during the last twenty years stand thus :

	Exchange. <i>d.</i>	Rs. (000's omitted).
1869-70 . . .	23'25	329,275
1870-71 . . .	22'375	333,482
1871-72 . . .	23'125	308,108
1872-73 . . .	22'75	304,730
1873-74 . . .	22'351	316,285
<hr/>		
<i>Average</i> . . .	22'770	<i>Average</i> . 318,376
1874-75 . . .	22'221	346,452
1875-76 . . .	21'645	371,126
1876-77 . . .	20'491	353,671
1877-78 . . .	20'79	393,260
1878-79 . . .	19'761	365,662
<hr/>		
<i>Average</i> . . .	20'981	<i>Average</i> . 366,034
		increase about 15%
1879-80 . . .	19'961	397,421
1880-81 . . .	19'956	503,088
1881-82 . . .	19'895	469,921
1882-83 . . .	19'525	500,030
1883-84 . . .	19'536	527,039
<hr/>		
<i>Average</i> . . .	19'774	<i>Average</i> . 479,500
		increase = 31%
1884-85 . . .	19'308	531,493
1885-86 . . .	18'254	518,115
1886-87 . . .	17'441	586,614
1887-88 . . .	16'899	623,848
1888-89 . . .	16'379	665,703
<hr/>		
<i>Average</i> . . .	17'656	<i>Average</i> . 585,154
		increase about 22%

Last year the value of imported merchandise was ₹665,601,205, the average exchange of the year being 16'565*d.* The trade has just about doubled in twenty years.

The table of variations in prices of certain staple articles of import at Calcutta which was printed in the review of the trade of 1888-89 is reproduced here,

brought up to date. It will be seen that prices were on the whole lower last year for cotton goods and yarn than in the year preceding it.

Taking the prices of March 1873 as = 100, the following table shews the variations in the prices of staple imports since then at Calcutta :

	Grey shirtings, 8½ lb.	Mule twist, white, No. 40.	Mule twist, Turkey red, No. 40.	Copper, sheathing.	Iron, flat, bolt, &c.	Total.
March 1873 . . .	100	100	100	100	100	500
June 1874 . . .	97	92	106	95	108	498
March 1875 . . .	86	92	102	103	93	476
" 1876 . . .	86	90	92	99	79	446
January 1877 . . .	78	90	85	92	67	412
" 1878 . . .	73	78	87	86	60	384
" 1879 . . .	76	75	78	80	56	365
" 1880 . . .	81	84	75	83	73	396
" 1881 . . .	82	82	69	81	56	370
" 1882 . . .	78	84	69	89	71	391
" 1883 . . .	82	74	54	80	60	350
" 1884 . . .	75	74	62	77	62	350
" 1885 . . .	76	72	58	64	54	324
" 1886 . . .	84	67	57	57	50	315
" 1887 . . .	81	62	57	65	53	318
" 1888 . . .	79	75	59	90	61	364
" 1889 . . .	81	75	57	98	65	376
" 1890 . . .	76	74	57	69	79	355
August 1890 . . .	67	71	55	72	64	329

In the review of the trade of 1888-89 the following remarks were made :

The great feature of the year was the expansion of the trade in cotton manufactures, the increase in which was over 400 lakhs, or but little less than the total increase in the import trade generally. It was in the main a speculative increase justified by the condition of the English manufacturing industry rather than by the condition of the Indian consuming market. Imports in the present year of yarn and of white piece goods are smaller than in the same period of last year, and it is probable, considering the condition of the Indian market and that manufacturers in England have agreed to work short time, that other kinds of cotton goods will decline too.

The anticipation has proved to be tolerably well founded, the trade in cotton yarn and goods last year having declined by 16,300,000 rupees. Among other fluctuations in the import trade the most noticeable are: a very large increase in the imports of copper; a continued increase in machinery and mill-work, aniline and alizarine dyes, kerosene oil and apparel; and a decrease in railway material and coal.

The more important articles will now be briefly noticed in the order in which they are grouped and classified in the statistical tables :

I.—Animals, living :

	<i>Value in Rs.</i> (000's omitted).
1885-86 .	2,568
1886-87 .	2,612
1887-88 .	2,561
1888-89 .	2,953
1889-90 .	2,397

The bulk of this sum represents the value of horses imported from Australia and the Persian Gulf. There was a large decrease in the importations from Australia.

II.—Articles of food and drink :

	<i>Value in Rs.</i> (000's omitted).
	58,519
	67,896
	74,970
	74,691
	78,677

The increase in this group is mainly due to a large import of Sugar, and in a smaller degree to larger imports of Tea.

Under this head there was a decrease on the whole, spirits as well as wines having been imported in smaller quantities, while the importation of malt liquor continued on an extensive scale. The fluctuations in the import of malt liquor are curious. Fifteen years ago (in 1875) the imports suddenly fell from an average of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons to an average of a little more than one million, remaining at this point for ten years when they began to increase. The trade since 1884-85 has been steadily augmenting year after year, and its dimensions now are nearly three times as great as they were six years ago :

	Gallons.
1884-85 .	1,066,913
1885-86 .	1,299,408
1886-87 .	1,715,638
1887-88 .	2,138,518
1888-89 .	2,398,580
1889-90 .	2,797,965

Various causes in combination may be assigned for this remarkable augmentation of trade. The character of the beer has changed, and many are able to drink the lighter qualities now imported who were unable to drink the heavier beers that were formerly imported ; there has been a great increase in the classes of the European population accustomed to drink beer habitually—artisans, workers in mills and factories, men employed on railways and inland and coasting steamers, and so forth ; there has also without doubt been created a taste for beer among the Madras coolies who work for high wages in Burma and return annually to Madras with their earnings (the imports into Madras and Burma have increased much more largely than in other provinces) ; the strength of the British

army has been largely augmented ; and the prices of beer have materially fallen. But it is hardly likely that these causes alone can have brought about such a sudden development in consumption, and the most effective cause may perhaps be sought in competition. The English brewers keenly felt the competition of the German and Austrian brewers and actively sought to retain a market which seemed to be undermined from without by continental beer and from within by Indian beer. At the same time the practice recently adopted by the large English brewers of " tying " public houses restricted the clientèle of the smaller brewers and forced them to seek openings in the foreign markets for a production which was in excess of home requirements and the conversion of private breweries into limited companies has been followed by the necessity of shewing increasing sales. Hence the pushing of beer in the Indian and other external markets.

The trade in spirits does not increase much, if it can be said to increase at all. The imports of the year were smaller than those of the preceding year. They amounted to 1,100,414 gallons, of which whisky 386,337, brandy 341,358, gin 87,636, rum 38,885, and " other sorts " unenumerated amount to 246,198. The consumption of gin and rum is distinctly on the decline, the imports of rum having fallen to less than half what they were five years ago. Possibly the place of imported rum is being taken by rum distilled according to European methods in India. The largest share of both these liquors is consumed in Burma, much of the rum being no doubt drunk by the Madras troops as well as by the British soldier. The unenumerated kinds of spirits consist largely of arrack from Ceylon, shamshu from China and the Straits, perfumed spirits and spirits mixed with drugs or prepared for use in the arts.

The trade in wines is still less flourishing than that in spirits. Champagne stands on the level at which it stood five years ago, and the imports are only half what they were some years ago. Claret has steadily fallen off year by year. Sherry has fallen to a very low point. Port appears to be recovering but the imports do not exceed what they were many years ago. Other sorts of wines—including those of Germany, Italy, Greece, and Australia—have increased substantially, but the total quantity of all wines imported last year exceeded that imported five years previously by less than one per cent. In the same period liqueurs have increased about 27 per cent, but the imports are very small—only 13,581 gallons last year.

Provisions.

The import of salted fish still continues on an extensive scale, though not so large as last year. Of 18 million pounds imported, Burma received about 10½ million pounds from the Straits, the increase of the salt duty having given a stimulus to this trade, the imports being free of duty. About 5 million pounds were imported into Bombay from the Mekran and Arabian Coasts.

Salt.

Imports have been as follows in the last five years :

1885-86	. .	363,088	tons.
1886-87	. .	416,592	"
1887-88	. .	423,897	"
1888-89	. .	398,810	"
1889-90	. .	410,808	"

The increase of price in Liverpool salt to which reference was made in the review of the trade of 1888-89 has had the effect of reducing imports from

England and of increasing imports from other countries which immediately made haste to compete. The imports of the last three years have been as follow :

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom .	339,651	337,089	285,767
Germany .	23,187	7,711	45,439
Arabia .	42,633	20,129	35,736
Aden .	15,004	17,397	33,782
Other countries .	3,422	16,484	10,084
	<u>423,897</u>	<u>398,810</u>	<u>410,808</u>

The average import annually for these years amounts to 411,172 tons. In the three calendar years of 1887, 1888 and 1889, the quantity of salt produced in India gives an average annual production of about 1,051,000 tons.

Prices of Liverpool salt kept very high in Calcutta until about the close of the year, the average for the year being but little below that of the preceding year. The prices since 1881-82 have been as follow (duty excluded) :

	Rupees per 100 maunds.
1881-82 .	51·9 to 60·4
1882-83 .	48·9 „ 55·9
1883-84 .	56·3 „ 62·3
1884-85 .	52·5 „ 57·9
1885-86 .	55·9 „ 60·6
1886-87 .	68·5 „ 74·4
1887-88 .	73·5 „ 80·8
1888-89 .	88·3 „ 102·6
1889-90 .	89·8 „ 98·2

They have fallen materially however since then, the range being :

	1890.
March .	87·8 to 91·8
April .	81·75 „ 91·5
May .	79·75 „ 91
June .	76 „ 87·7
July .	66·12 „ 82

The fall is chiefly the consequence of the rise in exchange, though no doubt the competition of other salts has had something to do with it also.

The imports of sugar continue on a large scale. Last year we imported 1,723,113 cwt., the declared value of which was just 22 million rupees. Of this the quantity re-exported represented a value of 2,676,000 rupees, so that India imported sugar to the value of more than 19 million rupees for consumption in the country. It comes from all parts now, chiefly from Mauritius, but cargoes were received from China, the Straits, Ceylon, England, Germany, France, Belgium, and Austria. Yet India produces sugar in abundance and refines it in abundance and exports large quantities (last year about 1,420,000 cwt., value for 9,200,000 rupees). The exports are mostly from Madras. They consist in the bulk of unrefined sugar whereas the imports into Bombay are mainly refined sugar. Is there any sufficient reason why Madras or Bengal or Northern India should not supply the requirements of Bombay in refined sugar?

Sugar.

Why should we import any refined sugar from the United Kingdom into Bombay when we export refined sugar to the United Kingdom from Bengal and Madras? Why also should we export sugar to Ceylon from those Presidencies and receive sugar from Ceylon into Bombay? It would be interesting to learn the causes of these features of the sugar trade in India. If they were known and discussed they would perhaps disappear and India cease to be an importer of an article which she produces in abundance herself.

Tea.

The conditions under which an extensive import of tea is carried on are not dissimilar to those under which sugar is imported. We produce tea and export it in large quantities, and we import considerable quantities of which a portion is re-exported, the rest being consumed in the country. Last year we imported about 5,383,000 lbs., value for ₹3,637,000, a larger quantity than has ever been imported before. It came from China, the Straits, Ceylon, and Java, and some of it was re-exported (1,849,429 lbs.) by sea, mainly to Persia. Some portion also was re-exported by land to Afghanistan. The rest was consumed in the country.

III.—Metals, manufactured and unmanufactured, including machinery and millwork and railway material :

*Value in Rs.
(000's omitted).*

85,532
83,611
107,848
99,663
110,589

opper and zinc.

The most prominent feature of the year's trade in this group was the prompt return of activity in the importation of copper following on the fall of price which ensued on the collapse of the "corner", established by the *Société des métaux*. As soon as prices were raised abnormally by the operations of that ring, importations fell off and indeed were almost completely suspended: as soon as prices fell importations recommenced on a large scale. The following are the quantities imported in each of the last five years :

Cwt.

1885-86 . . 652,973
1886-87 . . 615,049
1887-88 . . 532,635
1888-89 . . 98,490
1889-90 . . 568,915

The demand was even smaller than would seem from the imports of 1888-89, for in the previous year India had re-exported, to take advantage of the rise in price, the unusually large quantity of 47,000 cwt. Zinc followed much the same course as copper, in conjunction with which it is used in India.

iron and steel.

In the same way, though not to anything like the same extent, the recent rise in prices has caused a restriction of consumption of iron and steel, apparent mainly in bars, nails and screws, beams, pillars, girders, and bridgework. The total imports of iron have been as follows, shewing a reduction of 16 per cent

in the last two years in iron. Of steel the imports were 14 per cent less than in the preceding year :

Iron. Cwt.	Steel. Cwt.
3,493,179	278,788
3,280,389	349,317
4,321,587	420,927
4,002,793	542,388
3,608,405	468,396

The continued development of manufacturing industry in India is attested by the large and rapid increase in the imports of *Machinery and Millwork*. The imports of 1888-89 were at an exceptionally high figure (₹23,169,000) but were exceeded by those of last year (₹24,354,000). The importation of *Railway material* on the other hand was a good deal smaller than in either of the two previous years. *Machinery and Railway material.*

IV.—*Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials :*

Value in Rs. (000's omitted).
8,155
9,428
10,063
11,958
12,803

The increase in this head is largely due to the ever extending use of aniline and alizarine dyes by native dyers. The imports of these dyes during the year amounted to about 57,682,000 ounces, being nearly five million ounces in excess of the imports of the preceding year. The employment of these dyes has caused the imports of madder (or manjit) from Persia and Kabul to fall to such a low level that the trade would seem to be on the point of extinction. In 1886-87, 19,125 cwt. of madder were imported chiefly from Persia: last year only 2,646 cwt. Cochineal remains stationary, but this material is used more in the colouring of confectionery than of textile fabrics. Saffron also increases slowly, but this article is used almost exclusively in food and Hindu religious ceremonies. *Aniline dyes.*

The bulk of the aniline and alizarine dyes (over 53 million ounces) is imported into Bombay and Sindh.

V.—*Oils :*

Value in Rs. (000's omitted).
9,611
14,084
14,868
20,728
26,452

The very great increase under this head results from the rapidly extending consumption of mineral oil as an illuminant in India. The importations of mineral oil have been during the last five years : *Mineral oil.*

Gallons (000's omitted).	Rs. (000's omitted).
21,312	8,518
31,950	12,600
31,422	12,745
39,952	18,613
53,390	24,788

The bulk of the oil is kerosene, only about $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons being other mineral oil used for batching jute and lubricating machinery.

Russian oil, of which not a gallon was imported before 1886, has taken a firm hold of the market, as will be seen from the subjoined figures shewing the imports in each of the last five years from the United States and Russia in Asia, the two countries whence most of the imported mineral oil is received :

	United States. Gallons (000's omitted).	Russia in Asia. Gallons (000's omitted).
1885-86 .	20,229	None.
1886-87 .	29,145	1,577
1887-88 .	25,040	5,036
1888-89 .	20,654	17,516
1889-90 .	35,882	15,962

The enormous increase in the imports from the United States during the year would seem to have been mainly speculative and to have been designed to rush Russian oil out of the market. Russian oil has, however, come into use far more largely at Bombay than at Calcutta, the imports into Bombay last year having been about $10\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons while Calcutta imported only about 1,600,000 gallons, this being half the quantity imported in 1888-89. This decline in the imports into Calcutta has been attributed to a prejudice created against the oil in the beginning owing to the quality not being satisfactory. But the oil is freely used in the Western Presidency and in Northern India, and no prejudice against it has ever existed there. It seems more likely that it is not a question of lack of demand in Calcutta, but of convenience of a market. For the steamers which bring the oil to India, Bombay is a more convenient port than Calcutta in which to obtain return cargoes of the merchandise which Russia takes from us in greatest bulk, namely, cotton and seeds.

Reference was made last year to the various uses to which people in India are putting the tinned-iron cans in which kerosene oil is imported. The potter and brazier must have some cause to regret that the people are not as conservative in the matter of receptacles for storage and packages for transport as they are in some other respects.

The imports of other kinds of oils are relatively unimportant. The only noticeable fluctuation during the year was that Burma, which received a considerable quantity of earthnut oil from the Straits in 1888-89, preferred to get it from Pondichery last year, the cost being cheaper.

VI.—Raw materials and unmanufactured articles :

Value in Rs.
(000's omitted).

32,519

31,491

39,440

41,157

37,252

Coal is the only article of any particular importance in this group, and its importance tends to diminish as the output of Indian coal fields increases. Coal.

The importations of the last five years are :

Tons.
790,930
765,668
848,878
833,478
601,670

The imports into Bombay have fallen materially, the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company having adopted the use of Indian coal to a considerable extent. The Bengal-Nagpur, Indian Midland, and Rajputana-Malwa lines also now consume Indian coal more or less largely. In Burma the rice mills have for some time past been using rice husks for fuel and the timber mills sawdust. Burma also obtained over 55,000 tons of Bengal coal from Calcutta in the year. These facts tend to account for some of the decline in the imports of coal :

	1888-89.	1889-90.
	Tons.	Tons.
Bombay .	642,762	435,755
Sindh .	46,596	32,279
Burma .	77,878	47,800

But the imports of the two preceding years had been heavy and high prices and high freights prevailed. Though there is no indication of it yet, the present year may see a recovery, especially if rates of exchange keep high. The extinction of the import trade in coal is, however, only a question of time and of greater facility and cheapness of transport in India.

Cotton is the article next in importance in this group. Imports last year amounted to the comparatively large figure of 116,000 cwt., mainly from Persia and the Mekran Coast, and practically all brought to Bombay. The Customs authorities at Bombay say : "Persian cotton is white in appearance, but the fibre is poor, and it does not fetch so high a price as cotton grown on this side of India. It is freely used for mixing with superior descriptions and the admixture is then offered for sale as the produce of certain districts in India." Cotton.

Ivory is next in importance to Cotton, but more than half of it is reshipped to London. Out of 2,687,000 lbs. imported from Zanzibar and the East African Coast in the last five years, 1,590,000 lbs. have been reshipped. It is probable that the exploitation of Eastern Africa will be followed in due course by direct transit for this article to Europe, so far as it is not required in India for manufacture into bangles, combs, and the other forms in which it is used. The average consumption for India in the last five years would appear to be about 219,000 lbs. annually. Wool, which is imported, like cotton, from Persia and the Mekran Coast, is all reshipped to England, with a considerable quantity of other foreign wool brought to Karachi by land from across the border. Silk, from China and the Straits, is brought to Bombay and Burma for local manufacture : the quantity imported last year was 2,360,467 lbs. Ivory, wool
silk.

VII.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured :

Value in Rs.
(ooo's omitted).

321,210
377,492
374,097
414,553
397,430

Cotton goods
and yarn.

This important group constitutes about 60 per cent of the aggregate imports of merchandise. The trade of the year fell away by about 4 per cent, but the preceding year's trade was exceptionally large. The fall was due to a restriction in imports of cotton goods and yarn, both of which had been dealt in in a very active way in the previous year. The decrease in the recorded values of cotton goods was 5 per cent, and in twist and yarn 7 per cent. The imports of yarns have been as follow in the last seven years (ooo's omitted in quantities and values) :

	lbs.	Rs.
1883-84 .	45,379	34,659
1884-85 .	45,800	33,604
1885-86 .	45,915	31,721
1886-87 .	49,014	33,184
1887-88 .	51,542	35,819
1888-89 .	52,587	37,468
1889-90 .	46,382	34,825

The imports of each province (in lbs., ooo's omitted) are shewn below for the last three years :

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Bengal .	15,453	15,056	11,296
Bombay .	15,374	15,005	13,549
Sindh .	1,676	2,683	2,040
Madras .	13,758	15,813	13,694
Burma .	5,281	4,029	5,803

The decline has been general, except in Burma, being heaviest in Bengal, where, it would seem, the transfer of part of the trade in yarn and woven goods to Bombay and Karáchi is beginning to be visible in respect of white and coloured goods. The supply of goods to marts north of Cawnpore can now be made by the Indian Midland and the Bombay-Baroda lines with greater convenience from Bombay than from Calcutta, and increasing exports from Karáchi naturally bring about increasing imports to a port which is convenient as a distributing centre for a considerable region of North-Western India. The following are the quantities imported into each of the three provinces in the last five years in yards (ooo's omitted) :

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
<i>Grey goods—</i>					
Bengal .	653,189	816,045	756,309	830,824	761,190
Bombay .	339,776	365,916	300,032	327,665	326,475
Sindh .	42,199	68,226	50,006	89,927	71,912
<i>White goods—</i>					
Bengal .	132,531	187,338	152,305	180,868	141,083
Bombay .	116,493	159,413	119,794	177,352	139,023
Sindh .	3,814	15,668	5,648	19,517	24,222
<i>Coloured goods—</i>					
Bengal .	153,331	187,209	124,628	143,689	137,030
Bombay .	148,906	154,064	134,957	150,665	160,055
Sindh .	9,693	19,163	18,989	25,318	42,281

In *Cotton piece goods* of all sorts—grey, white, and coloured—the trade has been as follows :

	<i>(ooo's omitted).</i>	
	Yards.	Rupees.
1882-83 .	1,640,595	209,568
1883-84 .	1,721,852	211,654
1884-85 .	1,731,565	206,951
1885-86 .	1,740,814	205,967
1886-87 .	2,155,419	253,558
1887-88 .	1,839,742	233,172
1888-89 .	2,126,248	271,601
1889-90 .	1,997,049	257,996

The imports of each description last year were (yards, ooo's omitted) :

Grey .	1,257,001
White .	339,098
Coloured .	400,949

The total value of all Cotton manufactures (excluding Twist and Yarn) during the five years is :

<i>(ooo's omitted).</i>
Rs.
211,105
258,465
239,245
277,645
263,914

The practical monopoly which England possesses of this great trade (amounting to about 45 per cent of the whole import trade) is illustrated in the figures for the year. The total imports of cotton yarn and woven goods from all countries amounted to ₹298,749,000, the value of imports from the United Kingdom representing about ₹294,086,000, or say 98½ per cent of the gross total.

In silk piece goods there was a fair increase in the year ; in woollen piece goods there was a decrease, though shawls were imported in much larger number *Silks and woollens.* (901,000). Shawls are very popular with the male population of Bengal into which province more than four-fifths of the imports are brought. They are not creditable to the artistic sense of the Bengalis, being generally violently coloured and figured, but they are cheap, the average valuation standing at between 2½ and 2¾ rupees for each.

Woollen piece goods are also largely used in Bengal by the well-to-do classes, but that province does not consume silk goods to any extent. The imported silks are mainly used by Europeans, the small use made by natives of silk being limited, speaking generally, to *sāris* of native silks worn by women. The case is different in Bombay and Burma where silks are largely worn by men and women alike. The distribution of imported silks (which we get mainly from

England, France, and China) is therefore chiefly confined to these two provinces, as the following figures of last year's trade will shew :

	Silk piece goods.	Goods of silk mixed with other materials.
	Yards.	Yards.
Bombay . . .	5,497,872	3,404,869
Burma . . .	5,231,808	3,868
Bengal . . .	658,599	555,485
Sindh and Madras	37,889	14,727

The Burman, it will be observed, is very particular about the silk he or she wears and insists on having pure silk.

Apparel.

The imports of Apparel (including boots and shoes) and millinery steadily increase. Their value has in five years advanced from ₹10,372,000 to nearly 13 millions, an increase of about 25 per cent. The actual value however is really larger, for a large proportion of the articles imported by post (value ₹2,362,000), of which no specification is given in the trade accounts, consists of Apparel.

Other manufactured goods.

Of the other articles enumerated in this group the following are the most important. The value of the trade in each of the last three years is here specified in rupees (000's omitted) :

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Arms and ammunition . . .	1,318	1,998	1,916
Books and printed matter . . .	1,817	2,141	2,150
Building materials . . .	1,166	1,632	1,792
Cabinet-ware and furniture . . .	897	1,006	994
Candles . . .	979	780	1,359
Clocks and watches . . .	1,184	1,007	1,045
Corals, real . . .	1,602	1,418	1,402
Earthenware and porcelain . . .	2,236	2,248	2,239
Glass and glassware . . .	5,789	6,580	6,471
Instruments and apparatus :			
Musical . . .	781	915	856
Scientific . . .	805	921	999
Jewellery and plate . . .	969	1,163	837
Leather and leather goods, excluding boots and shoes . . .	1,497	1,669	1,848
Matches . . .	2,435	1,945	2,394
Paints and colours, and painters' materials . . .	2,653	3,079	2,674
Paper and pasteboard . . .	4,183	4,105	4,075
Ships, parts of . . .	1,959	1,891	673
Soap . . .	949	1,023	1,114
Stationery . . .	2,191	2,238	2,321
Toys and requisites for games . . .	1,395	1,580	1,359
Umbrellas . . .	3,713	4,106	3,141

The considerable increase in *Arms and ammunition* is due to the transfer to that head of Dynamite and other explosives, which were until last year classed under chemicals. The value of these articles was ₹839,784. Excluding them the trade in arms has materially declined in value.

There has been a great decline in the importation of *parts of ships*. This is due to a fall in the imports into Burma from ₹1,392,535 to ₹85,442, the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company having imported in the two preceding years practically all they needed to establish steamers on the rivers of Upper Burma. This province and Bengal are the only importers on any extensive scale of these materials.

The very large increase in *Candles* arose to some extent out of the efforts of Belgium and Germany to secure this trade, Belgium especially shipping to India about three times as much as in the preceding year.

The fluctuations in the other articles mentioned do not call for remark.

The list appended states in the order of their importance the principal articles of merchandise imported into India :

	Rs. (000's omitted).
Cotton goods and yarn .	298,739
Metals, including hardware and cutlery . .	68,022
Silk, raw and manufactured	28,451
Oils	26,452
Machinery and millwork	24,354
Sugar	22,000
Railway material	18,213
Provisions	15,966
Liquors	14,651
Woollen goods	14,552
Coal	13,086
Apparel	12,964
Chemicals, drugs and medicines, dyes, &c. .	12,803
Salt	8,945
Spices	8,523
Glass and glassware	6,471
Paper	4,075
All other articles	67,334
TOTAL	665,601

The two first items comprise more than half (55 per cent) of the whole value of imports.

Of this gross total value nearly 93 per cent represented goods not subject to duty, dutiable goods representing only 7.3 per cent of the total import value.

Re-export Trade.

The figures of the trade for the last seven years are as follows:

Rs.
(000's omitted).
30,356
28,873
30,931
35,197
41,014
43,354
42,958

Like the import trade this trade was slightly smaller last year than in the year preceding.

The following are the main items of the re-export trade, with their values in rupees (000's omitted):

	1888-89.	1889-90.
<i>Articles of Food and Drink :</i>		
Provisions	1,261	1,376
Spices	1,744	1,168
Sugar (refined)	2,007	2,676
Tea	2,058	1,678
<i>Metals and Metalware :</i>		
Hardware and cutlery	449	475
Copper	377	836
Iron	819	1,057
<i>Chemicals, Drugs, &c.</i>	553	579
<i>Raw materials :</i>		
Gums and resins	1,094	736
Ivory (unmanufactured)	2,092	1,255
Silk	427	339
Wool	6,195	6,935
<i>Manufactured Goods :</i>		
Cotton twist and yarn	1,115	914
Cotton manufactures, piece goods, &c.	17,052	17,283
Silk manufactures	644	577
Woollen manufactures	774	503
Apparel	913	1,034
Glassware	371	320

In 1888-89 Bombay and Sindh had about 95 per cent of this trade; last year they had nearly the same proportion, 94½ per cent, a large proportion of the trade being conducted with the East Coast of Africa and Asiatic countries lying east of Suez and west of Bombay.

The countries with which the trade is chiefly carried on are stated below. Values are given in rupees, 000's omitted:

	1888-89.	1889-90.
United Kingdom	12,224	11,787
Persia	11,291	12,256
Straits	3,001	2,718
East Coast of Africa, Zanzibar, and Mozambique	2,781	3,726
Arabia	3,062	2,222
Turkish Arabia	2,775	2,534
Aden	1,874	1,320
China	1,265	1,352
Ceylon	1,234	1,190
Mauritius	1,121	1,109
United States	238	324

There was nothing special in the fluctuations of trade in the year to call for remark.

Exports of Indian produce and manufacture.

The figures for the last ten years are as follow :

	Rs. (000's omitted).	Increase or decrease per cent.
1880-81	719,741	+ 10·8
1881-82	792,552	+ 10·1
1882-83	805,981	+ 1·7
1883-84	850,857	+ 5·5
1884-85	803,132	— 5·6
1885-86	807,347	+ 0·5
1886-87	849,090	+ 5·2
1887-88	863,700	+ 1·7
1888-89	926,427	+ 7·2
1889-90	991,010	+ 6·97

The actual increase in the year was $64\frac{1}{3}$ million rupees, the rate of increase being nearly 7 per cent or just below the rate of increase in the preceding year. The average annual rate of increase in the decade was about 3·8 per cent.

The increase of the year was in the main the result of a greatly augmented value of Seeds, Jute, and Cotton. In the case of Seeds and Jute the increase was due to higher prices, for the quantity of jute shipped was actually smaller than in the preceding year and that of seeds but very slightly larger.

The first of the groups in which the exports are classified (Animals, living) requires no notice. It is a trifling trade (value Rs981,000), conducted mainly with Ceylon and the Straits, which has in it no promise of development.

Animals.

II.—Articles of Food and Drink :

Value in Rs. (000's omitted).
247,128
258,734
238,297
248,419
253,541

This group is about one-fourth of the whole exports.

Coffee.

As was anticipated in reviewing the trade for 1888-89 the large exports of that year were not continued, the quantity shipped having fallen materially. The exports were :

	Cwt.	Rs. (000's omitted).
1888-89	365,299	18,842
1889-90	239,795	14,899

The stimulus given by a continued range of high prices in the European markets—in great degree speculative—was counteracted by a poor crop. The prices in London in January and June since 1886 have been in shillings per cwt. :

	January.	June.
1886	54/6	57/6
1887	78/6	91/0
1888	72/6	72/0
1889	89/0	88/6
1890	99/0	97/0

Rice not in the husk.

The trade was much better than in the preceding year, exports from Burma having greatly increased with large available supplies. From Bengal on the other hand exports were again smaller than in the previous year, prices, under the influence of deficient harvests, having reached a level that made trade difficult when prices in Europe did not respond. A glance at the quantities exported in the last ten years, as given below, shews that this trade does not make much progress. It is in fact, as has often been remarked before, no longer practically an Indian monopoly but, rather, subject to very keen competition.

Exports of Rice (husked) in cwt. (000's omitted).

	Burma.	Bengal.	Madras.	Bombay.	Sindh.	Total for India.	Value Rs. (000's omitted).
1880-81	16,730	6,717	2,363	927	32	26,769	89,717
1881-82	18,690	7,617	1,549	614	49	28,519	82,496
1882-83	21,249	7,838	1,319	552	71	31,029	84,401
1883-84	16,994	7,394	1,843	521	80	26,832	83,289
1884-85	13,507	6,035	1,403	677	80	21,702	71,228
1885-86	19,084	6,879	1,181	521	149	27,814	91,672
1886-87	18,216	5,902	1,564	639	139	26,460	87,648
1887-88	17,879	7,996	1,438	764	72	28,149	92,251
1888-89	14,205	6,417	1,538	589	19	22,768	78,453
1889-90	18,259	5,992	1,654	799	70	26,774	100,473

From Siam and Cochin-China alone the exports of rice are not much less than half those of all India. Then there is the rice from Japan and Italy, and we must also reckon with the competition of other grains which compete with Indian rice for distillation.

The countries to which Indian rice was exported last year are these :

	Cwt. (000's omitted).
<i>Europe :</i>	
United Kingdom	5,177
Malta	953
France	207
Egypt	7,398
Germany	176
Other countries	66
TOTAL	13,977

Asia :

Ceylon	3,269
Straits	3,916
Arabia and Aden	1,191
Persia and other countries	346

TOTAL	8,722
-------	-------

Africa :

Mauritius, Réunion, and Eastern Coast	2,014
Other countries	256

TOTAL	2,270
-------	-------

America :

West Indies	269
South America	1,426
Canada	53

TOTAL	1,748
-------	-------

<i>Australia</i>	56
----------------------------	----

Thus we have 52 per cent for Europe and $32\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for Asia, leaving about 15 per cent for the coolies of Mauritius and Réunion, the West Indies and South America, and for Australia. The European demand was slightly smaller last year than in either of the two preceding years when it was equal to 55 and 53 per cent of the whole respectively. It is possible that the present year may again shew a slightly smaller relative demand for Europe in consequence of the Italian Government having raised the duty on rough (cargo) rice closer to the level of the duty on cleaned rice and thus interfered with an active re-export trade carried on by Italian millers with great profit from State bounties.

It is practically almost impossible to ascertain the ultimate destination of great part of our rice in Europe. It will be observed that of the total quantity assigned to Europe in the foregoing table, say 14 million cwt., nearly $8\frac{1}{2}$ million cwt. are placed against Egypt and Malta. In the first of these cases the rice is shipped to Port Saïd for orders to be received there by the shipmaster as to port of destination ; in the second case the rice is stored for reshipment to other Mediterranean ports. The system obscures the effects which changes of fiscal legislation in Italy, Turkey, Austria, the States lying between Turkey and Russia, or in other countries, may have upon the direction and extent of our rice trade with Europe.

The exports of the last seven years have been, in cwt. and rupees (ooo's omitted in both cases) :

Wheat.

	Cwt.	Rs.
1883-84	20,956	88,775
1884-85	15,831	63,091
1885-86	21,060	80,023
1886-87	22,263	86,258
1887-88	13,538	55,624
1888-89	17,610	75,227
1889-90	13,799	57,914

The value of the wheat trade in the year was thus but little more than half the value of the rice trade.

The principal countries to which India has exported wheat in the same period are (in cwt., 000's omitted) :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
United Kingdom	10,508	7,445	12,071	9,667	6,040	9,038	7,686
Belgium . . .	2,593	1,738	2,661	2,404	596	2,478	2,329
France . . .	3,398	3,312	2,145	2,803	2,559	3,131	1,250
Italy . . .	445	701	1,218	5,212	3,074	1,125	403
Egypt . . .	3,306	2,149	2,296	1,317	660	1,658	1,654
Other countries .	706	486	669	860	609	180	477

The table appended shews the exports from the provinces in each of the last seven years (in cwt., 000's omitted) :

	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Bombay . . .	8,971	8,993	10,609	12,606	8,541	10,654	5,147
Sindh . . .	4,373	4,272	6,241	2,614	661	4,004	7,100
Bengal . . .	7,611	2,563	4,190	7,038	4,335	2,951	1,551

The exports from Karáchi were larger and those from Bombay and Calcutta smaller than they have ever been since the development of the trade. It is doubtful whether Calcutta will in future export as much wheat as in 1883. The great wheat producing tracts, have now by the completion of the Indian Midland Railway come within the zone of Bombay, and the exportable wheat of the North-Western Provinces (west of Cawnpore), of Oudh, the Punjab and Central India will doubtless be shipped from Bombay and Karáchi whence homeward freight is much lower than from Calcutta.

The decline in the trade of the year was due entirely to insufficient crops in the tracts whence Calcutta and Bombay draw their supplies. In the Punjab and Sindh the harvests were abundant and consequently from Karáchi was shipped more than from all the rest of India put together.

The total value of the exports of grain and pulse in the year was ₹165,282,000—say about 165½ millions of rupees. The bulk of this sum (about 158½ millions) was the value of rice and wheat, other kinds of grain and pulse standing for only about 6¾ millions of rupees, thus :

Rs. (000's omitted).	
Paddy (unhusked rice),	631
Gram	1,165
Oats	427
Pulse	1,202
Jawári and bájra .	3,138
Barley	99
Other sorts	232

Jawári and bájra are the only grains amongst these that have at all materially increased during the last five years. These two grains are shipped to Arabia, Aden, Abyssinia (Suakim), Egypt, and the Mekran Coast, from Bombay and Karáchi. Pulse (dál) goes to England in some small quantity, but mainly to Mauritius, South America, Ceylon, and the Straits, for the consumption of Indian coolies with their rice.

Gram and oats go mainly to Mauritius.

This trade is of quite recent creation and it may therefore be of interest to follow its progress since its development a few years ago. The exports have been (lbs. and rupees, 000's omitted in both cases) : *Flour.*

	lbs.	Rs.
1880-81 .	4,147	293
1881-82 .	5,107	329
1882-83 .	6,816	412
1883-84 .	7,891	459
1884-85 .	11,057	593
1885-86 .	18,879	972
1886-87 .	35,744	1,848
1887-88 .	36,082	1,975
1888-89 .	36,290	2,079
1889-90 .	48,572	2,838

The hope was expressed in reviewing the trade of 1888-89 that the export of flour had not reached its utmost limit of expansion. The hope was evidently well founded, for the quantity exported in that year was exceeded by a third last year.

This is almost exclusively a Bombay trade, more than 48 million pounds having been shipped from that port where the flour is made in steam mills according to European methods, Persian wheat being employed to a large extent as being cheaper than Indian wheat. But little goes to Europe as yet; only about 330,000 lbs. having been shipped to Belgium last year; but in course of time Indian flour should take its place with American flour in the English market. The bulk of the exports last year was directed as follows :

	lbs. (000's omitted).
Aden .	12,081
Arabia .	11,170
Mauritius .	8,173
Ceylon .	6,252
Natal .	2,900
Abyssinia .	2,451
Zanzibar .	1,941
Straits .	1,296
Egypt .	1,081

There was a considerable revival in the trade in Sugar last year, due probably to the remarkable fluctuations in price in Europe during the year which led to much speculation. But the exports are still far below the point they reached several years ago before the extension of the beetroot sugar industry in Europe, fostered by bounties, brought prices down to a ruinous level. The exports shew as follow : *Sugar.*

	Refined. Cwt.	Raw. Cwt.
1883-84 .	203,693	1,426,827
1884-85 .	55,323	1,015,596
1885-86 .	24,942	1,142,598
1886-87 .	33,340	953,066
1887-88 .	37,723	1,008,565
1888-89 .	34,523	978,955
1889-90 .	111,323	1,309,321

Bengal now regularly imports far more sugar than it exports. Most of the exports are from Madras. Bombay, as has been said in a previous page of this review, imports extensively.

Tta.

The exports continue on a large scale, but there was a heavy fall of prices in the year :

	lbs. (ooo's omitted).	Rs. (ooo's omitted).
1883-84	59,912	40,839
1884-85	64,162	40,447
1885-86	68,784	43,061
1886-87	78,703	47,280
1887-88	87,514	51,744
1888-89	97,011	52,673
1889-90	103,760	52,776

The average price realised at the auction sales in Calcutta during the last two years were as follow, in annas and pie per pound :

	1888-89.	1889-90.
Orange (and broken orange) Pekoe	12-4	11-8
Broken Pekoe	10-3	9-9
Pekoe	8-1	7-5
Pekoe Souchong	6-3	5-7
Broken ditto	5-10	5-0
Pekoe Fannings	6-6	5-7
Other low class	4-11	4-8

The London market, as usual, absorbed the bulk of the exports, which were thus distributed (in lbs., ooo's omitted) :

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
United Kingdom	84,182	93,222	98,731
Australia	2,472	2,880	3,419
Persian Gulf	324	467	1,200
United States	54	155	103
Canada	...	14	85

It is satisfactory to see the increase in the exports to Persia and the neighbouring countries. This increase to a large extent means a diversion of trade from Afghanistan, the extortionate dues charged in that country on tea from India in transit to countries beyond making the continuance of that route unprofitable. Hitherto the tea sent from India to Persia has been most largely foreign tea, from China and Java. Although the exports of such tea are still larger than those of Indian tea (1,673,000 lbs. were exported in the year), it would seem that it has lost the monopoly it possessed.

While the imports of Indian tea into England continue to increase, those of Chinese tea continue to diminish. The following are the imports from India and China into England in the last six years (quantity stated in lbs., ooo's omitted) :

	From India.	From China.
1884	63,208	143,771
1885	64,382	139,673
1886	73,467	145,308
1887	84,645	119,799
1888	89,874	105,735
1889	95,384	88,558

At last therefore England is taking more (and materially more) of Indian than of Chinese tea. An incident of interest to the tea trade was the reduction of the English import duty at the end of the year from sixpence to fourpence a pound.

The third group (Metals) is quite unimportant, and we pass at once to—

IV.—Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics; Dyeing and Tanning Materials:

Value in Rs. (000's omitted).
155,156
157,410
151,079
155,855
149,908

The decline in this group is due to lesser exports of Opium and Cutch and, to a smaller extent, of Chinchona Bark.

The exports were:

	Chests.	Rs. (000's omitted).
1882-83 .	91,798	114,813
1883-84 .	91,963	112,944
1884-85 .	86,578	108,826
1885-86 .	87,956	107,355
1886-87 .	95,839	110,777
1887-88 .	90,096	100,677
1888-89 .	87,789	105,081
1889-90 .	85,166	101,159

Opium.

The average price of 1886-87 (₹1,155 a chest) was $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent lower than five years ago (₹1,250 a chest), and in 1887-88 it was lower still (₹1,117 a chest). In 1888-89 the average value rose to ₹1,197 a chest, but fell again last year to ₹1,188.

The exports were thus distributed:

	1887-88. Chests.	1888-89. Chests.	1889-90. Chests.
China—Hong-Kong	59,508	56,166	54,272
„ —Treaty Ports	17,307	16,725	15,830
Straits . . .	12,368	13,995	13,749
Cochin-China .	670	725	1,050
Other countries .	234	178	265

Exports have reached a lower level than has yet been known, and the last was the fourth year of a continuous decline. The competition of Chinese-grown opium is making itself visible.

As was remarked in the review of the trade of 1888-89, "this is one of those long established trades of India, like Opium and Silk, which give no indication of progress." The exports of the last eight years were as follow:

Indigo.

Cwt.	Rs. (000's omitted).
141,041	59,130
168,590	46,410
154,629	40,689
132,495	37,831
138,396	36,917
139,644	38,906
142,447	39,486
157,116	38,631

The high prices of 1888-89 were not maintained, and indeed they fell to a very low point. From Bengal were exported about 92,000 cwt. and from Madras about 54,000 cwt. Exports from Madras have sensibly increased in the last few years.

Cutch and *Myrabolams* are the only two other articles of importance in this group. The trade in *Cutch* declined owing, it is stated by the Chief Collector of Customs in Burma, to lack of supply not to a restricted demand. Exports of *Myrabolams* were very active.

V.—*Oils* :

Value in Rs. (000's omitted).
3,956
4,588
4,710
4,303
5,439

This group is unimportant. *Castor oil* is exported to Australia and to England from Bengal and Madras, mainly as a lubricator. *Cocoanut oil* is exported to England, France, and the United States, from Madras, for employment in the preparation of perfumed oils for the hair, soaps, and candles. The exports of *Castor oil* increased in the year rather largely, but it is a business which fluctuates without progressing, and the same may be said of *Cocoanut oil*. Some day perhaps this group may become important, but not until India makes and exports oil from the seeds which are now exported for the purpose of oil making in such large quantities.

VI.—*Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles* :

Value in Rs. (000's omitted).
312,395
333,657
356,001
385,099
442,919

This is the most important of all the groups in which the export trade is classified, the value of the articles comprised in it representing last year nearly 45 per cent of the aggregate trade.

The increase of 15 per cent (nearly 58 millions of rupees) in the value for the year arose out of a very largely augmented export of *Cotton*, combined with increased values of *Seeds* and *Jute*.

Cotton.

The exports of the last eight years have been as follow :

	(000's omitted).	
	Cwt.	Rs.
1882-83	6,168	160,490
1883-84	5,979	143,837
1884-85	5,066	132,863
1885-86	4,190	107,772
1886-87	5,433	134,684
1887-88	5,374	144,128
1888-89	5,331	150,456
1889-90	6,320	186,684

The exports of the year reached a quite unusually high figure, being in fact larger than the exports of any year since 1871 when the exports amounted to about $7\frac{1}{2}$ million cwt., and up to date they continue on a more extended scale than last year. But for this increase in the exports of cotton the trade of Bombay would have shewn a decline in the values of exports generally in the year. The exports of the last three years were made chiefly to the countries noted below:

	Cwt. (000's omitted).		
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
United Kingdom .	2,140	1,776	2,166
Italy .	774	781	957
Austria .	688	755	741
Belgium .	676	873	941
France .	487	549	635
China .	202	139	125
Germany .	139	190	486
Russia .	134	150	94

The Continent in fact consumes about four-fifths of our exports, much of the cotton shipped to England being re-exported thither. So also about four-fifths of the exports are shipped from Bombay:

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Bombay .	3,929	4,198	4,819
Madras .	658	595	862
Bengal .	618	375	452
Sindh .	131	130	144
Burma .	37	32	42

It was about the most profitable as well as the largest cotton export year known.

The trade in Hides continues to decrease, and in Skins also there was a smaller trade. The numbers exported were: *Hides and Skins*

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Hides .	8,607,724	8,493,384	6,817,653	6,606,142	6,454,895
Skins .	4,947,579	4,077,259	3,817,124	4,356,561	3,906,711

Exports in the last eight years:

(000's omitted).	
Cwt.	Rs.
10,349	58,469
7,018	45,926
8,369	46,613
7,782	43,553
8,307	48,698
9,643	60,404
10,553	78,971
10,256	86,399

July.

The slight decrease in quantity was accompanied by a very large increase in value, the declared export values of the last three years averaging:

	Rs.
1887-88 .	6.26 per cwt.
1888-89 .	7.5 "
1889-90 .	8.42 "

Prices in fact ruled very high in Calcutta for a considerable time, falling towards the end of the year, however, with a rising exchange and a higher range of freights.

The destination of the jute has been as follows (cwt., 000's omitted) :

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
United Kingdom .	6,313	7,498	7,079
United States .	2,331	1,682	1,804
Germany .	351	684	652
France .	54	161	233
Italy .	266	184	223
Austria .	183	203	110
Spain .	124	104	113

From the United Kingdom a large proportion of the jute sent thither is re-exported mostly to the Continent as is the case with Indian cotton.

Manures.

Attention was drawn to the increasing dimensions of this trade in reviewing the trade for 1888-89, in which year 36,371 tons were shipped. Last year the exports were still larger, amounting to 45,673 tons, mainly bones. It appears that there has been quite a hunt for bones by export agents in every village adjacent to a railway line all over Northern India. If the collection has been exhaustive the trade cannot increase much further, but in the first three months of the present year we have already exported over 8,500 tons. It is instructive that, while Indian Agricultural Departments are discussing the uses and merits and the need of fertilisers, the Indian peasant is quietly selling for export to foreign parts every fragment of the best fertiliser he can find lying about the soil. They have been shipped to England, Belgium, Germany, the United States, Ceylon, and Mauritius, and their value represents a little under 2½ million rupees.

Seeds.

Exports of eight years :

	(000's omitted).	
	Cwt.	Rs.
1882-83 .	13,139	72,003
1883-84 .	17,355	100,837
1884-85 .	18,251	107,452
1885-86 .	17,280	99,483
1886-87 .	15,866	91,985
1887-88 .	16,060	93,850
1888-89 .	15,570	95,617
1889-90 .	15,795	106,275

As with cotton and jute, so with seeds there was a considerable increase in values last year.

The trade in the principal kinds of oilseeds was as follows in the last five years in cwt. (000's omitted) :

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
Castor . .	670	611	764	586	895
Earthnuts .	656	946	1,262	828	1,394
Linseed .	9,510	8,657	8,423	8,461	7,147
Poppy . .	695	613	456	730	483
Rape . .	3,722	2,660	2,081	3,061	3,904
Til or jinjili .	1,759	2,114	2,747	1,537	1,775

Cotton seed was specified separately in the returns for the first time in 1888-89 when the exports amounted to 135,582 cwt. Last year the exports fell to about 38,000 cwt.

Of the total quantity of seeds exported, about $7\frac{3}{4}$ million cwt. were shipped from Bombay and Karáchi, and under $6\frac{1}{2}$ million from Calcutta.

Exports are as follow in lbs. (ooo's omitted) :

Silk.

	<i>Reeled.</i>	<i>Chasam (waste).</i>	<i>Cocoons.</i>	<i>Total value in Rs. (ooo's omitted).</i>
1883-84	. 673	886	44	6,276
1884-85	. 531	953	83	4,638
1885-86	. 358	1,024	57	3,322
1886-87	. 449	1,020	114	4,843
1887-88	. 453	998	173	4,808
1888-89	. 433	1,314	374	5,187
1889-90	. 594	1,233	263	6,398

It will be observed that the export of reeled silk is non-progressive, while the exports of waste and cocoons have materially increased. There was a large increase in values last year.

Exports for the last eight years :

Teak timber.

	<i>Cubic tons.</i>	<i>Rs. (ooo's omitted).</i>
	59,187	. 6,112
	46,471	. 5,254
	47,556	. 5,321
	50,076	. 5,505
	23,946	. 2,231
	40,446	. 3,673
	52,609	. 5,753
	71,342	. 7,630

The cause of the increased export was stated in the review of the trade of 1887-88 in the following words: "With a revival in the shipbuilding trade in the autumn of 1887, there was a revived demand for teak, and the exports of the year were on a much larger scale, though still below the figures of previous years. The spurt has not yet died out in the shipbuilding yards, and the export of teak still continues to be rather active." Those remarks applied also to the trade of 1888-89 and may be held to apply to the year under review. Up to the time of writing in the present year, however, the trade has been conducted on a much more restricted scale.

The exports have been as follow :

Wool.

<i>(ooo's omitted).</i>	
<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
20,036	. 7,558
18,928	. 7,136
23,149	. 8,723
23,208	. 8,995
23,877	. 9,723
21,961	. 9,687
23,870	. 10,856

*Saltpetre and
Coal.*

Of the other articles comprised in this group it is only necessary to notice that there was some improvement in the Saltpetre trade and that about 40,000 tons of Bengal Coal and Coke were exported to Ceylon, Java, the Straits, and Zanzibar.

VII.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured :

	<i>Value in Rs. (000's omitted).</i>
1883-84 .	78,545
1884-85 .	85,903
1885-86 .	87,246
1886-87 .	93,317
1887-88 .	111,720
1888-89 .	131,095
1889-90 .	137,589

In seven years the value of the trade in the articles comprised in this group has increased by 59 millions of rupees, being in the proportion of 75 per cent, and the increase has been continuous from year to year. This last year the increase has not been so large as in previous years, being under 6½ millions or 5 per cent. The increase is due mainly to the still expanding trade in cotton yarn and to the active condition of the trade in jute goods.

The following figures indicate the relative proportions of each principal class of manufactures and the progress made in the seven years (rupees, 000's omitted) :

	1883-84.	1889-90.	Increase or decrease per cent.
Cotton yarn and cloth	28,532	67,537	+ 136·7
Jute goods	13,341	27,912	+ 109·2
Silk goods	2,857	2,607	— 8·7
Woollen goods . . .	1,207	1,258	+ 4·2
Tanned hides and skins	21,874	25,240	+ 15·4
Lac	5,550	4,885	— 12
Coir goods	1,372	2,352	+ 71·4
Apparel	670	1,133	+ 69·1

Cotton yarn.

The quantity of cotton yarn exported has increased 184 per cent in the last seven years, being at the rate of more than 26 per cent annually.

<i>(000's omitted).</i>	
lbs.	Rs.
49,876	19,262
65,897	24,411
78,242	27,552
91,804	33,368
113,451	40,774
128,907	52,071
141,950	57,487

The exports of cotton piece goods in the same period have been (in yards, 000's omitted) :

55,564
47,908
51,528
53,360
69,434
70,244
59,462

The distribution of the exports in the last three years was as follows :

	Yarn, lbs. (000's omitted).			Piece goods, yards (000's omitted).		
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
China	92,571	101,248	114,151	4,483	14,617	1,436
Japan	17,391	23,143	22,687	37	131	9
Aden	1,354	1,327	1,759	20,756	15,445	14,810
Straits	981	1,844	1,678	5,948	5,205	5,073
Asiatic Turkey	365	503	571	1,546	1,710	1,849
Java	283	327	374	...	...	...
Arabia	279	261	280	2,073	2,716	1,672
Persia	79	139	152	789	1,160	1,183
East Coast of Africa	66	64	59	24,718	19,864	21,526
Ceylon	32	26	75	6,931	5,945	5,725
Mekran and Sonmiani	...	...	...	1,268	1,211	1,464
Other countries	50	24	164	886	2,240	4,715

The progress of the spinning and weaving industry since 1876 is shewn in the table appended :

Year.	Number of mills.	Number of spindles.	Number of looms.
1876-77	47	1,100,112	9,139
1877-78	53	1,289,706	10,533
1878-79	58	1,436,464	12,983
1879-80	58	1,470,830	13,307
1880-81	58	1,471,730	13,283
1881-82	62	1,550,944	14,386
1882-83	62	1,654,108	15,116
1883-84	74	1,895,284	16,251
1884-85	81	2,037,055	16,455
1885-86	86	2,110,847	16,455
1886-87	94	2,261,561	17,455
1887-88	97	2,375,739	18,840
1888-89	108	2,670,022	22,156
1889-90	114	2,894,635	22,078

The mills are located as follows :

	Mills.	Spindles.	Looms.
Bombay Presidency	82	2,140,600	17,217
Bengal (suburbs of Calcutta)	7	239,536	...
Madras	8	169,128	543
North-Western Provinces	5	130,020	2,149
Central India (Indore)	1	26,036	464
Central Provinces	3	72,080	622
Hyderabad	3	52,038	549
Mysore	2	18,456	...
Pondichery	2	26,741	534
Travancore	1	20,000	...

Upwards of 98,000 persons are stated to have been employed in the mills at the end of 1889-90 and the capital invested is returned at 101 million of rupees, but several of the mills, private concerns, make no return of their capital, the figures being confined to mills worked by joint stock companies.

Jute. The value of the exports of manufactured jute in the last seven years has been (in rupees, 000's omitted) :

1883-84 .	13,341	1886-87 .	11,518
1884-85 .	15,438	1887-88 .	17,463
1885-86 .	11,308	1888-89 .	25,715
1889-90 .	27,912		

The exports of gunny-bags and cloths in the last seven years have been as follows, the quantities being stated in numbers for bags and yards for cloth, 000's being omitted in both cases :

	Bags.	Cloth.
1883-84 .	63,646	7,049
1884-85 .	82,779	15,344
1885-86 .	63,760	20,154
1886-87 .	64,570	12,799
1887-88 .	74,367	13,683
1888-89 .	99,790	15,160
1889-90 .	97,416	37,144

The increase in the trade last year was entirely in cloths, not in bags, the result of a large demand for England and the United States.

The industry is practically concentrated in Lower Bengal and in the vicinity of Calcutta. The statistics of these Bengal mills are given as follows for the last ten years :

	Mills.	Spindles.	Looms.
1880-81 .	19	66,274	4,893
1881-82 .	19	87,071	5,464
1882-83 .	18	92,033	5,413
1883-84 .	21	108,802	5,919
1884-85 .	22	127,892	6,706
1885-86 .	23	125,578	6,612
1886-87 .	22	132,907	6,787
1887-88 .	23	143,566	7,255
1888-89 .	24	149,937	7,681
1889-90 .	25	159,219	8,163

The mills employ 60,449 persons, and the capital invested in them is, as far as is known, some of the mills being private concerns the owners of which decline to state their capital, about 31 millions of rupees.

Tanned Hides and Skins. The exports of tanned hides and skins (mainly from Madras) in the last six years have been as follow, most of the exports being to England :

	Cwt.	Rs. (000's omitted).
1884-85 .	231,584	20,757
1885-86 .	274,566	23,422
1886-87 .	238,955	23,379
1887-88 .	272,449	25,266
1888-89 .	272,960	26,141
1889-90 .	260,716	25,240

Classing the exports in the order of their importance last year, they stand as follows, values being stated in rupees (ooo's omitted) :

Cotton, raw . . .	186,684
Grain and pulse . . .	165,282
Seeds	106,275
Opium	101,159
Jute, raw	86,399
Cotton manufactures	67,537
Tea	52,776
Hides and skins . . .	45,243
Indigo	38,631
Jute manufactures . .	27,912
Coffee	14,899
Wool, raw	10,856
Sugar	9,172
Timber and wood . . .	8,701

Coasting Trade.

After having fallen continuously from 1884-85 to 1886-87, there was a substantial recovery in the trade of 1887-88, but it has not been maintained. The total trade, imports and exports, merchandise and treasure, was in the last seven years :

	Rs. (ooo's omitted).
1883-84	614,616
1884-85	584,015
1885-86	575,983
1886-87	561,653
1887-88	607,386
1888-89	601,661
1889-90	592,110

The trade of 1888-89 was about one per cent under that of 1887-88; last year's trade was about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent less than that of 1888-89. In the coasting trade imports into one Indian port being exports from another, the actual value of the trade may be taken to be about the mean between the two, or either the import or export value may be taken to represent the actual value of the trade. Taking the export value, the trade of the last two years compares thus, in rupees (ooo's omitted) :

	1888-89.	1889-90.
Merchandise (Indian) . . .	209,545	206,024
„ (foreign)	67,578	65,702
Treasure	18,372	16,515

The figures do not include Government stores or treasure, which last year were valued at about $28\frac{1}{2}$ millions of rupees, mainly treasure.

The trade is classed under three heads: (1) between ports in different Presidencies; (2) between ports in the same Presidency; (3) between British and non-British ports. The first of these is much the most important, the last is the

least important. The exports of merchandise in the last three years are thus recorded (in rupees, 000's omitted) :

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
To ports in other Presidencies .	154,222	149,587	145,910
To ports within the Presidency .	94,918	93,830	94,160
To non-British ports .	29,520	33,706	31,657

The following table gives the totals of the trade in merchandise in each of the last five years for each province (in rupees, 000's omitted) :

	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.
<i>Bengal :</i>					
Imports .	48,487	49,373	52,853	50,086	49,559
Exports .	60,716	68,366	79,378	72,028	70,278
<i>Bombay :</i>					
Imports .	110,603	110,938	128,709	128,602	126,274
Exports .	114,229	109,471	116,932	121,680	116,530
<i>Sindh :</i>					
Imports .	25,111	23,269	20,855	20,901	20,923
Exports .	11,400	11,025	15,074	15,072	15,035
<i>Madras :</i>					
Imports .	45,942	44,168	44,614	43,313	48,794
Exports .	42,435	41,569	44,458	46,944	46,043
<i>Burma :</i>					
Imports .	32,963	39,962	44,458	43,216	41,082
Exports .	22,726	21,050	22,818	21,399	23,840

There is a general decrease except in Madras and Burma. The increase in the trade between Bombay and Goa, to which attention was drawn last year, still continues. The value of the imports from Goa into Bombay increased during the year from about 8 millions of rupees to ₹11,358,000. The whole of the increase of the last three years in this trade is the creation of the railway line which connects Goa with the interior. The articles in which trade is conducted are cotton (value for 8 millions of rupees), wheat and seeds, and to a smaller extent betelnuts, jawári and bájra, and myrabolams.

The only other novel feature in the coasting trade is in the development of the export of coal from Bengal to Burma. The imports into Burma have been as follow :

	Tons.
1885-86 .	110
1886-87 .	675
1887-88 .	70
1888-89 .	15,671
1889-90 .	53,071

It will be a very satisfactory indication of progress if this trade should further increase. Hitherto the high cost of transit in Indian waters has prevented the export of Bengal coal by sea.

Coasting shipping.

The following table gives the number and registered tonnage of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade during the last five years (ooo's omitted in tonnage) :

Entered.

	STEAMERS.		SAILING VESSELS.		NATIVE CRAFT.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1885-86	6,144	5,727	3,987	541	172,025	2,760
1886-87	6,807	6,325	2,879	326	175,865	2,899
1887-88	7,342	7,310	3,237	332	184,104	3,164
1888-89	7,316	7,246	3,241	245	185,659	3,089
1889-90	7,847	7,643	2,959	227	182,155	3,006

Cleared.

1885-86	6,127	5,679	3,992	506	156,694	2,613
1886-87	6,794	6,286	2,893	308	159,041	2,796
1887-88	7,308	7,238	3,301	314	166,928	2,955
1888-89	7,307	7,213	3,370	252	167,221	2,953
1889-90	7,844	7,617	3,066	233	165,673	2,881

There has been a large increase in this period in the number and tonnage of steamers, their average tonnage being also larger. Sailing vessels, other than native craft, are evidently being slowly thrust out of the coasting trade, while native craft appear to hold their own.

Trans-Frontier Trade.

The trade of the last five years was, in rupees (ooo's omitted) :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1885-86 .	36,187	55,849	92,036
1886-87 .	37,723	56,505	94,228
1887-88 .	41,709	50,209	91,918
1888-89 .	42,261	46,967	89,228
1889-90 .	37,377	51,137	88,514

The trade has undergone therefore a continuous decline during the last four years, and, though the decrease last year was trifling, it is unsatisfactory that the figures of the year should be six per cent smaller than they were four years previously, with an uninterrupted decline each year. It will be observed that the decrease occurred in the import trade alone, our exports having increased materially. A portion of the decline in the imports of the year can, however, be accounted for without any reference to the condition of trade. In 1888-89 the Kashmir Darbár remitted a large sum of money to India, in connection with the construction of the Jamu railway line, and much less treasure was brought from the State last year. The difference accounts for nearly half of the whole decrease in the import trade. The remainder is accounted for by a heavy decline in the imports of teak brought down the Salween from Karenni and Zimmé. This, it is stated, was largely due to the haste of the traders to get down to the registering post at Kado before the end of March 1889 all the timber they possibly could in order to escape payment of the enhanced duty of 7 per cent which was levied with effect from the beginning of the year under review.

The figures of treasure are so entirely untrustworthy that it will be best to confine the review of this trade to articles of merchandise only.

The value of these for the last three years is as follows, in rupees (ooo's omitted) :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1887-88 . .	37,126	47,780	84,906
1888-89 . .	37,154	44,801	81,955
1889-90 . .	35,053	49,305	84,358

Taking the imports and exports by countries, the following table gives the value of the trade carried on with each principal country (ooo's omitted) :

(Merchandise only).

	1887-88.		1888-89.		1889-90.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
Lus Bela	474	285	442	242	328	291
Khelat	538	438	500	396	399	355
Sind-Peshin Railway (Southern Afghanistan)	2,662	20,779	3,455	19,394	2,997	17,640
Sewestan	434	672	521	689	640	754
Kabul	2,375	5,749	1,873	5,268	3,253	7,965
Bajaur	393	576	342	491	757	897
Kashmir	5,373	5,258	5,023	4,856	5,787	5,638
Ladakh	335	317	286	299	245	223
Thibet	732	503	904	462	1,014	401
Nepal	16,440	11,201	13,881	11,009	14,889	11,583
Karenni	3,471	324	5,226	197	762	349
Shan States	251	485	190	277	853	1,192
Zimmé	2,403	245	3,243	400	1,468	426
Siam	259	263	259	243	499	349

Of the countries mentioned above those with which the total trade, imports and exports, exceeds a million of rupees are the following (ooo's omitted):

Sewestan .	1,394	Thibet .	1,415
Kabul .	11,218	Nepal .	26,472
Bajaur .	1,654	Karenni .	1,111
Kashmir .	11,425	Shan States .	2,045
Zimmé .	1,894		

The trade over the railway line that leads to Quetta is considerable, amounting to over 20½ millions last year, but such a material portion of it is internal trade that it cannot properly be taken into account here. Quite half the exports of the year consisted of railway material for the maintenance of the line and its extension, and the remainder consisted largely of supplies for Quetta and other settlements within the frontier. Of the imports also it is difficult to say how much really represents external trade. A proposal has recently been made to the local authorities to reorganise the system of registration in such manner that the returns will include only foreign trade, and it is hoped that the suggestion will be speedily carried into effect.

Kabul.

The trade of the last seven years has been as follows:

Imports.	Exports.	Total.
2,493	5,211	7,704
2,384	4,691	7,075
2,293	5,367	7,660
2,574	6,363	8,937
2,375	5,749	8,124
1,873	5,268	7,141
3,253	7,965	11,218

There was quite a revival of trade with Kabul, in both imports and exports. The only import that did not increase was madder (*manjit*). As remarked in the review of the sea-borne trade, the increasing use of alizarine dyes is driving madder out of the market.

Of the exports to Kabul the principal are cotton goods, indigo, sugar, and tea. The figures appended give the exports in the last four years of cotton goods (ooo's omitted in values):

	European.		Indian.	
	Cwt.	Rc.	Cwt.	Rs.
1886-87 .	15,768	2,172	25,243	1,651
1887-88 .	19,260	2,709	19,967	1,283
1888-89 .	15,269	2,092	18,591	1,209
1889-90 .	25,169	3,803	26,013	1,911

The next important article, and indeed the only other one of real importance, is tea. The following figures shew the condition of this trade (ooo's omitted from rupees):

	Foreign.		Indian.	
	Cwt.	Rs.	Cwt.	Rs.
1886-87 .	12,434	1,345	3,655	157
1887-88 .	6,529	701	2,180	129
1888-89 .	8,662	894	2,333	106
1889-90 .	8,424	880	2,655	165

The revival of trade with Kabul is attributed by the local authorities of the Punjab chiefly "to the cessation of disturbances in the dominions of the Amir of

"Kabul, a circumstance which accounts for the larger trade done with Kabul "in all the principal articles." The disturbances referred to are the Ghilzai and Afghan-Turkistan troubles. The explanation is probably correct, for the trade of Bokhara with Afghanistan also increased and the *Ruski Invalide* says that the increase points to the "re-establishment of a peaceful state of things in "Afghanistan." It will be observed, however, that the trade in Indian piece goods is but little larger than it was four years previously and that the trade in tea (Indian and foreign) is still a good deal smaller than in 1886-87. The causes which have combined to prevent the growth of trade (internal disturbances excepted) continue to operate with increased intensity. The Russian competition is keener and the facilities of transit in trans-Caspian territory greater, and the Russian fiscal restrictions against the intrusion of English and Indian goods from the East are severer. The transit duties levied by the Amir are practically prohibitive of trade from the Indian frontier beyond the zone of Kabul, and latterly the effect of these heavy dues has been increased by relatively light dues imposed on goods imported from Russian territory into Afghanistan. The following extracts from a report by Her Majesty's Consul-General at Meshed on the trade of Khorassan for 1889-90 (presented to Parliament last July) illustrate both the effects of these dues on the transit trade through the Amir's dominions to places beyond and the facilities for trade given by the trans-Caspian railway :

The shortest and best route for Indian goods coming to Meshed would undoubtedly be that *viâ* Kandahar and Herat, a journey of only 800 miles, or 30 stages, from our own railway terminus, but the exorbitant duties levied by the Amir (£2-2s. per cwt.) have caused its entire abandonment. * * * A Peshawar tea merchant, just arrived here to arrange to forward his goods by this route [Bombay and the Persian Gulf] in future, states that the Amir of Afghanistan levies 80 Indian rupees on every camel load of goods passing through his territory (*viâ* Kabul) to Bokhara. The Amir of Bokhara also levies 2½ per cent. He further states that a pound of tea, costing 12 annas in India, will cost about 16 annas when it reaches Meshed, 18 annas when it reaches Bokhara by this route, and 21 annas by the Kabul route. He says two-thirds of the green tea imported into Bokhara is Chinese and one-third Indian. If this is so, a great quantity of Indian tea must travel there by Kabul, the most expensive route, and the Indian Merchants must be unaware that the Persian route is the cheapest. * * *

At the present moment English and Russian chintzes are selling at the same price in the bazars. * * It is obvious that with the trans-Caspian railway at Askabad, only 150 miles from Meshed, and with both towns linked (as they shortly will be) by an excellent macadamised road, British goods having to cross the seas and traverse the long, rough land routes above indicated, cannot hope to compete with Russian goods and must eventually be driven entirely out of the market, even in these provinces of Persia, unless our own railway is extended in this direction. * * Russian sugar has entirely driven Indian and all other sugars out of the market.

It will be seen by reference to page 32 of the present review that the traders in Indian tea have become aware that some other route than that of Kabul must be taken if the transit duties are not largely reduced.

Kashmir.

The trade of the last three years has been as follows (rupees, 000's omitted) :

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1887-88 . .	5,373	5,258	10,631
1888-89 . .	5,023	4,856	9,879
1889-90 . .	5,787	5,638	11,425

The timber trade fell off, but in most of the other larger lines of import trade (ghi, hides and skins, fruits, woollen goods, and shawls) there was a substantial increase. Ghi, it may be noted, is becoming a considerable import from across the frontier, coming in from Afghanistan, Kashmir, and Nepal. The total quantity imported into India last year from all countries trans-frontier was 87,116 cwt. The shawl trade remains much smaller than it used to be in the time of the late Maharaja.

The export trade shews a large increase in European and Indian piece goods, and a small increase in tea, most of which, it is satisfactory to observe, is Indian tea.

Nepal.

The imports and exports of merchandise for the last four years are :

	Rs. (ooo's omitted).	
	Imports.	Exports.
1886-87 . .	16,697	8,606
1887-88 . .	16,440	11,201
1888-89 . .	13,881	11,009
1889-90 . .	14,889	11,583

The bulk of the trade of Nepal crosses the Behar border. The value of the trade of the last two years was as follows (ooo's omitted) :

	1888-89.	1889-90.
Imports into North-Western Provinces .	5,347	4,845
" " Bengal	8,534	10,044
	13,881	14,889
Exports from North-Western Provinces .	3,507	3,624
" " Bengal	7,502	7,959
	11,009	11,583

Both imports and exports have therefore increased, imports rather largely in consequence of extensive dealings in rice. In 1888-89 an embargo was placed by the Darbár on the export of grain in consequence of a poor harvest. This having been removed the export of rice to India was carried on very largely, stimulated by the high prices which followed a scanty harvest in Behar. On the other hand the trade in timber has fallen off somewhat, owing to regulations made by the Darbár impeding the trade.

The export to Nepal of cotton goods and of copper (following on the fall in price of that metal) was active.

Thibet.

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	
	(ooo's omitted).	
1887-88 .	732	503
1888-89 .	904	462
1889-90 .	1,014	401

The trade crosses the frontiers of three provinces—the North-West, the Punjab, and Bengal—and the trade with Bengal was practically extinguished in 1888-89 as the result of the military operations against the Thibetans in Sikkim, having been diverted over the frontier of the North-Western Provinces.

Last year the trade with Bengal resumed its ordinary course. The whole trade with Thibet is, however, insignificant in proportions and likely to remain so.

Karenni and Zimmé.

The trade practically consists of the import of teak timber floated down the Salween river (ooo's omitted in values) :

	From Karenni.		From Zimmé.	
	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.
1886-87 .	79,746	3,155	49,073	1,232
1887-88 .	75,797	3,458	65,102	2,240
1888-89 .	92,558	5,216	63,881	3,032
1889-90 .	11,739	759	25,164	1,266

The exploitation of the forests of Upper Burma is said to have materially interfered with the Salween timber trade and, as before remarked, the imposition of the 7 per cent duty had the effect of bringing all available timber down before the duty took effect.

Western China.

This head is a new feature in the returns of trade, the registration having commenced in June 1889. Imports were trifling, amounting only to ₹138,173—raw silk, grain, ponies, and hides being the principal items. The exports consisted chiefly of raw cotton, value ₹447,000 out of a total of ₹526,288—salt constituting the bulk of the remainder. It may reasonably be expected that the trade will largely increase.

The subjoined list of imports and exports in the trans-frontier trade gives a general idea of the relative commercial importance of each large article of trade and of the principal countries with which trade is conducted :

IMPORTS.

	Rs. (ooo's omitted).
Animals : Horses, cattle, sheep and goats, and others .	3,675
[Horses chiefly from Kabul and cattle from Nepal.]	
Drugs and medicines	764
[Charas chiefly from Ladak ; asafœtida and other kinds from Kabul, Kashmir, and Nepal.]	
Fibrous products	512
[Mainly from Nepal.]	
Fruits and Nuts	2,586
[Most largely imported from Kabul and Southern Afghanistan ; in smaller proportion from Kashmir and Nepal.]	

	Rs. (ooo's omitted).
Grain: Rice husked and unhusked	5,666
Other kinds	1,056
[Rice and other rain crop grains almost entirely from the Nepal terai; other kinds mainly over the North-West frontier.]	
Hides and skins	1,020
[From Kashmir and Nepal.]	
Oilseeds	2,215
[Mainly from Nepal.]	
Provisions: Ghi	3,412
Other kinds	1,065
[Half the ghi from Kashmir; the rest from Nepal and Northern Afghanistan; other sorts of provisions chiefly from Nepal and the Shan States.]	
Spices	607
[Kabul, Southern Afghanistan, and Nepal.]	
Tobacco	478
[Mainly from Nepal.]	
Timber	3,989
[More than half is teak brought down the Salween from Karenni and Zimmé; the rest imported chiefly from Kashmir and Nepal.]	
Wool, raw	2,423
[Mainly from Southern Afghanistan and Khelat, and in a smaller degree from Thibet.]	
Woollen goods, including shawls	1,592
[Almost entirely from Kashmir.]	

The foregoing list, which includes only articles amounting in value to about half a million rupees or more, represents an aggregate value of about 31 millions of rupees, being about 89 per cent of the total imports of merchandise.

The list of exports is not much larger :

	Rs. (ooo's omitted).
Cotton, raw	731
[Mainly to Western China; in smaller quantity to Northern Afghanistan and Nepal.]	
Cotton twist and yarn, European and Indian	568
[To Nepal, the Shan States, and Northern Afghanistan.]	
Cotton piece goods, European and Indian	20,638
[Most largely to Nepal, Kashmir, Kabul, and Southern Afghanistan, but exported in more or less considerable quantities to all countries, these goods constituting the bulk of the export trade. European goods largely exceed in quantity and value Indian goods.]	

	<i>Rs.</i> (000's omitted).
Indigo	685
[Mostly to Northern and Southern Afghanistan.]	
Grain and pulse	1,520
[Rice to Southern Afghanistan and Lus Bela ; gram and pulse to Kashmir and Nepal ; other kinds trifling.]	
Metals and Metalware : Brass and copper	1,239
Iron	642
Others	194
[Mostly to Nepal, Kashmir, and Northern and Southern Afghanistan, the bulk of the copper being exported to Nepal.]	
Provisions	1,231
[Largely to Nepal ; some salted fish and ngapi also going to the Shan States.]	
Salt	1,562
[To Nepal, Kashmir, Kabul, the Shan States, and Western China.]	
Silk goods	587
[Some to Kashmir and Nepal, but mostly to the States on the western frontier of Burma : Siam, the Shan States, Karenni and Zimmé.]	
Spices	841
[Mostly to Nepal.]	
Sugar	1,542
[Of refined sugar the exports are mainly for Nepal, Kashmir and Kabul, the quantity ex- ported by rail to Southern Afghanistan being chiefly consumed in Quetta ; unrefined sugar is exported chiefly to Nepal and Kashmir.]	
Tea, Indian and foreign	1,380
[Exports of foreign largely exceed those of Indian tea. Kabul takes the bulk of the foreign tea and some Indian tea, but of the latter the largest quantity is exported to Kashmir.]	
Tobacco	548
[Mainly to Nepal.]	
Woollen goods, including shawls	504
[Chiefly to Nepal and Southern Afghanistan, where, however, the goods are mainly used in Quetta and the British districts.]	

These articles represent a value of about 34½ million rupees, the aggregate value of the trade in all articles (railway material excluded) being about 40½ millions, or say 85 per cent of the exports.

Government of India.
FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

REVIEW
OF THE
TRADE OF INDIA

IN

1890-91:

- I.—Foreign Sea-borne Trade.
- II.—Trans-Frontier Trade.
- III.—Coasting Trade.

BY J. E. O'CONNOR, C.I.E.,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.
Honorary Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, Member of the International Statistical Institute.

SIMLA:
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS.

1891.

CONTENTS.

Section I.—Sea-borne Foreign Trade.

	Page
CHAPTER I.—General Summary— (paragraphs 1—31)	1—10
CHAPTER II.—Imports of Merchandise— (paragraphs 32—62)	11—21
CHAPTER III.—Exports of Merchandise :— (i) Foreign (paragraphs 63—66) ; (ii) Indian (paragraphs 67—98)	22—42
CHAPTER IV.—Trade with Countries and trade through the Suez Canal— (paragraphs 99—128)	43—53
CHAPTER V.—Provincial trade ; Government Stores ; Customs revenue— (paragraphs 129—140)	54—57
CHAPTER VI.—Balance of trade ; Council Bills ; Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion— (paragraphs 141—144)	58—60
CHAPTER VII.—Shipping— (paragraphs 145—151)	61—62

Section II.—Land-borne Foreign Trade.

CHAPTER VIII.—Trans-Frontier trade— (paragraphs 152—162)	63—71
---	-------

Section III.—Internal Trade.

CHAPTER IX.—Coasting Trade and Shipping— (paragraphs 163—193)	72—82
--	-------

THE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH
FOREIGN COUNTRIES

for the official year ending March 31, 1891.

Section I.—Sea-borne Foreign Trade.

CHAPTER I.

General Summary.

THE principal event of the year, an event on which turned the whole course of trade, was the phenomenal variation in the price of silver and the consequent range of exchange due partly to legislation in the United States, but more particularly to the speculation engendered by the prospect of that legislation. At the beginning of January 1890 exchange stood at 1s. 5d. in Calcutta. The fluctuations were unimportant until April, on the 9th of which month the rate was 1s. 5½d. It then began to go up rapidly, was over 1s. 6d. in May and June and above 1s. 7½d. by the beginning of August, with an increase of another penny by the end of the month. It remained at this high figure until the middle of September when a reaction set in and exchange fell faster than it had risen, 1s. 5¼d. being the rate on 19th November. There was then a further recovery, 1s. 7d. being the rate on 17th December. A further fall ensued to 1s. 5d. on the 25th February 1891, this being the rate at which exchange had stood in January 1890. More fluctuations followed, and at the end of the official year the rate was 1s. 5⅓d.

Course of Exchange.

2. Taking the rate of 1s. 5d. to equal 100, the following table will give a clear idea of the violent fluctuations to which exchange was subject during the year:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
2nd January 1890	100	1 5	17th September 1890	120'96	1 8½
5th March "	101'65	1 5¾	1st October "	109'93	1 6½
19th " "	100'37	1 5½	15th " "	109'19	1 6½
2nd April "	100'55	1 5¾	5th November "	109'19	1 6½
16th " "	102'76	1 5¾	19th " "	101'47	1 5½
30th " "	103'68	1 5½	3rd December "	108'09	1 6½
14th May "	105'15	1 5½	17th " "	111'76	1 7
28th " "	106'25	1 6½	31st " "	108'09	1 6½
11th June "	108'64	1 6½	14th January 1891	109'19	1 6½
25th " "	107'54	1 6¾	28th " "	108'09	1 6½
9th July "	108'64	1 6½	11th February "	103'68	1 5½
23rd " "	113'24	1 7½	25th " "	100	1 5
6th August "	115'31	1 7½	11th March "	101'34	1 5½
20th " "	122'43	1 8½	24th " }	100'74	1 5½
3rd September "	121'32	1 8½	1st April }		

Forms taken by speculation in silver.

3. The whole rise before the middle of August, when purchases under the Silver Bill were first made, was purely speculative, silver being stored up for sale to the Treasury on the passing of the law. The discovery was soon made, however, that the speculation had been overdone and that the stock of metal that had been accumulated by speculators was far in excess of the quantity of silver that would be required within any reasonable time for the purposes of the Treasury. Holders therefore hastened to relieve themselves of the load they had taken up, and the price of silver fell as rapidly as it had risen.

Speculation on the price of silver was carried on in two other directions in addition to storage for sale to the United States Treasury. In the first place large purchases were made of silver securities. Where such purchases were made from countries with a silver standard they tended to raise both the rate of exchange and the price of silver. That such purchases were large in the case of Indian securities is proved by the fact that whereas the value of these securities held in London on the 31st March 1890 was only Rx. 21,594,000, the value on the 31st March 1891 was Rx. 26,731,000, being an excess of no less than Rx. 5,137,000 transferred to London during the year. The amount so transferred was far in excess of the transfers of any previous period, the nearest approach to it—though on a much smaller scale—being in 1879-80 when the transfers amounted to Rx. 3,378,000. In the second place the Exchange Banks transferred capital to India from London in view of the anticipated rise in the price of silver.

Imports of silver

4. While the increase in price was in progress large profits were made by those who threw their silver on the Indian market. The net imports into India were on a scale unprecedented except in 1865-66, the year of the great cotton famine, and 1877-78, a year of famine which necessitated large borrowings and the reduction of Council drawings. The net imports amounted in 1865-66 to Rx. 18,668,673; in 1877-78 to Rx. 14,676,335; last year to Rx. 14,175,136. This large quantity, following on a considerable import in the preceding year, was greatly in excess of commercial requirements, and the excess was augmented by the substitution by Government towards the end of the year 1890-91 of ten millions of rupees in Government securities for that sum in coin and bullion held as part of the Paper Currency reserve. The silver thus thrown on the market from countries outside India and from the currency vaults has not yet been absorbed in general circulation, and the cheapness of money throughout the year has been quite phenomenal. This cheapness and the general dislocation of legitimate trade resulting from the violent changes in the price of silver were partly the cause of the insane speculation in gold shares which prevailed in Calcutta throughout the year.

and of gold.

5. The rapid rise in exchange following on the rise in the price of silver between March and September, besides stimulating the imports of silver, also had the effect of stimulating the imports of gold and of merchandise. Gold was imported (net) to the value of about Rx. 5,636,000, being in excess of the imports of 1889-90 (which were also large) by more than Rx. one million. Altogether the (net) value of gold and silver imported was Rx. 19,811,308.

Imports of Merchandise.

6. The temporary stimulus to the importation of merchandise caused by quickly rising exchange was of brief duration, and was not unattended with serious difficulties. When the native dealers who had contracted to buy goods

from importers at prices based upon exchange before it began to rise saw goods brought into the country and sold at prices based upon rates of exchange which had increased by 15 to 20 per cent (making a proportionate reduction in price), there was a prompt repudiation of their contracts, accompanied by the declaration that their fulfilment meant insolvency. The position was becoming critical for importers, when fortunately for them the rate of exchange began to fall as rapidly as it had risen and matters were satisfactorily adjusted, though it is believed that the conditions which followed from the rise in the price of silver were the cause of considerable losses to importers.

7. The total value of the merchandise imported in the year was Rx. 69,034,900, being about 3·7 per cent more than the imports of the preceding year (Rx. 66,560,121), and a little under what may be called a normal increase.

8. The exports of Indian merchandise fell to Rx. 95,902,193, having been Rx. 99,101,055 in the preceding year, the rate of decrease being about 3·2 per cent. This restriction of Rx. 3,198,862 in the value of exported merchandise was due in part to the same cause—the fluctuations in exchange—which helped to increase the value of imported merchandise by Rx. 2,474,779, but it was more largely due to a fall of price in opium and to actually restricted supplies, arising out of deficient harvests of cotton and rapeseed. The restriction would have been greater but for the accident that there was an unusually large demand for Indian rice in the European and Asiatic markets.

9. The trade of the last two years compares thus:—

Total trade.

Imports—

	1889-90. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.
Merchandise	66,560,121	69,034,900
Gold	5,071,027	6,500,832
Silver	12,388,274	15,418,654
Total Imports	<u>84,019,422</u>	<u>90,954,386</u>

Exports—

Foreign merchandise re-exported	4,295,808	4,233,529
Indian merchandise	99,101,055	95,902,193
Gold	455,723	864,660
Silver	1,386,196	1,207,246
Total Exports	<u>105,238,782</u>	<u>102,207,628</u>

The total trade—imports and exports together—was—

1889-90 . Rx.	189,258,204
1890-91 . „	193,162,014

The increase was only about 2 per cent, while the average rate of increase in the four preceding years was $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Including Government transactions the aggregate trade of the two years was—

1889-90 . Rx.	192,023,710
1890-91 . „	196,260,382

The considerable transfer of Government securities to London during the year, to which reference has been made in the 3rd paragraph, helped materially to settle the balance of international indebtedness. On the other hand the amount paid for Council Bills was smaller. The drawings of the Secretary of State in the two last years were :

1889-90	. £15,474,496 @ 16'565d.	= Rx. 22,419,000
1890-91	. £15,969,033 @ 18'089d.	= ,, 21,187,000
	Costing less by ,,	1,232,000

Incidence per head of population.

10. The census of last February giving a total population of 286,697,000 the value of the trade of the year falls at the rate of nearly 7 (6·8) rupees per head of the population: in 1880-81 the incidence on the population (census of 1881) was at the rate of 5·4 rupees per head. The expansion of commerce has therefore been far more rapid than the expansion of the population: while trade has increased in the decade by 42 per cent, the population has increased by only 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, the ratio of increase of trade being thus about four times greater than the ratio of increase of the population. It is probably even more, for the actual ratio of increase in the population may be taken to be less than 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent in consequence of the defectiveness of the census of 1881 with which the comparison is made.

Articles imported.

11. Amongst imports the largest increases in the year occurred in cotton goods (Rx. 1,136,421) and in sugar (Rx. 1,199,837). There were also minor increases in certain other articles, such as apparel, coal, drugs, glassware, metals, paper, railway material, umbrellas, and woollen goods. But these were almost counterbalanced by a decline in liquors, machinery and millwork, oils, provisions, salt, manufactured silk, and spices. Setting decreases against increases we find the importations of cotton goods and sugar to account for nearly all the increase in imported merchandise.

Sugar trade: imports now larger than exports.

12. The increased importation of sugar is a noticeable feature in the trade of the year. Of refined sugar, which is mainly what India imports, the quantity imported was about 68 per cent more than in 1889-90, the excess being chiefly beet sugar imported from Germany. This is an immediate and direct result of the system of sugar bounties, aided by the development of direct steam communication between India and Germany and by the course of exchange. It is worth while drawing attention here to the fact that whereas in former years India exported more sugar than she imported, that feature has in the last few years been rapidly reversed, as the following figures prove:—

	Imports of Sugar. Cwt.	Exports of Sugar. Cwt.
1874-75 } to 1879-80 }	550,284	576,817
1880-81 } to 1885-86 }	988,429	1,106,557
1886-87 } to 1890-91 }	1,840,417	1,058,311

Last year's imports amounted to 2,734,491 cwt., while the exports amounted to only 824,741 cwt., so that we imported more than three cwt. for every cwt. we exported.

The question suggests itself:—Is this feature of trade the result of artificial encouragement of production in Europe? or is it the result of natural causes, Indian sugar being really dearer and therefore unable to compete, or has the limit of our production been reached? If it is the result of State encouragement in Europe, then after a time the imports will diminish, if they will not cease entirely, for the bounty system will probably terminate in a few years; but, if it arises out of natural causes, we must expect imports to increase progressively with increase of population while the exports diminish.

13. The imports of beer continue to maintain the high level which was suddenly reached three or four years ago. Spirits, on the other hand, have decreased, the quantity being less than it was five years ago; a consequence perhaps of the increase of 20 per cent made in the duty in March 1890. There has, however, been a certain increase in wines, though the trade in these also is apparently a non-progressive one. Mineral oil has increased, and the vigour of Russian competition in this article with the United States is indicated by the fact that, though importations from Russia commenced only three or four years ago, last year 38 per cent of the total imports were from that country. It is perhaps not rash to anticipate that before long this proportion will be doubled. The oil is good, and as freights from the Black Sea are lower than freights from the United States, it can be sold more cheaply than American oil, and cheapness is what the native wants. *Other articles.*

Among the imports which give increased values are a number among the classes which are sold in retail trade and are largely imported for European use. Such articles as the following are illustrations: carriages, clocks and watches, earthenware and porcelain, musical and scientific instruments and photographic apparatus, ivory ware, jewellery and plate, matches, floor cloth, paints and colours, printing material, toys and requisites for games. It is evident that the retail trader took advantage of the temporary rise in exchange to lay in stock profitably.

14. Taking our exports in order according to the value of the trade during the year, they stand thus for those of importance:— *Articles of export.*

	Rx.
(1) Grain and pulse	19,539,297.
(2) Cotton, raw	16,502,775
(3) Seeds	9,343,252
(4) Opium	9,261,814
(5) Cotton, manufactured	7,702,639
(6) Jute, raw	7,602,010
(7) Tea	5,219,233
(8) Hides and skins	4,695,919
(9) Indigo	3,073,125
(10) Jute, manufactured	2,481,961

15. Formerly the trade in opium was second in value only to the trade in cotton, and sometimes it exceeded that in value and stood easily at the head of the list. Looking at the rapid progress made in the exports of cotton twist and piece goods, it seems likely that no long period will elapse before opium is reduced to the fifth place in the list, perhaps even to the sixth.

Exports of food-stuffs.

16. Much public attention has been directed recently to the export of food-grains from India, and the matter will probably continue to be discussed, seeing that the rainy season harvest is likely to be deficient over large areas. It is desirable therefore to correct a very general notion that this trade has increased greatly in recent years. The fact is that it can hardly be said to have increased at all, as the following figures for the last ten years will sufficiently shew :—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1881-82	49,926,000	1886-87	51,009,000
1882-83	46,557,000	1887-88	44,606,000
1883-84	49,220,000	1888-89	42,416,000
1884-85	39,217,000	1889-90	42,687,000
1885-86	50,425,000	1890-91	51,149,000

The exports of last year were just about the same as they were five years ago, and not quite $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in excess of the exports of ten years ago, and they would have been much smaller if it had not been for a quite abnormal demand for rice from Burma caused mainly by the failure of the Japanese rice harvest. Burma rice was required not only to take the place of Japanese rice in markets which had previously been supplied by that rice, but also to supply deficient stocks in Japan itself. If this unexpected and unusual demand had not occurred, and if Burma had not been in a position to meet it, the total exports of food-grains would have been nearer 45 million than 51 million cwts.

17. Another general idea, to which expression has been freely given in the native press, is that the country is being denuded of its food supplies for exportation; in other words, that the people are being starved to feed the people of other countries. It would be a sufficient answer to this extraordinary statement to say that every pound of grain which is exported is paid for at its full value, and that the owner of produce which is not needed for his own consumption parts with it for export only because it is more profitable to him to do so than to sell it for consumption in the country: for if it were needed for consumption in the country the price offered by local consumers would be at least equal to the price which is offered for export. This answer, however, may usefully be supplemented by the actual facts of the case. We have in the Agricultural Statistics for British India the area under the principal food-grains for the six years ending 1889-90, and these are subjoined, side by side with the figures of export under each head :—

YEARS.	RICE.		WHEAT.		OTHER FOOD-GRAINS AND PULSES.	
	Area: acres.	Exported: cwts.	Area: acres.	Exported: cwts.	Area: acres.	Exported: cwts.
1884-85	20,919,281	22,051,532	19,732,037	15,830,754	71,434,083	1,334,801
1885-86	22,540,999	28,222,595	19,808,163	21,060,519	71,795,832	1,141,850
1886-87	23,471,764	26,879,272	18,306,870	22,253,320	71,754,030	1,866,393
1887-88	24,238,633	28,534,057	19,886,623	13,538,169	73,992,414	2,533,424
1888-89	25,204,870	23,144,641	19,160,828	17,610,081	74,992,439	1,661,699
1889-90	26,313,176	27,098,906	18,430,317	13,799,224	74,856,972	1,789,130

Note.—Upper Burma has not been included in the figures of area as there are no figures for that province for the earlier years. Bengal and the Native States are also excluded from the acreage as there are no figures.

18. During this period the area under food-grains increased from 112,085,401 acres to 119,600,465 acres, that is by 6·7 per cent. The exports of all food-grains increased in the same period from 39,217,087 cwt. to 42,687,269 cwt., that is by 8·8 per cent.

19. Looking further into the figures it appears that, with an increase in the exports of rice of about 23 per cent, there was an increase in the rice acreage of about 26 per cent. With a decrease in the exports of wheat on the other hand of nearly 13 per cent, there was a decrease in the wheat acreage of only 6·6 per cent. In the first case the increase in acreage is substantially in excess of the increase in export demand; in the second case the decline in acreage is much less than the decline in export demand. In both cases, and especially in the case of wheat, the increase in the area over and above the increase required to supply the foreign demand is what is required for the increased population. The third case seems to be an exception, but it is not so in fact. The area has increased in about the same ratio as the population, and the exports are as yet so absolutely insignificant that their withdrawal from stock has no appreciable effect on the quantity available from the enormous area cultivated. If the exports should very largely increase hereafter—which, however, does not at present seem to be probable—we shall certainly find the area of cultivation to extend in direct ratio with the combined home and foreign demand.

20. It should be borne in mind that the mere increase in acreage is an insufficient measure of the increase in yield. Between 1884-85 and 1889-90 irrigation has made much progress, the irrigated area under wheat having increased by 24 per cent and the irrigated area under other cereals and pulses by nearly 48 per cent. The yield is larger and less precarious than formerly on tracts that have been brought under irrigation. It should also be remembered that the extension of railways has permitted the cultivator in many places to sell to advantage surplus grain which formerly went to waste. On the whole there seems to be no reason as yet to suppose that the supply of food-grains has not increased in direct proportion with the increased population and the foreign demand.

21. In regard to other articles of export but few remarks are required in this general sketch of the course of the trade last year. The export of tea has continued on an increasing scale, over 107 million pounds having been exported; but the increase (about 3 per cent) has not been so great as in former years, and it would seem that the active competition of Ceylon—now that China has been beaten in the race—is beginning to tell. The United Kingdom imported in 1890 about 101½ million pounds from India, while the imports of China tea had fallen to less than 74 million pounds. But from Ceylon, on the other hand, there were imported about 42½ million pounds, a remarkably large quantity considering the recent commencement of tea cultivation in that island. Ceylon has certainly great advantages in its greater nearness to England and to Australia than Calcutta and the consequent smaller freight that has to be paid, in the close proximity of the tea gardens to the port of shipment, in the abundant and cheap labour supplied to it from the adjacent ports of Southern India, in climatic conditions, and in the excellent quality of most of the tea produced. The planters of the island have also been able to profit by all the experience gained in India and to avoid the mistakes that were made here in the earlier days of the enterprise. It may be well for tea planters in India to recognise

distinctly that the pushing competition of Ceylon must inevitably bring about in the near future a permanent fall in price unless we can largely widen our markets, the two largest markets in America and Australia being still practically held against us by Japan and China.

22. In opium there was a small increase in quantity and a large fall in value. Indigo, cotton, and rapeseed fell largely in both quantity and value, and there was also a great decline in value of jute and of jute bagging. In fact, with the exception of cotton manufactures, grain and pulse, hides, linseed and some other oilseeds (other than rapeseed of which the crops were a disastrous failure), it may be said that almost all important articles of export give unsatisfactory results as regards quantity or value, or both.

*Cotton yarns
and piece goods.*

23. The exports of cotton twist increased in the year by over 19 per cent, the value reaching about Rx. 6½ millions, the bulk of the exports being to China. As yet the inception of the cotton spinning industry in that country seems to have had no effect on our exports, though we must be prepared eventually for effective competition. The exports of cotton piece goods also increased by 13½ per cent, being a complete recovery from the depression of the previous year. The principal markets for these are on the African and Arabian coasts, in Ceylon and the Straits, and there can be little doubt that with the gradual introduction of civilisation into Africa, Bombay should possess there an ever-increasing market for cotton cloths.

*Trade of the
Provinces.*

24. The import trade of each of the Indian provinces increased more or less largely in the year, the increase in Bombay being the largest. On the other hand, every province, with the exception of Burma, shared in the general decline of the export trade. In that province there was a very large increase, due to the unusual activity of the rice trade to which reference has before been made.

25. The total import and export trade (in merchandise) of each of the provinces during the year was as follows:—

	Rx.
Bombay	65,402,638
Sindh	8,402,102
Bengal	63,339,585
Madras	16,933,696
Burma	15,092,600

Thus Western India, or practically the ports of Bombay and Karachi, had about 43½ per cent of the whole foreign trade last year, while Bengal, Burma, and Madras had 56½ per cent. The trade of Calcutta was 36½ per cent, and of Bombay 38½ per cent of the whole, these two ports monopolising three-fourths of the foreign trade of the country.

*Trade with
countries.*

26. Of the whole import and export trade in merchandise 68 per cent was with Europe, the bulk of this being with the United Kingdom with which just half our whole trade was conducted. The trade with Europe was really more than 68 per cent of the whole, probably not less than 70 or 71 per cent, for the trade with Egypt, though it must be recorded under Africa, is mainly European.

Taking the record as it stands, the trade in merchandise last year was as follows:—

	Rx.
With the United Kingdom	84,857,056
With other European Countries	30,187,302
	<hr/>
Total with Europe	115,044,358
With Africa	9,632,186
With the American Continent	6,429,218
With Asia	36,588,254
With Australia	1,476,605

In the last five years there has been a material diversion of our trade from England to countries on the European Continent, for while our trade with England has increased by less than 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent in that period, our trade with other European countries has increased by about 26 per cent.

27. Germany and Belgium are conspicuous in the record for the rapid development of our commercial relations with them. With Germany our trade has increased from Rx. 944,935 to Rx. 6,086,746 being an increase of 544 per cent in the five years. Some of this increase is doubtless trade which was until within the last two or three years conducted indirectly by way of England, but much of it is also trade which is quite new, owing its creation to the establishment of direct steam communication between Northern Germany and India. About half the whole value of the imports from Germany last year was represented by beet sugar, and, even though the trade was aided by the remarkable conditions of exchange which prevailed for a part of the year, it can hardly be considered satisfactory that such imports could have been successfully made in competition with local production and manufacture: the imports were large, representing 35,459 tons valued on landing at Rx. 840,270.

Germany.

28. Our trade with Belgium reached last year Rx. 5,629,094, having increased by 44 per cent in five years. Until the last three years our trade with Italy largely exceeded the trade with Belgium, but the positions have now been completely reversed. France still has larger commercial relations with India than any other European country except the United Kingdom; but as the trade increases very slowly, it seems likely that our relations with Germany may soon become more important than those with France, and that the centres in Europe of trade with India are being transferred from the Mediterranean to the Northern seas.

Belgium and other European countries.

29. The development of our trade with other regions of the world is on the whole very satisfactory, in some cases (especially Australia) particularly so. The opium trade bulks so largely in our relations with Asiatic countries that the decline in its value has appreciably affected the rate of progress, but the development of the trade in cotton yarn and cloths with China, Japan, and other countries, and in petroleum with Russia, has compensated for the decline in opium.

Other regions.

30. Unsatisfactory as the year was from the point of view of trade owing to the violent and rapid fluctuations of exchange, it was a good year from the point of view of the customs revenue. The net import revenue was Rx. 774,269, being

Customs revenue.

nearly 7 per cent more than that of the previous year, the increase being almost entirely the result of the increase made in the spirit duties in March 1890. The net export revenue, which is derived entirely from rice, was Rx. 900,647, being 27·6 per cent more than the revenue of the previous year, this increase being due to the abnormal increase in the exports of rice already explained.

The only dutiable articles in the list of imports are liquors, salt, opium, petroleum, and arms and ammunition. The value of these articles last year was only about 6·6 per cent of the total imports, 93·4 per cent being entirely free: in England last year the proportions were almost the same, being 7 and 93 per cent respectively. We are behind England, however, in our retention of an export duty. Rice, on which this is levied, represented in value last year 13·4 per cent of the whole value of exports of Indian goods.

Shipping.

31. The shipping which entered and left Indian ports during the year was substantially larger than in 1889-90, chiefly owing to the demand for rice from Burma. The numbers and tonnage compare thus:—

	No.	Tons.
1889-90 .	10,673	7,315,586
1890-91 .	11,023	7,684,954

giving an increase of 5 per cent in tonnage, the increase in Burma being about 13 per cent. The displacement of sailers by steamers continues, steam tonnage last year representing over 78 per cent of the whole against 73 per cent in the preceding year. The tonnage under the British flag represented about 82·4 per cent of the whole against 81·3 per cent in the previous year. There has been a large increase in vessels under the German flag:

	No.	Tons.
1889-90 .	138	180,996
1890-91 .	167	253,665

but the flags of other nations are becoming rarer in our ports.

[*Note.*—This Chapter was separately published on the 27th July, and is now reissued with the rest of the Review.]

CHAPTER II.

Imports of Merchandise.

32. The values of imported merchandise since 1869-70 stand thus :

	Exchange.	Rx.
	d.	
Annual average, 1869-70 to 1873-74	22'770	31,837,600
Annual average, 1874-75 to 1878-79	20'981	36,603,400
Annual average, 1879-80 to 1883-84	19'774	47,950,000
Annual average, 1884-85 to 1888-89	17'656	58,515,400
1889-90	16'565	66,560,120
1890-91	18'089	69,034,900

The value of the trade last year was a little under 4 (3·7) per cent in excess of the value of the preceding year.

33. Taking the prices of March 1873 as = 100, the following table shews the variations in the prices of staple imports since then at Calcutta :—

	Grey shirtings, 8½ lb.	Mule twist, white, No. 40.	Mule twist, Turkey red, No. 40.	Copper, sheathing.	Iron, flat, bolt, &c.	Total.
March 1873	100	100	100	100	100	500
June 1874	97	92	106	95	108	498
March 1875	86	92	102	103	93	476
„ 1876	86	90	92	99	79	446
January 1877	78	90	85	92	67	412
„ 1878	73	78	87	86	60	384
„ 1879	76	75	78	80	56	365
„ 1880	81	84	75	83	73	396
„ 1881	82	82	69	81	56	370
„ 1882	78	84	69	89	71	391
„ 1883	82	74	54	80	60	350
„ 1884	75	74	62	77	62	350
„ 1885	76	72	58	64	54	324
„ 1886	84	67	57	57	50	315
„ 1887	81	62	57	65	53	318
„ 1888	79	75	59	90	61	364
„ 1889	81	75	57	98	65	376
„ 1890	76	74	57	69	79	355
„ 1891	74	70	56	71	62	333
August „	76	66	57	75	61	335

Prices continue low—for grey shirtings and mule twist they are at nearly as low a level as has been seen since 1873.

34. The important articles are set out below, with the extent of the rise or fall in value of each, compared with the preceding year, stated against them:—

<i>Increases.</i>		<i>Decreases.</i>	
	Per cent.		Per cent.
Apparel	4	Liquors	2·8
Coal	17·9	Machinery and millwork	15·2
Cotton manufactures	3·8	Oils	0·4
Metals	0·6	Provisions	7·5
Railway material	9·9	Silk and silk goods	12
Sugar	54·5	Salt	12·9
Woollen goods	24·9	Spices	4·6

35. Grouping the items as they appear in the trade returns the values of the trade in each of the groups in the last five years is stated below in Rx. :—

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
<i>Animals, living</i> (mostly horses)	261,223	256,103	295,300	239,708	295,430
<i>Articles of food and drink</i>	6,789,602	7,497,006	7,469,086	7,867,666	8,628,852
<i>Metals and manufactures of metals, including hardware and cutlery, machinery and millwork, and railway plant and rolling stock</i>	8,361,079	10,784,843	9,966,327	11,058,900	10,909,477
<i>Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials</i>	942,778	1,005,324	1,195,801	1,280,334	1,397,479
<i>Oils</i>	1,408,430	1,486,791	2,072,825	2,645,213	2,634,187
<i>Raw materials and unmanufactured articles</i>	3,149,118	3,944,042	4,115,681	3,725,259	4,932,765
<i>Articles manufactured and partly manufactured</i>	37,749,232	37,409,702	41,455,297	39,743,939	41,136,710

Animals, living. 36. The first group, which is very much the smallest of the whole and is both absolutely and relatively unimportant, is confined almost entirely to horses imported from Australia and the Persian Gulf. These are mainly required for army remounts, for tramways in Calcutta and Bombay, and for the private conveyances of well-to-do persons in the large cities. For all other purposes the horse bred in the country suffices.

The increase in this group is only 13 per cent in the five years.

Articles of food and drink. 37. The second group is of some importance, being about an eighth of the whole imports. Its largest component parts are sugar, liquors, provisions (largely for European consumption), salt, and spices. This group has increased by 27 per cent in the five years, the increase being to some considerable extent due to the large proportions which the imports of sugar have assumed in the last year.

Metals and metalware. 38. The third group is of larger importance, the value forming about a sixth of the whole imports. It has increased 30 per cent in the five years in consequence of augmented imports of hardware and cutlery, iron, steel, machinery and millwork, and railway material.

The development of trade under such heads is a very satisfactory indication of the industrial progress of India.

Chemicals, drugs, dyes, &c. 39. Although the increase of 48 per cent in five years in this group is large, the importance of the group is in itself small. Its main interest centres

in the importation of aniline and alizarine dyes which are increasing so rapidly year after year as to threaten to drive the indigenous vegetable dyes completely out of use.

40. In this group there has been the remarkable increase of 87 per cent in five years, due mainly to the rapidity with which indigenous vegetable illuminants are being displaced by imported mineral oils. It would seem that in the not remote future native oils will have been almost completely discarded, as far as lighting purposes are concerned, in favour of imported petroleum. Then, it may be hoped, will come the turn of native petroleum to supersede the imported article. At present the Indian petroleum fields are so remote from the chief centres of consumption, and the cost of transit is so great that it cannot be prepared and sold for ordinary domestic purposes in competition with the imported article. But as the practice of using mineral oil extends and means of communication are facilitated and cheapened there ought to be a good opening for Indian petroleum. *Oils.*

41. This group contains but three articles which are at present of industrial importance, namely, coal, silk, and cotton. The imports of the former, mainly from England, were stimulated by the rapid rise of exchange last year, but they are gradually giving way before the extended use of Indian coal. Both silk and cotton are most largely used for manufacture in the Bombay mills, silk being imported from China and cotton from Persia. *Raw materials and unmanufactured articles.*

None of the other articles in the group are of any special importance.

42. This is the most important of all the seven groups, comprising about three-fifths of the total imports. It will be understood, of course, that it does not profess to include all the manufactured articles imported, but only such as are not included in other groups, such as metals, chemicals, &c. Three-fourths of the value of this group are represented by cotton goods and yarn. *Manufactured and partly manufactured articles.*

The rate of increase in this group is smaller than in any of the other groups, amounting to not more than 9 per cent in the five years. This slow growth is the result of the restriction of trade in cotton goods and yarn which, as already said, constitute the bulk of this group—quite three-fourths of it. The trade in cotton goods and yarns has increased in this period by less than $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, but if quantities are taken into account the trade has in fact made no appreciable progress. Here we see the effect of the competition of the Indian mills, for those classes of imported goods which are made in the Indian mills have declined and the increase in the classes in which there is no Indian competition has not been so considerable as to compensate for the decline, these classes being such as are used only by the relatively wealthy sections of the people and therefore imported in comparatively small quantities.

Most of the other articles in the group have increased more or less in the period, but there are certain exceptions, most of them of little importance, *e.g.*, coir, tanned hides and skins, saddlery and harness, and soap (all which we produce ourselves), corks, fireworks, perfumery, firearms and gunpowder, jewellery and plate, and corals (the use of which would appear to be declining). The only articles of importance in which there has been a decline in trade are (1) silk goods, of which large quantities are now made in India for use in Burma where silk is more largely worn than in other parts of India; and

(2) parts of ships of which there was an unusually large importation in the first three out of the five years owing to the demands for steamers on the Upper Burma rivers following on the annexation of the province.

43. The succeeding paragraphs will deal with such of the articles included in each group as require remark.

Grain and pulse.

44. With the prevalence of high prices during the last three years there has been a considerable increase in the imports, which consist chiefly of wheat brought to Bombay from the Persian Gulf, though the trade is still quite trifling. The total quantity of all grains imported was 231,369 cwt., of which wheat represented 124,135 cwt.

*Liquors:
Malt liquor.*

45. The imports of ale, beer, and porter amounted to 2,785,574 gallons, being just a little less than the high figure attained in the previous year. The Government has terminated, since the end of 1890, its contracts with the Indian brewers for the supply of the troops in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, and as the importers of European beer are actively competing for the custom of the British soldier, it is probable that the imports of beer will not recede from the high level they have reached in the last three years. What effect the new arrangements may have on the Indian breweries is still uncertain: in 1890 they brewed about 5,192,000 gallons. The production has not increased since 1887.

Spirits.

46. The importations amounted to 1,056,000 gallons, being about 44,000 gallons less than in the preceding year, and about 8,000 gallons less than in 1886-87, five years ago. The trade is clearly non-progressive if not actually declining. Apart from other causes which may possibly be in operation, the large reduction last year may be ascribed, without risk of error, to the increase in the spirit duties which were raised from 5 rupees to 6 rupees a gallon, an increase of 20 per cent. The decline in brandy, gin, and rum is conspicuous, and the inference which may be drawn from the fact is that the cheaper kinds of these liquors have not been able to stand the higher rate of duty and have been giving way to country liquor. In whisky there was a small increase, and "other sorts" remained at about the level of the preceding year. These "other sorts" are arrack from Ceylon, sanishu from China and the Straits, various unenumerated spirits from Germany and other European countries, drugs containing spirit, perfumed spirit, and rectified spirit, methylated or not.

Wines.

47. These increased by about 12,700 gallons in the year, but the trade cannot be called progressive: it is indeed far smaller than it was ten years ago. Port appears during the last four years to have somewhat recovered—probably as a result of change of fashion—the ground it had lost. But all other kinds of wine have been steadily if slowly declining. The total quantity imported last year was 362,096 gallons.

Liqueurs, like other spirits, were imported on a smaller scale last year.

Provisions.

48. This trade on the whole was smaller than in the previous year, the imports of dates and ghi from the Persian Gulf having been reduced by reason of unfavourable climatic conditions in the tracts whence these articles are exported. There was also a reduction in the imports of salted fish into Burma where the article is largely consumed, owing, according to the Chief Collector of Customs

at Rangoon, to the high prices prevailing in Cochin China and elsewhere having prevented profitable trade. This salted fish, imported free of duty, competes in Burma with fish cured with salt taxed at the rate of one rupee a maund of 82½ lbs.

Other kinds of provisions increased, these things—mainly canned and bottled goods, bacon and hams, butter and cheese—being imported for retail sale to Europeans, and the conditions of exchange for a time having tempted the retailer to replenish his stocks cheaply.

49 Imports have been as follows in the last five years:—

Salt.

1886-87	. . .	416,592 tons.
1887-88	. . .	423,897 "
1888-89	. . .	398,810 "
1889-90	. . .	410,808 "
1890-91	. . .	395,243 "

The reduction of imports from the United Kingdom and the increased imports from Germany and Aden, of which mention was made last year, still continue. The imports of the last four years have been as follows (in tons):—

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
United Kingdom	339,651	337,089	285,767	273,008
Germany	23,187	7,711	45,439	60,540
Arabia	42,623	20,129	35,736	11,322
Aden	15,004	17,397	33,782	36,662
Other countries	3,422	16,484	10,084	13,711
	<u>423,897</u>	<u>398,810</u>	<u>410,808</u>	<u>395,243</u>

In this period imports from the United Kingdom have declined by over 19 per cent, and the fall has been continuous from year to year. It commenced when the Salt Syndicate commenced the combination to raise prices, and if prices continue to be kept high, it is to be hoped that the diversion of trade may enlarge and be permanent and that locally manufactured salt may also effectively compete. The subjoined figures shew how prices have been raised, commencing with 1887-88. The prices are those of Liverpool salt in Calcutta:—

	Rupees per 100 maunds.		Rupees per 100 maunds.
1881-82	51·9 to 60·4	1886-87	68·5 to 74·4
1882-83	48·9 " 55·9	1887-88	73·5 " 80·8
1883-84	56·3 " 62·3	1888-89	88·3 " 102·6
1884-85	52·5 " 57·9	1889-90	89·8 " 98·2
1885-86	55·9 " 60·6	1890-91	71·2 " 81·2

Last year prices fell materially, mainly in consequence of the rise in exchange, though competition must have begun to tell. In the present year prices are rather lower again, and this can only be the result of competition:

	R.	R.
April 1891	71·25	83·5
May "	67·75	75·87
June "	63·2	74·6
July "	58·25	71·25

Sugar.

50. The imports reached the large quantity of 2,932,000 cwt., value for about Rx. 3,400,000. In former years we used to receive sugar mainly from Mauritius and China whence it was brought to Bombay. All that is now changed and sugar is imported from many other countries besides the two just mentioned, and it is imported into other places besides Bombay.

Last year's imports, for instance, were as follows :—

	Cwt.
From Mauritius	1,494,945
„ Germany	709,195
„ China	195,912
„ United Kingdom	281,202
„ Straits	118,944
„ Java	60,098
„ Austria	31,374
„ Belgium	25,044
„ France	9,356

and smaller quantities from Asiatic countries and the African Coast. The quantity received from the European Continent, amounting to about 775,000 cwt., is all beet sugar, as is probably a proportion at least of the imports from the United Kingdom, and thus we have beet sugar, protected by State bounties and aided by a rising exchange, freely competing all over India with cane sugar produced in India, the imports having been thus distributed :

	Cwt.
Bombay	1,728,111
Sindh	360,979
Bengal	704,636
Burma	129,244
Madras	8,931

It might be supposed that ordinarily, now that railways and steamers afford facilities for easy, cheap, and quick communications between the different sections of the country, the demands of Bombay and Sindh could be supplied from Northern India and those of Burma from Bengal. This is apparently not the case, but the year was exceptional and it is possible that the circumstances of the trade were also exceptional.

Hardware and Cutlery.

51. The imports of articles classed under this heading keep at a tolerably high and increasing figure. The average of the five years preceding 1890-91 was Rx. 986,855, the last three years averaging nearly Rx. 1,100,000. In 1890-91 the value was Rx. 1,197,614. The bulk of these goods still comes to us from the United Kingdom, but the increasing share in the trade taken by Germany, Austria and Belgium is noticeable, though that share is still but trifling. From these countries the imports in 1885-86 and last year were as follows :—

	1885-86. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.
Germany	1,913	55,794
Austria	15,302	46,007
Belgium	20,835	28,774

Copper.

52. There was a somewhat material reduction in the imports of this metal. This trade is more sensitive than almost any other to the influences of prices, not only of copper but of food-grains in India. The metal is largely used for the manufacture of domestic utensils, and any tension in the material conditions of

the people affects the demand. If harvests have been abundant a process is begun of substituting copper and brass vessels for earthenware; if conditions are not good, as was the case last year, the conversion is postponed or is carried on in a restricted way; if conditions are very bad the reverse process takes place, copper and brass vessels being sold and earthenware substituted. Other conditions being fairly good, the level of price of copper affects the demand more or less materially. Last year we had a combination of rising prices of copper and rising prices of food-grains due to more or less deficient autumn harvests in parts of the country, with the result that the imports of copper declined 21½ per cent. During the present year, with a reduction in the price of copper and large profits made from excellent crops of wheat for which high prices have been obtained, there is a great expansion in the imports of copper.

53. A substantial increase of about 7½ per cent, chiefly in the forms of bars, galvanised iron, nails, screws and rivets, these also being the descriptions most used in the country. The increase in the imports of galvanised iron (for roofing) is remarkable: they have more than doubled in six years, amounting last year to about 24,000 tons. This material is every year more extensively used, in the hills for the roofing of dwelling-houses, in the plains for sheds containing merchandise and on railway lines. Pipes and tubes are imported in larger quantities as works of water-supply and drainage extend.

Iron.

Most of the iron we require is imported from the United Kingdom, but imports from Belgium have increased greatly in recent years. The trade with that country began with a small import of 65,000 cwt. in 1882-83; in 1889-90 we imported 606,000 cwt., and last year 536,000 cwt., importing also about 165,000 cwt. of steel. There was a very large increase in the imports of steel in the year.

Copper, iron, and steel are the metals imported in largest quantities. The others are relatively unimportant.

54. There was a decline of 15 per cent in the value of imports, but as quantities are not stated in the returns it is not easy to say how far there was a real diminution in the imports, or how far the smaller value was the result of a fall in prices caused by the rise in exchange. It would seem that there must have been a temporary check to some kinds of machinery, for while the value of steam engines and their parts declined materially, other kinds of machinery gave increased values. The lower values also all occur in Bombay and seem to indicate a pause in the expansion of the mill industry. But it must be borne in mind that the imports of the two preceding years had been exceptionally large.

Machinery and Millwork.

55. Imports were a good deal larger than in the preceding year. They fluctuate a good deal from year to year in accordance with the extent of the operations conducted by railway companies.

Railway material

56. There was a large increase in the imports of quinine, which more than doubled during the year, rising from about 15,000 lb to over 30,000 lb. As the unfortunate people who find themselves obliged to consume this drug have not obtained the benefit of the low price at which it is now placed wholesale on the market, and therefore there has been no large incentive to use it more freely, it may be assumed that the retail druggist took advantage of the rise in exchange to replenish his stocks at a profit to himself.

Chemicals, &c.

There was a quite remarkable rise in the price of camphor during the year—a rise of more than 50 per cent; and imports, as in the year preceding, were on a very reduced scale. It was currently said that the reduction in stocks and the increase in price were due to a large demand for camphor in connection with the manufacture of smokeless powder. It may be that there was a demand for that purpose, but the effective cause of the rise in price and disturbance of trade lay, as appears from a report by the British Consul at Tainan, in the action of the Chinese officials in Formosa. He says that a Government monopoly, which had been abolished, in 1869, was suddenly revived in 1886, just as foreigners were again engaging in it. On their representation their claims for compensation for losses were admitted after long delays, but when they were then again about to enter into the trade another means of keeping them out of it was found. A tax of 2s. 8d. per cwt. was levied, which was shortly raised to 8s., but as even this rate did not prevent foreigners from carrying on the trade, since prices were high at Hongkong, the tax was suddenly increased to £2. 9s. 6d. per cwt., and the natives were warned that this sum must be paid to the officials before they could sell their camphor to foreigners. Prices which had ranged from £1 3s. 4d. to £1 11s. 7d. per cwt., at once rose to £4 2s. 4d. The Consul, after detailing the facts, adds: "It is perfectly impossible under these circumstances for foreign merchants to compete with the monopolists, and the trade has collapsed, at any rate for the present." Some means must have been speedily found, however, to shew the monopolists the error of their ways, for the trade has resumed its normal condition as regards prices and dimensions.

Aniline and alizarine dyes continue to be imported in increasing quantities. Last year's imports were 61,722,000 ounces, an increase of more than four million ounces on the imports of the preceding year, which again were five million ounces in excess of those of 1888-89. The value of the trade has now reached Rx. 354,000, and if the present rate of progress continues, which seems likely, there can be little doubt that not many years hence indigenous vegetable dyes and native processes of dyeing will be things of the past.

Most of these dyes come to us from Belgium and other continental countries.

57. The imports of mineral oil amounted to 54,235,275 gallons, which was but a small increase on the trade of the preceding year. In that year, however, the trade expanded suddenly to very large proportions and it is sufficiently satisfactory that it has not receded. This trade will undoubtedly still further expand largely, and ultimately drive vegetable oil out of use as an illuminant in most if not all Indian households. More than a third (36 per cent) of the whole supply was received last year from Batoum. From the United States we received 32,693,000 gallons; from Russia 19,843,000 gallons.

The vegetable and other oils imported remain of small importance: there was, however, a very large increase in the imports of cocoanut oil last year.

Raw materials and unmanufactured articles.

58. Of coal the quantity imported was much larger than in 1889-90, though not equal to the quantity in previous years. Imported coal is now mainly used in Western India (Bombay and Sindh) for steamers, mills, and railways. In other

parts of India, which have now been brought within reach of the Bengal coal fields, the imports are insignificant and tend to become more so. Bengal has reduced its demand for imported coal to very small limits, and Burma is following the example, taking Bengal coal for steamers and using rice husks in the rice mills, while Madras has no occasion to use coal largely except for railways.

The imports of *cotton* fell from 116,000 cwt. in 1889-90 to 84,236 cwt. last year. Of this quantity, 3,513 cwt. consisted of long-stapled cotton from Egypt. It may be hoped that the experimental use of this cotton for the spinning of fine yarns will prove successful.

In *Silk* there was a small, and in *Ivory* a large, increase.

Manufactured articles.

59. The imports of *cotton twist and yarn* in the last five years have been as follows:—

	lb
1886-87 .	49,014,000
1887-88 .	51,543,000
1888-89 .	52,587,000
1889-90 .	46,383,000
1890-91 .	50,971,000

Although the imports of the year, stimulated by rising exchange, were much larger than in 1889-90, it seems that the trade has made no real progress in the five years, the rate of increase being in fact smaller than the ratio of increase in the population. The same remark applies more strongly to cotton piece goods which have in fact fallen off in quantity during the five years:

	Grey (unbleached). Yards.	White (bleached). Yards.	Coloured, printed, or dyed. Yards.
1886-87 .	1,356,279,000	387,104,000	412,036,000
1887-88 .	1,180,175,000	320,464,000	339,103,000
1888-89 .	1,347,299,000	406,492,000	372,457,000
1889-90 .	1,257,001,000	339,098,000	400,949,000
1890-91 .	1,280,540,000	373,149,000	360,335,000

It may be said that, if it had not been for the competition of the Indian mills the trade in piece goods in 1890-91 should have been at least 10 per cent larger than it was, and that to this extent at any rate the cloth woven in the Indian mills, or from yarn spun there, has within five years taken the place of imported cloth in our markets. The extent of the diversion is, however, probably greater. In other kinds of cotton goods there has been a moderate increase, these being mainly of descriptions which are not woven in India either from locally spun or imported yarns, but these kinds are relatively of trifling dimensions. It would seem in fact that the time is not very far distant when the imports of the coarser and medium cottons which form the bulk of the trade will gradually disappear, and that the trade will be limited to the finer qualities and therefore of small dimensions. In connection with this subject the following extract from

a letter from the commercial correspondent in London of the *Times of India*, dated the 30th January last, is of some interest:—

Several specimens of dhooties manufactured in India were laid on the table for inspection at the meeting of the Blackburn Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday. Mr. Alexander Harrison, who presided, said that during the last ten years it has been the general opinion in Lancashire that it is impossible for millowners in India to make dhooties from 40's or the 50's yarns. But here before their eyes were remarkably good specimens of dhooties made from 40's twist and 50's Egyptian weft. Mr. Harrison added that in his mind there had never been any insuperable difficulty that would prevent Indian manufacturers from producing fine counts, and he owned the opinion that in India in time they will grow their own cotton and weave these fine counts. The manufacturers of Lancashire should carefully watch the doings of the Indian manufacturers, or they will find not only that the coarse yarn trade has gone, but that the medium trade will go also. And he urged that it is time for Lancashire manufacturers to consider their situation and to take means to fortify themselves against encroachments on their interest.

60. *Silk goods* declined and *woollen goods* increased during the year, but the trade presents no special features. Silk had been overdone in the preceding year and stocks of woollens had run down. There was a fair increase in Apparel, under which head are classed boots and shoes, in which there is a steady, though not quickly increasing, trade.

Other manufactured goods.

61. Of the other articles enumerated in this group the following are the most important. The value of the trade in each of the last two years is here specified:—

	1889-90 Rs.	1890-91. Rs.
Arms and ammunition, including dynamite and other explosives	191,591	206,331
Books and printed matter	215,027	222,401
Building materials	179,220	184,816
Cabinet-ware and furniture	99,397	91,415
Candles	135,947	111,495
Clocks and watches	104,531	129,732
Corals, real	140,194	168,716
Earthenware and porcelain	223,929	227,874
Glass and glassware	647,127	650,236
Instruments and apparatus:		
Musical	85,588	94,165
Scientific	99,894	106,428
Jewellery and plate	83,716	94,551
Leather and leather goods, excluding boots and shoes	184,818	170,255
Matches	239,407	282,755
Paints and colours, and painters' materials	267,366	302,861
Paper and pasteboard	407,479	431,436
Ships, parts of	67,328	42,220
Soap	111,388	92,852
Stationery	232,133	223,874
Toys and requisites for games	135,862	150,094
Umbrellas	314,106	326,092

62. The list appended states in the order of their importance the principal articles of merchandise imported into India :—

	1889-90.	1890-91.
	Rx.	Rx.
Cotton goods and yarn .	29,873,928	31,010,349
Metals, including hardware and cutlery .	6,802,177	6,843,762
Sugar .	2,200,049	3,399,886
Oils, chiefly mineral .	2,645,213	2,634,187
Silk, raw and manufactured .	2,845,159	2,501,430
Machinery and millwork .	2,435,385	2,063,863
Railway material .	1,821,337	2,001,853
Woollen goods .	1,455,235	1,818,213
Coal .	1,308,590	1,543,442
Provisions .	1,596,565	1,476,070
Liquors .	1,465,144	1,423,460
Chemicals, drugs and medicines, dyés, &c. .	1,280,334	1,397,479
Apparel .	1,296,394	1,349,898
Spices .	852,350	813,115
Salt .	894,532	779,034
Glass and glassware .	647,127	650,236
Paper and pasteboard .	407,479	431,436
All other articles .	6,733,122	6,897,187
TOTAL . .	<u>66,560,120</u>	<u>69,034,900</u>

The two first items comprise more than half (nearly 55 per cent) of the whole value of imports, and these two, with machinery and railway material, represent three-fifths of the trade.

CHAPTER III.

Exports of Merchandise.

I. EXPORTS OF FOREIGN MERCHANDISE.

63. The figures of the trade for the last five years are as follows :—

Rx.
3,519,665
4,101,440
4,335,437
4,295,808
4,233,529

The trade has been gradually declining during the last three years, the decline being mainly due to a fall in the trade with the United Kingdom, the result probably of recent endeavours to effect direct communications between England and the places with which trade is carried on in the Persian Gulf and elsewhere.

64. The following are the main items of the re-export trade, with their values :—

	1889-90. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.
<i>Articles of Food and Drink :</i>		
Provisions	137,611	131,301
Spices	116,779	68,753
Sugar (refined)	267,609	197,659
Tea	167,838	285,060
<i>Metals and Metalware :</i>		
Hardware and cutlery	47,541	52,651
Copper	83,614	66,943
Iron	105,726	66,018
<i>Chemicals, Drugs, &c.</i>	57,875	57,865
<i>Raw materials :</i>		
Gums and resins	73,611	60,922
Ivory (unmanufactured)	125,543	149,457
Silk	33,951	40,024
Wool	693,527	624,681
<i>Manufactured Goods :</i>		
Cotton twist and yarn	91,382	83,801
Cotton manufactures, piece goods, &c.	1,728,358	1,710,493
Silk manufactures	57,758	64,677
Woollen manufactures	50,349	65,120
Apparel	103,457	102,503
Glassware	32,024	34,317

65. Bombay and Sindh have between 94 and 95 per cent of this trade, of which a large proportion is conducted with the East Coast of Africa and Asiatic countries lying east of Suez and west of Bombay.

The countries with which the trade is chiefly carried on are stated below :—

	1889-90. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.
United Kingdom	1,178,757	1,063,392
Persia	1,225,603	1,319,957
Straits	271,830	259,772
East Coast of Africa, Zanzibar and Mozambique	372,627	390,864
Arabia	222,214	243,255
Turkish Arabia	253,424	237,638
Aden	132,025	148,834
China	135,244	144,462
Ceylon	118,986	142,547
Mauritius	110,901	75,889

66. There was a considerable diminution in the re-exports of sugar, spices, copper, iron, wool, cotton yarn and woven goods—in fact, in all the main articles of the trade. Tea, brought from Java and China, was however largely re-exported to the Persian Gulf by way of Bombay, the exports amounting to over 3,000,000 lbs. The quantity of Indian tea shipped to the same place was much less than half that quantity.

II. EXPORTS OF INDIAN MERCHANDISE.

67. The figures for the last ten years are as follow :—

	Rx.	Increase or decrease per cent.		Rx.	Increase or decrease per cent.
1881-82	79,255,243	+ 10·1	1886-87	84,908,995	+ 5·2
1882-83	80,598,155	+ 1·7	1887-88	86,370,022	+ 1·7
1883-84	85,085,720	+ 5·5	1888-89	92,642,735	+ 7·2
1884-85	80,313,208	— 5·6	1889-90	99,101,055	+ 7
1885-86	80,734,731	+ 0·5	1890-91	95,902,193	— 3·2

68. In reviewing the trade of 1889-90 it was noted that "the increase of the year was in the main the result of a greatly augmented value of seeds, jute, and cotton. In the case of seeds and jute the increase was due to higher prices, for the quantity of jute shipped was actually smaller than in the preceding year and that of seeds but very slightly larger."

The conditions were reversed last year, all the three articles giving greatly reduced values, the result in the case of cotton and seeds of a smaller quantity exported and in the case of jute of a heavy fall in price accompanied by an increase in the quantity exported. The reduction in the value of these three articles amounted to nearly Rx. 4½ millions; the total reduction in the export trade being not quite Rx. 3,200,000.

69. The most important articles are set out below, the ratio of increase or decrease in the value of the year's trade being set out against each:—

Increases.		Per cent.	Decreases.		Per cent.
Cotton yarn and woven goods	.	14	Coffee	.	2'3
Grain and Pulse	.	18'2	Cotton, raw	.	11'6
Hides and Skins	.	3'8	Indigo	.	20'4
Lac	.	59'96	Other Dyes	.	16
Oils	.	1'4	Jute, raw	.	12
Provisions	.	1'4	Jute, manufactured	.	11
			Opium	.	8'4
			Seeds	.	12
			Silk, raw	.	18'5
			Sugar	.	54'4
			Tea	.	1'1
			Wood and timber	.	35'9
			Wool, raw	.	10'8

Thus it will be seen that of articles of the first importance only grain and pulse and cotton goods and yarns gave improved results in the year.

70. Grouping the items as in the trade returns the values of the trade in each group for each of the last five years are as follows in Rx. :—

	1885-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1890-90.	1890-91.
1. <i>Animals, living</i> ...	87,632	134,182	112,146	98,085	122,278
2. <i>Articles of food and drink</i>	25,873,391	23,829,697	24,841,910	25,354,123	27,785,219
3. <i>Metals and manufacture of metal.</i>	49,660	54,943	53,523	63,273	61,144
4. <i>Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials.</i>	15,741,045	15,107,943	15,585,461	14,990,805	13,283,220
5. <i>Oils</i> ...	458,812	471,055	430,306	543,945	551,903
6. <i>Raw materials and unmanufactured articles</i>	33,366,691	35,600,153	38,509,911	44,291,911	39,497,900
7. <i>Articles manufactured and partly manufactured.</i>	9,331,764	11,172,047	13,109,477	13,758,912	14,600,528

The first and third of these groups are not, and are not likely to be within any measurable period, of any importance. The fifth group is also of comparatively small importance, but it is possible that it may assume large dimensions in some future day when the export of oilseeds shall be replaced by the export of the oil expressed from them in India.

71. Looking at the other groups we find that the export of articles of food and drink makes but slow progress, if any. Last year's exports of rice were exceptionally large owing to an exceptional demand: the present year's exports of wheat may also be exceptionally large for the same reason; but looking at the grain trade for a series of years the exports shew no tendency to expand. Coffee also does not increase, nor do spices; sugar is declining; and tea is now advancing with slower steps.

This group has increased only between 7 and 8 per cent in five years, and most of the apparent increase is due to last year's exceptional export of rice.

72. The fall in the value of Opium has resulted in a heavy decline in the group of Chemicals, Drugs, &c., of which Opium constitutes the bulk; nor does Indigo, the only other important item in the group, offer any compensation.

This group has declined about 15½ per cent in the five years.

73. The progress of our export trade is in fact practically limited to the two groups of raw materials and manufactured articles. In both of these, but especially the latter, the advance is very satisfactory. The progress made in the manufacture of cotton and jute has in five years raised the value of this group by over 56 per cent. The group of raw materials has increased by about 18½ per cent, but the failure of rapeseed last year conceals the real rate of increase which may be taken to be substantially larger.

The following paragraphs will briefly summarise the features of the trade in the important articles comprised in each group

74. Notwithstanding the stimulus of prices in the European market which have ranged very high during the last few years, and still continue to range high, the exports of coffee do not increase as will be seen from the figures subjoined :—

	Cwt.	Rx.
1886-87 .	370,458	1,502,251
1887-88 .	273,775	1,529,680
1888-89 .	365,299	1,884,243
1889-90 .	239,795	1,489,872
1890-91 .	233,451	1,454,985

The trade during the last decade remained stationary until the last three or four years when it began to decline, although helped by high prices in London and the low rate of exchange which, it is still supposed by some, is advantageous to the tea and coffee planter. Indian coffee, however, has doubtless difficulties to contend with. Unlike Indian tea, it is not superior to the coffee of other countries with which it competes in Europe, and the ravages of leaf-disease have been very serious.

75. This was an exceptionally fortunate year for the rice trade, exports having increased by no less than 29 per cent.

This unprecedentedly large shipment was due to the failure of the rice harvest of Japan. That country was not only unable to ship rice to the European and American markets where Japanese rice competes with ours, but had an insufficient supply for her own needs, so that we actually exported thither direct as much as 65,400 tons (more going *via* the Straits), a circumstance which has not happened since 1876 when we exported a small quantity of 640 tons. The Java rice crop was also a partial failure, and production was more or less restricted in other parts of Eastern Asia.

The total exports from each province last year and in each of the ten preceding years are given below :—

Exports of Rice (husked) in cwt. (000's omitted).

	Burma.	Bengal.	Madras.	Bombay.	Sindh.	Total for India.	Value Rx.
1881-82 .	18,692	7,617	1,549	614	49	28,519	8,249,577
1882-83 .	21,249	7,838	1,319	552	71	31,029	8,440,091
1883-84 .	16,994	7,394	1,843	521	80	26,832	8,328,879
1884-85 .	13,507	6,035	1,403	677	80	21,702	7,122,787
1885-86 .	19,084	6,879	1,181	521	149	27,814	9,167,189
1886-87 .	18,216	5,902	1,564	639	139	26,460	8,764,809
1887-88 .	17,879	7,996	1,438	764	72	28,149	9,225,109
1888-89 .	14,205	6,417	1,538	589	19	22,768	7,845,350
1889-90 .	18,259	5,992	1,654	799	70	26,774	10,047,331
1890-91 .	24,581	7,928	1,210	646	109	34,474	12,773,628

69. The most important articles are set out below, the ratio of increase or decrease in the value of the year's trade being set out against each:—

Increases.		Decreases.	
	Per cent.		Per cent.
Cotton yarn and woven goods	14	Coffee	2'3
Grain and Pulse	18'2	Cotton, raw	11'6
Hides and Skins	3'8	Indigo	20'4
Lac	59'96	Other Dyes	16
Oils	1'4	Jute, raw	12
Provisions	1'4	Jute, manufactured	11
		Opium	8'4
		Seeds	12
		Silk, raw	18'5
		Sugar	54'4
		Tea	1'1
		Wood and timber	35'9
		Wool, raw	10'8

Thus it will be seen that of articles of the first importance only grain and pulse and cotton goods and yarns gave improved results in the year.

70. Grouping the items as in the trade returns the values of the trade in each group for each of the last five years are as follows in Rx. :—

	1885-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
1. <i>Animals, living</i> ...	87,632	134,182	112,146	98,085	122,278
2. <i>Articles of food and drink</i>	25,873,391	23,829,697	24,841,910	25,354,123	27,785,219
3. <i>Metals and manufacture of metal.</i>	49,660	54,943	53,523	63,273	61,144
4. <i>Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials.</i>	15,741,045	15,107,943	15,585,461	14,990,805	13,283,220
5. <i>Oils</i> ...	458,812	471,055	430,306	543,945	551,991
6. <i>Raw materials and unmanufactured articles</i>	33,366,691	35,600,153	38,509,911	44,291,911	39,497,900
7. <i>Articles manufactured and partly manufactured.</i>	9,331,764	11,172,047	13,109,477	13,758,912	14,600,500

The first and third of these groups are not, and are not likely to be within any measurable period, of any importance. The fifth group is also of comparatively small importance, but it is possible that it may assume large dimensions in some future day when the export of oilseeds shall be replaced by the export of the oil expressed from them in India.

71. Looking at the other groups we find that the export of articles of food and drink makes but slow progress, if any. Last year's exports of rice were exceptionally large owing to an exceptional demand: the present year's exports of wheat may also be exceptionally large for the same reason; but looking at the grain trade for a series of years the exports shew no tendency to expand. The value of opium also does not increase, nor do spices; sugar is declining; and tea is now declining with slower steps.

This group has increased only between 7 and 8 per cent in five years; most of the apparent increase is due to last year's exceptional export of opium.

72. The fall in the value of Opium has resulted in a heavy decline in the group of Chemicals, Drugs, &c., of which Opium constitutes the bulk. Indigo, the only other important item in the group, offers any compensation.

This group has declined about 15½ per cent in the five years.

73. The progress of our export trade is in fact practically limited to the two groups of raw materials and manufactured articles. In both of these, but especially the latter, the advance is very satisfactory. The progress made in the manufacture of cotton and jute has in five years raised the value of this group by over 56 per cent. The group of raw materials has increased by about 18½ per cent, but the failure of rapeseed last year conceals the real rate of increase which may be taken to be substantially larger.

The following paragraphs will briefly summarise the features of the trade in the important articles comprised in each group

74. Notwithstanding the stimulus of prices in the European market which have ranged very high during the last few years, and still continue to range high, the exports of coffee do not increase as will be seen from the figures subjoined :—

	Cwt.	Rs.
1886-87 . . .	370,458	1,502,251
1887-88 . . .	273,775	1,529,680
1888-89 . . .	365,299	1,884,243
1889-90 . . .	239,795	1,489,872
1890-91 . . .	233,451	1,454,985

The trade during the last decade remained stationary until the last three or four years when it began to decline, although helped by high prices in London and the low rate of exchange which, it is still supposed by some, is advantageous to the tea and coffee planter. Indian coffee, however, has doubtless difficulties to contend with. Unlike Indian tea, it is not superior to the coffee of other countries with which it competes in Europe, and the ravages of leaf-disease have been very serious.

75. This was an exceptionally fortunate year for the rice trade, exports having increased by no less than 29 per cent.

This unprecedentedly large shipment was due to the failure of the rice harvest of Japan. That country was not only unable to ship rice to the European and American markets where Japanese rice competes with ours, but had an insufficient supply for her own needs, so that we actually exported thither direct as much as 65,400 tons (more going *via* the Straits); a circumstance which has not happened since 1876 when we exported a small quantity of 640 tons. The Java rice crop was also a partial failure, and production was more or less restricted in other parts of Eastern Asia.

The total exports from each province last year and in each of the ten preceding years are given below :—

Exports of Rice (husked) in cwt. (000's omitted).

	Burma.	Bengal.	Madras.	Bombay.	Sindh.	Total for India.	Value Rs.
1881-82 . . .	18,690	7,617	1,549	614	49	28,519	8,249,577
1882-83 . . .	21,249	7,838	1,319	552	71	31,029	8,440,091
1883-84 . . .	16,994	7,394	1,843	521	80	26,832	8,328,879
1884-85 . . .	13,507	6,035	1,403	677	80	21,702	7,122,787
1885-86 . . .	19,084	6,879	1,181	521	149	27,814	9,167,189
1886-87 . . .	18,216	5,902	1,564	639	139	26,460	8,764,809
1887-88 . . .	17,879	7,996	1,438	764	72	28,149	9,225,109
1888-89 . . .	14,205	6,417	1,538	589	19	22,768	7,845,350
1889-90 . . .	18,259	5,992	1,654	799	70	26,774	10,047,331
1890-91 . . .	24,581	7,928	1,210	646	109	34,474	12,773,628

The table shows that the trade has made no progress during the ten years. The trade of last year was due to exceptional circumstances, and it is likely that the exports of the present year will fall much below the level of last year's trade. From Madras exports greatly diminished last year and they are still smaller this year, owing to a failure of harvests in certain districts which has not only reduced exports but required considerable imports from other parts of India.

Exports from Burma increased by over 34 per cent and from Bengal by over 32 per cent, the augmentation in each case furnishing striking proof of the value of a foreign demand for rice in encouraging the growth of the grain and the maintenance of a reserve which can be diverted for home consumption when necessary. This is what is happening at present, the surplus rice of Bengal going largely to Madras to supply deficient stocks there.

The countries to which Indian rice was exported in the last two years are these :—

	Cwt. (000's omitted).	
	1889-90.	1890-91.
<i>Europe :</i>		
United Kingdom	5,177	4,299
Malta	953	2,317
France	207	134
Egypt	7,398	9,700
Germany	176	310
Other countries	66	49
TOTAL	13,977	16,809
<i>Asia :</i>		
Ceylon	3,270	3,711
Straits	3,916	6,451
Japan	<i>Nil.</i>	1,308
Arabia and Aden	1,191	1,240
Persia and other countries	346	324
TOTAL	8,723	13,034
<i>Africa :</i>		
Mauritius, Réunion, and Eastern Coast	2,014	2,328
Other countries	256	258
TOTAL	2,270	2,586
<i>America :</i>		
West Indies	269	329
South America	1,426	1,493
Canada	53	75
United States	<i>Nil.</i>	71
TOTAL	1,748	1,968
<i>Australia</i>	56	77

The countries which took largely increased quantities of rice were the Straits, Japan, Ceylon, Egypt and Malta (the rice shipped to these two last mentioned places being intended for other destinations ultimately), and Mauritius.

It was anticipated last year that the importation of Indian rice into Italy might be diminished in consequence of an amendment in the tariff enhancing the duty on rough rice. It is not possible to furnish figures which will shew how far this has been actually the case, for most of our rice reaches Italy *via* Port Said or Malta, but the subjoined remarks extracted from a report by the British Consul at Genoa shew that the anticipation was correct : —

“ Another protectionist measure which has operated distinctively on a Genoese industry of importance is the change in the tariff regulations in the rice trade. There was a large and increasing business done here in rice cleaning, and the import of Burma and Japan rice had risen to no less than 80,000 tons in 1889, whereas the whole trade has, by these measures, been simply annihilated, not one cargo having been imported in 1890. These measures were adopted at the instigation of, and to conciliate the rice growers of Upper Italy, but I am informed that they have not been benefited by them even in the smallest degree, and it is certain that Genoa has lost an industry which gave useful employment to capital, labour, and shipping.”

The Consul at Venice also writes : “ The import duty recently enforced on foreign rice and the abolition of the drawback tend only to protect a small class of agriculturists, to give a death-blow to Italian millers, and to remove the rice-trade from this port.”

India has not so far felt the loss of this trade, the rice shut out of Italy having been taken by other European countries, the increase of trade with which has more than compensated for the loss of the Italian trade : it will be seen from the foregoing table that our exports to Europe (including Egypt) increased by 20 per cent in the year. It is likely enough that the real ultimate effect of the Italian tariff arrangements will be to restrict and injure the rice cleaning industry in that country and to give an incentive to the same business in Burma, to the benefit of our rice mills. Rice is now cleaned in Burma before shipment in larger quantity every year. Five years ago only a third of the whole export was cleaned : last year the proportion was more than half (52 per cent). It is a manifest economic advantage to the country that rice should be cleaned before shipment instead of being cleaned in the country which takes it : a great saving is effected in freight, a better price is obtained for an article which can be thus treated more cheaply in a Burma mill than in Europe, Indian labour is largely and usefully employed, and the husk of the rice is fully utilised to produce the motive power of the mills.

In connection with this subject of the progress of the rice milling industry the following quotation from Messrs. Fraser & Co.'s Annual Review of the Rice Trade will be found of interest :—

“ *Cleaned rice.*—Again, the chief feature in connection with the cleaned rice trade is the continued increase in the shipments from Burma, which, as we have frequently pointed out, are destined to exterminate the home industry. Continental millers, under the existing compact with the Burma shippers, continue to enjoy a fair share of the trade, protected as they are from the invasion of Burma supplies, but we are convinced this artificial state of matters cannot be much longer maintained, and sooner or later (we fear sooner) the cleaning trade of Germany, Holland, and Belgium (the latter suffering severely of late from the increased duty levied in France where considerable quantities of Belgian cleaned rice were sold) must follow the decay and extinction which has already to a great extent overtaken that of London and Liverpool. As a melancholy proof of the foregoing, we may mention that the London millers have not cleaned one cargo of rough Burma rice during the whole year just closed, being obliged to confine their attention to Bengal and other descriptions, with an occasional re-milling of the imported Burma cleaned, which for fine

samples is still necessary, the imported rice being as a rule not above the ordinary shipping quality. However, even this minor portion of the home milling trade will doubtless soon be performed in Burma. An additional incentive to the Burma milling trade of 1890 was the demand for Japan, consequent on the failure of the crop in that country causing values to rise far above the European level; but, as already mentioned, this was of short duration, and such was the sudden change that cleaned rice loaded at Rangoon and destined for Japan was re-directed to Europe at great sacrifice. The total quantity of cleaned rice shipped from Burma, including cleaned broken rice and meal, during the year amounted to 618,021 tons against 421,988 tons in 1889."

Wheat.

76. Unlike rice, of which at least half is shipped to Asiatic countries and to colonies which take Indian coolies, the great bulk of the wheat exported is shipped to Europe, very trifling quantities going to Asiatic countries and the African coast.

Like the trade in rice, this trade has made no appreciable advance in the ten years; but unlike that trade, which keeps fairly steady within certain limits, the wheat trade is subject to violent fluctuations. Our rice actively and, on the whole, successfully competes with the rice of other countries and with a number of other grains—oats, rye, maize, and with beet and potatoes. It is used for food, for distillation, and the manufacture of starch; the demand is on the whole sufficiently constant; and the export is affected more by the conditions of supply and the level of prices in India and Burma than by fluctuations in the foreign demand, for though exceptional conditions cause the demand suddenly to increase, there are practically no conditions which would be likely to cause a sudden and material decline in the demand. With wheat the case is different. It does not compete with the wheat of other countries and is required only to supplement deficiencies. Apart, therefore, from internal conditions which affect the supply, the exports are subject to violent fluctuations arising out of the uncertainty of the demand. In one year the demand will be very large, as in 1886-87, when we exported over 22¼ million cwt., and in the next following year we find the exports reduced to the lowest point they have reached, 13½ million cwt., owing to abundant supplies from Russia, the United States and other wheat-exporting countries, and to deficient harvests in India which raised prices above a profitable level for exporters. Then, with a continuance of the same causes, and the occurrence of good harvests in England, followed a series of three years of low exports, but in the present year we shall probably export a comparatively large quantity, in consequence mainly, as in 1886-87, of the failure of the Russian harvests and of very good harvests in Northern India.

The quantity exported in the last four years has been, it will be seen from the subjoined table, an annual average of under 741,000 tons. The average for the whole decade is under 867,000 tons a year. Taking 1½ lbs a day to be the quantity of food-grains consumed by an adult male, this export of 867,000 tons yearly means the export of a quantity which would have fed 3,547,000 persons, or say 1·4 per cent of the population according to the census of 1881 and 1·2 per cent according to the census of 1891. This quantity is also not more than between 12 and 13 per cent of the average quantity of wheat produced in India if the estimates of agricultural produce are to be depended on, but such estimates have been so repeatedly found to be erroneous that it would be safe to say that the exports are in fact not more than 10 per cent of the total production. The relative steadiness of the rice trade compared with the violent fluctuations in the wheat

trade is also influenced by the fact that while rice, in addition to being required for food, is also required for industrial purposes—distillation and the manufacture of starch—wheat is required mainly for the single purpose of food and in only a smaller degree for the manufacture of starch.

The subjoined table gives the exports of wheat from India for each of the last ten years:—

			From Bengal.	From Bombay.	From Sindh.	From Burma and Madras.	Total exports.	Total value.
			Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Rx.
1881-82	...	...	6,668,047	11,328,585	1,852,334	14,554	19,863,520	8,604,081
1882-83	...	...	4,439,405	6,957,752	2,732,275	14,975	14,144,407	6,068,334
1883-84	...	...	7,611,535	8,970,603	4,372,832	1,525	20,956,495	8,877,561
1884-85	...	...	2,563,204	8,993,108	4,270,860	3,582	15,830,754	6,309,140
1885-86	...	...	4,189,672	10,608,680	6,241,017	21,150	21,060,519	8,002,350
1886-87	...	...	7,037,957	12,606,144	2,613,748	5,471	22,263,320	8,625,864
1887-88	...	...	4,334,768	8,541,621	660,758	1,022	13,538,169	5,562,373
1888-89	...	...	2,950,985	10,654,163	4,004,039	894	17,610,081	7,522,676
1889-90	...	...	1,550,839	5,146,881	7,100,282	1,222	13,799,224	5,791,377
1890-91	...	...	1,340,355	6,212,143	6,767,300	698	14,320,496	6,042,426

The wild exaggeration of the statements recently made regarding the effect of the export trade in wheat on the food stocks of the country and the outrageous absurdity of the proposals made to restrict or prohibit exports when prices reach a high level require no further demonstration than the figures here given.

In this place a reference to the exports of flour may fittingly be made. The trade is still of small dimensions, the exports of last year reaching only 21,000 tons of which a little more than a fourth was sent to Aden.

A comparison of the table with the table of exports of rice shews that during the last ten years the largest quantity of wheat exported was but little more than the smallest quantity of rice exported.

77. The only other food-grains exported in any quantity are *jowar* and *bajra*, and the trade in these millets is still quite inconsiderable, the exports last year, which are the largest we have yet had, amounting to not more than 54,800 tons. A large proportion of the exports was sent to Abyssinia, with which the trade increased considerably last year. The trade is doubtless due to the Italian occupation of Massawah, and its increase in the year must have been caused by local conditions of scarcity, but these have not been ascertained. Besides Massawah, these millets go most largely to Aden and the Arabian Coast, to Egypt, and from Karachi to the adjacent coast of Mekran and Sonmiani. Small quantities were sent also to France and Belgium where, it is said, they were required for distillation, being cheaper than maize. The export for this purpose has greatly increased during the present year in consequence of the prohibition of the export of rye from Russia.

*Other grains:
Jowar and bajra.*

Pulse and gram.

78. The export of pulse, which seemed four or five years ago to give promise of considerable expansion, has not realised what was expected from it, and the trade has fallen to very small proportions, not more than about 15,000 tons having been exported last year. The exports of gram also were much about the same level. Both these foodstuffs are taken mainly by Mauritius, Ceylon, and the Straits where they are consumed by the resident Indian population.

Sugar.

79. The change which has taken place in this trade, exports being now less than the imports, has been noticed in the first chapter of this review, and it is only necessary here to draw attention to the subjoined figures shewing the trade in the last eight years :—

	Refined. Cwt.	Raw. Cwt.
1883-84	203,693	1,426,827
1884-85	55,323	1,015,596
1885-86	24,942	1,142,598
1886-87	33,340	953,066
1887-88	37,723	1,008,565
1888-89	34,523	978,955
1889-90	111,323	1,309,321
1890-91	28,768	795,973

Last year's trade was very small, but it followed on a year of comparatively large exports caused by speculative fluctuations in prices in Europe. No doubt the trade was temporarily disarranged by the conditions of exchange last autumn. In unrefined sugar, which is the great bulk of the trade, the decline amounted to 39 per cent. This is almost altogether a Madras trade, Bengal now having practically ceased to export sugar and Bombay exporting but little. A bad season and the state of exchange combined with the competition in Europe of beet sugar to bring the trade down very low. It has been doing better since the close of the year.

Tea.

80. The exports amounted to 107,014,993 lbs., which was but little more than 3 per cent in excess of the quantity exported in the previous year. This is a slower rate of progress than has been made in previous years, but possibly the present year may see a further advance.

The exports of the last eight years are given below :—

	(ooo's omitted).	
	lbs.	Rx.
1883-84	59,912	4,083,880
1884-85	64,162	4,044,759
1885-86	68,784	4,306,133
1886-87	78,703	4,727,992
1887-88	87,514	5,174,440
1888-89	97,011	5,267,315
1889-90	103,760	5,277,650
1890-91	107,015	5,219,233

The heavy fall in price which marked the year 1889-90 was succeeded by a further fall last year for the higher qualities of tea, the fall occurring during the months when exchange was rising. The average prices realised at the

auction sales in Calcutta during the last three years were as follow, in annas and pie per pound :—

	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
Orange (and broken orange) Pekoe	12-4	11-8	11-2½
Broken Pekoe	10-3	9-9	8-10½
Pekoe	8-1	7-5	7-2
Pekoe Souchong	6-3	5-7	5-8½
Broken ditto	5-10	5-0	5-3½
Pekoe Fannings	6-6	5-7	5-10
Other low class	4-11	4-8	5-2

The London market continues to absorb the bulk of the exports, but there is a noteworthy increase in the exports to Australia which have more than doubled in four years. An export of five million pounds is not much after ten years of exertion to secure a market in colonies which consume tea very largely, but it may be taken as an indication that the merits of Indian tea are now understood there and that the Australians will no longer be content to drink China tea merely because it is cheap.

The exports are as follows, in pounds (ooo's omitted) :—

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
United Kingdom	84,182	93,222	98,731	100,209
Australia	2,472	2,880	3,419	5,119
Persian Gulf	324	467	1,200	1,311
United States	54	155	103	79
Canada	...	14	85	61
China	6	19	33	61

While the imports of Indian tea into England continue to increase, those of Chinese tea continue to diminish, but while China is being gradually but surely thrust out of the English market, another and perhaps a more formidable competitor has stepped in. The advance made by Ceylon tea in recent years is little short of marvellous. It is interesting to note how completely the position in England of Indian and Ceylon teas with respect to China tea has been reversed. Seven years ago the imports of China tea were more than double the imports of Indian and Ceylon teas. At the end of seven years we find the imports of China tea to be about half the imports from India and Ceylon. The following are the imports from India, Ceylon, and China into England in the last seven years (quantity stated in lb, oco's omitted) :—

	From India.	From Ceylon.	From China.
1884	63,208	2,211	143,771
1885	64,382	4,242	139,673
1886	73,467	7,144	145,308
1887	84,645	13,062	119,799
1888	89,874	22,509	105,735
1889	95,384	32,673	88,558
1890	101,771	42,491	73,743

Thus India and Ceylon furnished last year two-thirds of the imports, India's share being about 45½ per cent, while China furnished only one-third. Twenty years ago China's share was as much as 88 per cent; but twenty years ago Ceylon sent no tea to England and it had only one per cent of the imports as lately as 1884. It is said, with reference to the remarks in paragraph 21 of

this review, that the quality of Ceylon tea is deteriorating and, with a poor soil, will continue to deteriorate; and that therefore the Indian planter has nothing to apprehend from his Ceylon competitor. It is undesirable to be over confident in commercial competition, and it may be expedient to reflect that the Ceylon planter, who has already made such a success of his business, is hardly likely to make the mistake which is destroying the Chinese tea industry. There is also no sufficient evidence as yet that quality is deteriorating: on the contrary, Messrs. Stenning and Inskip, in their review of the tea trade of 1890, say in regard to Ceylon tea: "Quality has shewn a distinct improvement on that of last year, the fermentation having been better than hitherto. Flavoury teas have commanded very satisfactory prices."

Opium.

81. The exports were—

	Chests.	Rx.	Average price. Rs.
1882-83	91,798	11,481,376	1,251
1883-84	91,963	11,294,460	1,228
1884-85	86,578	10,882,606	1,257
1885-86	87,956	10,735,518	1,220
1886-87	95,839	11,077,669	1,155
1887-88	90,096	10,067,764	1,117
1888-89	87,789	10,508,081	1,197
1889-90	85,166	10,115,936	1,188
1890-91	85,753	9,261,814	1,080

The fall in price in Bengal opium, about 100 rupees a chest, was heavy, and the fall in Malwa opium was heavier still, about 118 rupees a chest, the quantity exported having also declined:

	1889-90. Chests.	1890-91. Chests.
Exported from Bengal	55,985	57,597
„ Bombay	29,181	28,156

Average price—

	Bengal. Rs.	Bombay. Rs.
1889-90	1,138	1,283
1890-91	1,038	1,165

The exports were thus distributed:

	1887-88. Chests.	1888-89. Chests.	1889-90. Chests.	1890-91. Chests.
China—Hong-Kong	59,508	56,166	54,272	52,566
„ —Treaty Ports	17,307	16,725	15,830	18,289
Straits	12,368	13,995	13,749	13,915
Cochin-China	670	725	1,050	480
Other countries	243	178	265	503

Indigo.

82. The exports of the last ten years were as follow:—

	Cwt.	Rx.	Cwt.	Rx.	
1881-82	150,363	4,509,080	1886-87	138,396	3,691,677
1882-83	141,041	3,912,997	1887-88	139,644	3,890,649
1883-84	168,590	4,640,991	1888-89	142,447	3,948,594
1884-85	154,629	4,068,900	1889-90	157,116	3,863,084
1885-86	132,495	3,783,160	1890-91	118,425	3,073,125

There was a large reduction in the exports from Madras as well as from Bengal last year, but though this was the consequence of seasonal conditions which resulted in a very deficient crop, it seems from the figures of the trade for the last decade that no mere seasonal vicissitudes can account for the want of vitality in this trade, but that a decreasing demand must also be reckoned with. The decline in the demand does not arise from the competition of indigo from other countries, for India still supplies almost the whole of the indigo used by dyers, Central America and other countries supplying comparatively very small quantities. It may arise perhaps in some small measure from the growing disuse in the European Continent, in Egypt, Persia, and other countries of blue shirts or blouses; but it is probable that the real cause lies in the substitution of aniline and alizarine dyes, the use of which has greatly developed with improvements in tints, lasting quality, and cheapness of cost. If this is so, the indigo planters of India must face the prospect of a permanent reduction in price or a material restriction in the dimensions of the trade. These artificial dyes, which are fast superseding our ordinary dyes in India itself, are certainly also beginning to supersede our finer dyes in European dye-houses, for in none of them does trade shew any vitality. Lacdye and manjit (Indian madder) have practically disappeared from the market. Safflower is still exported, chiefly to China and the Straits, not for dyeing purposes however, but for the preparation of rouge, and, by the way, it comes back to India in that form for use by professional and amateur actors and actresses,—and others. Turmeric is exported quite as much for its use in laboratories as a test and re-agent and for the colouring of syrups, confectionery, &c., as for a dye for textile fabrics.

Myrabolams and cutch are used rather as tanning than as dyeing material, the latter being used moreover as a drug and in perfumery. It may be said, indeed, that, as regards dyes pure and simple, our exports are limited to indigo, and that, as has been shewn, does not progress. For local consumption also the indigenous dyes are gradually, and not slowly, being thrust out of the market by the ever-increasing quantities of aniline and alizarine dyes which we import.

83. Only two kinds are of any importance, castor and cocoanut. The former increased a good deal in the year and the latter, which is not, however, a large trade at the best, declined. *Oils.*

84. This small trade has not maintained the advance made in 1889-90, and during the present year the export has fallen to a low point. A trade like this is largely dependent upon the conditions of the freight market, and unfortunately for some time past it has been more profitable for vessels to carry rice from Calcutta to Madras than to take coal to other places. The exports of the last three years have been— *Coal.*

	Tons.
1888-89 . . .	15,796
1889-90 . . .	39,972
1890-91 . . .	26,336

The coal is taken mainly to Ceylon, the Straits, Java, and Mauritius. It is possible that Bengal coal may in the future become a considerable article of export, that province having produced 1,626,000 tons in 1890 and being capable of producing perhaps ten times as much annually, but it is useless to think of an

export trade when we still import as much as three-quarters of a million tons of English coal for consumption in provinces to which as yet Bengal or other Indian coal cannot find easy access. It is sufficient for the present that we are able, from our mines, to supply two-thirds of our own requirements. When we are able to supply them all, which is a question of transport, not of production, we may begin to look round for an export trade.

Cotton.

85. The exports of the last ten years have been as follow (in cwt., 000's omitted) :—

	Cwt.	Rx.		Cwt.	Rx.
1881-82	5,627	14,935,959	1886-87	5,433	13,468,429
1882-83	6,168	16,049,017	1887-88	5,374	14,412,842
1883-84	5,979	14,383,728	1888-89	5,331	15,045,647
1884-85	5,066	13,286,367	1889-90	6,320	18,668,404
1885-86	4,190	10,777,204	1890-91	5,914	16,502,775

This trade has not increased largely in the decade, but it must be remembered that a constantly increasing quantity is required for the Indian cotton mills. The number of mills in this period has been doubled, having increased from 62 to 125 ; the number of spindles has also been doubled, having risen from 1,551,000 to 3,198,000 ; and the number of looms has increased from 14,386 to 23,795. It would seem, in regard to the export trade in cotton, that the fluctuations in the trade are due more to the relative abundance or scarcity of the yield than to any material variation in the demand. Last year's exports were on a large scale, though not equal to those of the preceding year, which were the combined result of an exceptionally large crop and an exceptionally good demand which gave very profitable results. The Continent of Europe is of much more importance to us than England as a consumer of Indian cotton, as will be seen from the figures appended against the countries to which our cotton is shipped, and it must be noted further that half of the quantity shipped to England is ordinarily reshipped to the Continent—

	Cwt. (000's omitted.)			
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
United Kingdom	2,140	1,776	2,165	1,520
Italy	774	781	957	823
Austria	688	755	741	719
Belgium	676	873	941	907
France	487	549	635	688
Germany	139	190	486	810
Russia	134	150	94	82
Spain	45	72	72	115
China	202	139	125	119

Altogether we shipped last year 4,157,370 cwt. to the Continent, being 70 per cent of the whole exports. To England we shipped only 1,520,022 cwt., being under 26 per cent of the whole exports. || As about half of the cotton sent to England goes thither only on its way to the Continent, it may be said that the English share of our exports is not more than about 12 per cent, the Continental share being 82 per cent. The remainder finds its way chiefly to China, Japan, and the Straits. The reason why England takes such a trifling proportion of our cotton now is that our mills have destroyed the trade the Lancashire mills

had in the spinning of coarse yarns and the weaving of coarse goods for India and the East. England therefore requires but little of the short-stapled Indian cotton which is useful for such classes of goods, but takes larger quantities of the longer staple of the United States, Egypt, and Brazil. Thus, last year the imports of Indian cotton into England were only about one-eighth of the whole imports. It is said, indeed, that much of the machinery in the English mills is now adapted to the treatment of the long staple and is not suitable for our shorter staple. In the Continental mills, on the other hand, our short staple is in demand for the manufacture of the coarse cotton clothing of the peasantry and work people.

It is of some importance to bear these facts in mind in view of the efforts that are intermittently made to induce or coerce the Indian cotton grower to substitute for the easily grown short-stapled cotton for which he finds a ready market a more troublesome longer staple, the market for which, at a profitable price, in competition with other long staples, would be doubtful. These efforts seem to be based on the erroneous assumption that England is the only or chief recipient of our cotton.

The centre of this important trade, both as regards manufacture and exportation of the raw material, is in Bombay, whence 77 per cent of the exports were made last year :—

	Cwt. (000's omitted.)			
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
Bombay	3,929	4,198	4,819	4,562
Madras	658	595	862	847
Bengal	618	375	452	355
Sindh	131	130	144	121
Burma	37	32	42	28

The value of the trade fell in nearly double the proportion of the decline in quantity, this being mainly the consequence of the extraordinary fluctuation of exchange during a part of the year.

86. There was a substantial increase in the export of hides, though the trade is still much smaller than it was some years ago. The increase in the export of skins was very large, the demand for goat skins, according to the Calcutta Customs authorities, having been very active. The increasing manufacture of leather in this country must to some extent restrict the export of hides, though a season of drought, which is always accompanied by great mortality amongst cattle, would at once lead to an increase of exports. The numbers exported have been—

	Hides.	Skins.
1885-86	8,607,724	4,947,579
1886-87	8,493,384	4,077,259
1887-88	6,817,653	3,817,124
1888-89	6,606,142	4,356,561
1889-90	6,454,895	3,906,711
1890-91	6,803,566	5,377,855

Hides and Skins.

The number of hides exported averaged nearly 7,300,000 annually in the last six years.

87. Exports in the last ten years (cwt., 000's omitted)—

	Cwt.	Rx.
1881-82 . .	7,510	5,030,302
1882-83 . .	10,349	5,846,926
1883-84 . .	7,018	4,592,635
1884-85 . .	8,369	4,661,368
1885-86 . .	7,782	4,355,362
1886-87 . .	8,307	4,869,815
1887-88 . .	9,643	6,040,379
1888-89 . .	10,553	7,897,154
1889-90 . .	10,256	8,639,861
1890-91 . .	11,986	7,602,010

The declared export values of the last four years averaged—

	Rs.
1887-88 . .	6.26 per cwt.
1888-89 . .	7.5 "
1889-90 . .	8.42 "
1890-91 . .	6.34 "

Prices ruled very high in Calcutta for a considerable time in 1889-90, falling towards the end of the year with a rising exchange and a higher range of freights. Last year, with a very large export—the crop having been, it is said, the largest ever known owing to the stimulus to cultivation given by high prices as well as to a good season—prices fell, after much fluctuation aided in doing so by a rapidly rising exchange during a part of the year.

The destination of the jute has been as follows (cwt., 000's omitted):—

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
United Kingdom . .	6,313	7,498	7,079	6,745
United States . .	2,331	1,682	1,804	2,716
Germany	351	684	652	1,433
France	54	161	233	295
Italy	266	184	223	305
Austria	183	203	110	317
Spain	124	104	113	137

From the United Kingdom a substantial proportion (a little under a third) of the jute sent thither is re-exported mostly to the Continent as is the case with Indian cotton. Apparently the Continent will in future take more of its requirements direct as means of communication are developed. The increase in the exports of Germany recently, as a consequence of such development, is noticeable.

88. The exportation of bones is proceeding on a scale which merits attention. The increase in the trade will be seen from the following figures:—

	Tons.	Rx.
1886-87 . .	18,886	91,670
1887-88 . .	26,325	132,750
1888-89 . .	35,393	174,077
1889-90 . .	44,400	242,749
1890-91 . .	61,410	335,773

When we reckon the 14 or 15 million large cattle whose hides are exported, and the equally large number of small cattle whose skins are exported, and

consider the probably equal number whose hides are not exported, and the large number of animals, other than cattle, which die every year, it must be admitted that India is a great field for the collection of bone manure if the cultivator declines to make use of it. These bones are now exported from every province, though in but trifling quantity as yet from Burma, and at the ports mills have been established for crushing them to the annoyance of the people in the vicinity. It has been said by some authorities on agricultural questions that the best use to which the cultivator can put bones is to sell them: it would be interesting to know if he does really sell them, and what proportion of the recorded value of 33½ lakhs goes into his pocket.

89. Exports of ten years:—

Seeds.

	Cwt. (000's omitted.)	Rx.
1881-82	10,466	6,054,099
1882-83	13,139	7,200,336
1883-84	17,355	10,083,758
1884-85	18,251	10,745,203
1885-86	17,280	9,948,350
1886-87	15,866	9,198,560
1887-88	16,060	9,385,024
1888-89	15,570	9,561,750
1889-90	15,795	10,627,553
1890-91	14,799	9,343,252

The trade in the principal kinds of oilseeds was as follows in the last five years in cwt. (000's omitted):—

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
Castor	611	764	586	895	860
Earthnuts	946	1,262	828	1,394	1,525
Linseed	8,657	8,423	8,461	7,147	8,077
Poppy	613	456	730	483	678
Rape	2,660	2,081	3,061	3,904	1,555
Til or jinjili	2,114	2,747	1,537	1,775	1,847

On the whole this trade has not progressed since it reached its highest level seven years ago. In earthnuts alone has there been a real advance, and as that trade is of much more recent origin than the trade in any of the other kinds, it is possible that it may not have as yet reached its highest level as the others would seem to have done. The decline in the quantities of seeds exported last year was due to the failure of the rapeseed crop in the Punjab owing to absence of rain when the crop should have been sown. The area under the crop decreased by 49 per cent and the yield by 53 per cent. In the other kinds of seeds (except castor, in which the decline was trifling) there was an increase of substantial dimensions in the exports, but the decline of 2½ million cwt. in rapeseed was far greater than the aggregate increase in all the rest. The decline, which followed a very good year in the export of rape, is to all appearances about to be followed by another good year: the yield has been good and the exports to date are on a large scale.

The efforts to create a trade in cotton seed appear to have failed. In the three years for which figures exist the exports have fallen from 135,600 cwt. to 38,400 cwt., and (last year) again to under 19,000 cwt.

Silk.

90. Exports are as follow in lb (ooo's omitted) :—

	Reeled.	Chasam (waste).	Cocoons.	Total value in Rx.
1883-84	673	886	44	627,612
1884-85	531	953	83	463,791
1885-86	358	1,024	57	332,251
1886-87	449	1,020	114	484,339
1887-88	453	998	173	480,811
1888-89	433	1,314	374	518,751
1889-90	593	1,233	263	639,818
1890-91	503	1,112	146	521,069

About 21 per cent of the quantity exported consisted of wild silks (*tasar, muga, &c.*).

The trade did badly in the year, and the prospects of a revival of this once flourishing trade are not encouraging. Bengal silk is of small importance in the markets of the world. In the silk of the mulberry worm we find ourselves distanced by the superior qualities produced in France and Italy, Asia Minor, China and Japan; and the wild silks are received in Europe in much larger quantities from China than from India. Indeed, much more silk is imported into India from China than is exported from this country to all countries.

Teak timber.

91. Exports for the last ten years :—

	Cubic tons.	Rx.		Cubic tons.	Rx.
1881-82	56,377	506,792	1886-87	23,946	223,154
1882-83	59,187	611,260	1887-88	40,446	367,274
1883-84	46,471	525,447	1888-89	52,609	575,263
1884-85	47,556	532,129	1889-90	71,342	762,998
1885-86	50,076	550,515	1890-91	42,803	425,303

The heavy fall in the exports of the year is attributed by those concerned in the trade to the active competition of Siamese teak. If this is the case, it is some satisfaction to learn that the teak shipped from Bangkok was of such inferior quality that it has lost all reputation in the timber market. The immediate effect, however, of heavy shipments of inferior timber from Bangkok was, to quote the trade report of Messrs. Churchill and Sims, that "a very prosperous and promising trade was spoilt, avoidably or unavoidably. Although Burmese shipments have sustained their reputation, they have suffered in price from the general loss of character and value of teak. Largely owing to the unfortunate circumstances we have alluded to, the year has witnessed a heavy decline in values in spite of a moderate supply and an exceptionally good demand."

This decline in values practically stopped exports from Burma.

Wool.

92. The exports have been as follow :—

(ooo's omitted.)			(ooo's omitted.)		
	lbs.	Rx.		lbs.	Rx.
1881-82	21,581	814,551	1886-87	23,209	899,552
1882-83	21,561	790,406	1887-88	23,877	972,346
1883-84	20,036	755,841	1888-89	21,961	968,753
1884-85	18,928	713,576	1889-90	23,870	1,085,637
1885-86	23,149	872,321	1890-91	21,345	968,322

This is another trade which gives no indication of special progress in a ten years' review. The decline last year is attributed partly to short supplies to Karachi from the Punjab, but the exports were probably also affected by the two woollen mills which have commenced work in Bombay. The course of exchange during a portion of the year would, by lowering the price temporarily, have given them an opportunity of laying in wool to advantage, and it is stated that they took a million pounds. We have now five woollen mills in India, containing about 15,000 spindles and five or six hundred looms, but information on the subject is defective.

93. Coming now to manufactured and partly manufactured goods, the following figures indicate the relative proportions of each principal class of manufactures and the progress made in the ten years :—

	1881-82. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.	Increase or decrease per cent com- pared with 1881-82.
Cotton yarn and cloth	2,010,516	7,702,640	+ 283.1
Jute goods	1,097,589	2,481,961	+ 126.1
Silk goods	221,617	203,181	— 8.3
Woollen goods	196,683	104,166	— 47.04
Tanned hides and skins	1,918,973	2,535,363	+ 32.1
Lac	709,256	781,264	+ 10.15
Coir goods	182,114	194,801	+ 7.0
Apparel	58,524	103,429	+ 76.7

94. The quantity of cotton yarn exported has increased 450 per cent in the decade, being at the rate of 45 per cent annually. The increase last year was over 19 per cent :— *Cotton yarn.*

<i>(ooo's omitted.)</i>			<i>(ooo's omitted.)</i>		
	lbs.	Rx.		lbs.	Rx.
1881-82	30,786	1,368,836	1886-87	91,804	3,336,861
1882-83	45,378	1,816,818	1887-88	113,451	4,077,386
1883-84	49,876	1,926,162	1888-89	128,907	5,207,100
1884-85	65,897	2,441,101	1889-90	141,950	5,748,732
1885-86	78,242	2,755,252	1890-91	169,275	6,543,364

The exports of cotton piece goods in the same period have been (in yards, ooo's omitted) :—

1881-82	29,890	1886-87	53,360
1882-83	41,534	1887-88	69,434
1883-84	55,564	1888-89	70,244
1884-85	47,908	1889-90	59,462
1885-86	51,528	1890-91	67,639

Here the increase in the decade has been at the rate of 126 per cent, being more than $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent annually. The increase last year was between 13 and 14 per cent. This is a very rapid rate of increase, though far smaller than in the case of yarn.

The distribution of the exports in the last two years has been as follows :—

	Yarn lbs. (000's omitted).		Piece goods, yards. (000's omitted).	
	1889-90.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1890-91.
China	114,151	151,050	1,436	5,538
Japan	22,687	11,876	9	17
Aden	1,759	1,852	14,810	12,685
Straits	1,678	2,045	5,073	5,498
Asiatic Turkey	571	943	1,849	1,306
Java	374	533	...	...
Arabia	280	299	1,672	2,643
Persia	152	324	1,183	930
East Coast of Africa (Mozambique and Zanzibar):	59	46	21,526	25,509
Abyssinia	3	...	1,962	3,940
Ceylon	75	265	5,725	6,533
Mekran and Sonmiani	...	42	1,464	1,062
Other countries	161		2,753	1,978

The progress of the spinning and weaving industry in the last fifteen years is shewn in the table appended :—

Year.	Number of mills.	Number of spindles.	Number of looms.
1876-77	47	1,100,112	9,139
1881-82	62	1,550,944	14,386
1886-87	90	2,202,602	16,926
1890-91	125	3,197,700	23,795

The mills are located as follows :—

	Mills.	Spindles.	Looms.
Bombay Presidency	89	2,330,468	18,192
Bengal (suburbs of Calcutta).	8	297,448	...
Madras	8	173,152	555
North-Western Provinces	5	135,842	2,141
Punjab (Delhi)	2	21,642	154
Central India (Indore).	1	26,036	464
Central Provinces	3	72,080	805
Hyderabad	3	52,038	549
Berar	1	16,580	214
Mysore	2	29,262	187
Pondichery	2	23,152	534
Travancore	1	20,000	...

Upwards of 112,000 persons are stated to have been employed in the mills at the end of 1890-91 and the capital invested is returned at Rs. 11,155,000, but several of the mills, private concerns, make no return of their capital, the figures being confined to mills worked by joint stock companies.

95. The value of the exports of manufactured jute in the last ten years has been :—

	Rx.		Rx.
1881-82	1,097,588	1886-87	1,151,858
1882-83	1,487,831	1887-88	1,746,360
1883-84	1,334,145	1888-89	2,571,477
1884-85	1,543,870	1889-90	2,791,242
1885-86	1,130,808	1890-91	2,481,961

The value of the trade has increased by 126 per cent in the decade.

The exports of gunny-bags and cloths in the last ten years have been as follows, the quantities being stated in numbers for bags and yards for cloth, 000's being omitted in both cases :—

	Bags.	Cloth.		Bags.	Cloth.
1881-82 .	42,073	989	1886-87 .	64,570	12,799
1882-83 .	60,738	4,601	1887-88 .	74,368	13,683
1883-84 .	63,646	7,049	1888-89 .	99,790	15,160
1884-85 .	82,779	15,344	1889-90 .	97,416	37,144
1885-86 .	63,760	20,154	1890-91 .	98,749	29,854

The industry is practically concentrated in Lower Bengal and in the vicinity of Calcutta. The statistics of these Bengal mills are given as follows for the last ten years :—

	Mills.	Spindles.	Looms.
1881-82 .	19	87,071	5,464
1882-83 .	18	92,033	5,413
1883-84 .	21	108,802	5,919
1884-85 .	22	127,892	6,706
1885-86 .	23	125,578	6,612
1886-87 .	22	132,907	6,787
1887-88 .	23	143,566	7,255
1888-89 .	24	149,937	7,681
1889-90 .	25	159,219	8,163
1890-91 .	24	159,115	7,963

96. The mills employ 60,739 persons, and the capital invested in them is, as far as is known, some of the mills being private concerns the owners of which decline to state their capital, about Rx. 3,104,500.

The exports of tanned hides and skins (mainly from Madras) in the last five years have been as follow, most of the exports being to England :—

*Tanned Hides
and Skins.*

	Cwt.	Rx.
1886-87 .	238,955	2,337,926
1887-88 .	272,449	2,526,666
1888-89 .	272,960	2,614,102
1889-90 .	260,716	2,524,008
1890-91 .	272,376	2,535,363

The exports of shell and button lac increased very largely last year, but the exports of the two preceding years had been small. The trade is very speculative and fluctuating, and prices are immediately affected to a serious extent by the prospect of an abundant supply or the reverse.

Lac.

97. *Silks and Woollens.*—Both declined materially in the year. In neither is the trade of any importance.

98. From the subjoined table shewing the rate of increase or decrease in quantity and value in the year in all important articles it will be seen that in a large number of cases values declined in greater proportion than quantity,

and that where quantities increased values did not increase proportionately except in a few cases:—

Articles.	QUANTITY.		VALUE.	
	Increase +	Decrease —	Increase +	Decrease —
Coffee . . . . .	...	2'64	...	2'34
Rice	29'02	...	27'37	...
Wheat	3'78	...	4'33	...
Other grain and pulse	4'23	...	...	1'15
Flour . . . . .	...	3'16	...	3'83
Spices	7'86	...	...	1'95
Sugar (refined and unrefined) . . . . .	...	41'94	...	54'47
Tea	3'14	...	...	1'11
Opium	0'69	...	...	8'44
Cutch . . . . .	...	29'5	...	29'1
Indigo . . . . .	...	24'6	...	20'4
Myrabolams . . . . .	...	16'2	...	5'3
Castor oil	18'47	...	13'72	...
Cocanut oil . . . . .	...	32'5	...	30'06
Cotton, raw . . . . .	...	6'4	...	11'6
Hides	1'2	...	1'8	...
Skins	60'15	...	38'7	...
Jute	16'87	...	...	12'01
Bones	38'3	...	38'3	...
Saltpetre . . . . .	...	5'3	...	7'6
Castor seed . . . . .	...	3'9	...	15'25
Earthnuts	9'4	...	7'8	...
Linseed	13'02	...	5'27	...
Poppy seed	40'5	...	28'85	...
Rapeseed . . . . .	...	60'18	...	63'52
Til seed	4'01	...	3'6	...
Silk, raw (including chasam and cocoons)	...	15'75	...	18'56
Teak wood . . . . .	...	40'0	...	44'26
Wool . . . . .	...	10'58	...	10'8
Cotton twist	19'25	...	13'82	...
Piece goods (grey)	18'05	...	22'4	...
„ (coloured)	0'7	...	4'9	...
Gunny bags	1'37	...	...	7'86
„ cloths . . . . .	...	19'6	...	28'27
Silk piece goods . . . . .	...	14'05	...	25'5
Hides, dressed or tanned	1'95	...	...	7'85
Skins „ „	5'96	...	2'67	...
Lac (all kinds, except dye and stick)	63'08	...	59'9	...

CHAPTER IV.

Trade with Countries.

99. In the subjoined table are given the figures of our trade (merchandise only) with the several divisions of the world during the last ten years :

	1881-82.	1886-87.	1890-91.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
With Europe ...	92,955,279	105,033,967	115,044,358
With Africa and adjacent islands.	4,570,435	6,744,736	9,632,186
With Asia ...	26,826,199	29,495,780	36,588,254
With America ...	3,512,379	4,895,172	6,429,218
With Australia ...	1,029,752	920,467	1,476,605
	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL ...	128,894,044	147,090,122	169,170,621
	-----	-----	-----

At least 68 per cent of our whole trade is with Europe, 50 per cent being with the United Kingdom and only 18 per cent with other European countries; between 21 and 22 per cent of the trade is with Asiatic countries; something less than 6 per cent with Africa, mainly with the Eastern Coast and with Egypt, much of the trade with the latter country being so only nominally, the goods being distributed in Europe and on the Asiatic coast of the Levant; under 4 per cent is with the American Continent and the West Indies; and less than 1 per cent. with Australasia.

If the trade with Egypt were all assumed to be European then the proportion of trade with Europe would be 70·7 per cent and with Africa about 3 per cent.

100. During the decade our trade with each of these divisions has increased in the following proportions :—

With Europe ...	...	...	...	23·7 per cent.
„ Asia ...	...	...	...	36·4 „
„ Africa ...	...	...	...	110·7 „
„ America ...	...	...	...	83 „
„ Australia ...	...	...	...	43·4 „

101. The following table shows our trade for the same period with the principal countries with which we have commercial relations. This table also refers to merchandise only :—

	1881-82.	1886-87.	1890-91.	Increase per cent in the decade.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	
1. United Kingdom	73,499,474	81,067,679	84,857,056	+ 15'45
2. { China—Hong-Kong	10,804,461	12,607,095	11,592,162	+ 7'3
" Treaty Ports	4,361,550	3,014,744	5,268,530	+ 20'79
3. France	8,691,578	8,526,530	8,695,093	+ 0'04
4. Straits Settlements	5,065,989	5,745,147	8,059,602	+ 59'09
5. Germany	836,645	944,935	6,086,746	+ 627'52
6. Belgium	1,972,829	3,903,898	5,629,094	+ 185'33
7. United States	3,161,458	4,418,436	5,503,992	+ 74'1
8. Egypt	1,763,333	2,617,019	4,630,909	+ 162'62
9. Italy	3,631,835	5,704,708	4,131,841	+ 13'77
10. Austria	2,732,087	3,363,297	3,582,676	+ 31'13
11. Ceylon	2,017,155	2,427,966	3,381,720	+ 67'65
12. Mauritius	1,685,042	2,538,010	2,870,796	+ 70'37
13. Persia	1,664,364	1,922,608	2,451,125	+ 47'27
14. Australia	1,029,752	920,467	1,476,605	+ 43'39
15. Zanzibar, Mozambique, and other ports on the East Coast of Africa.	770,191	1,067,859	1,347,367	+ 74'94
16. Japan	139,206	398,604	1,270,458	+ 812'64
17. Arabia	1,243,884	1,400,275	1,268,607	+ 1'99
18. Aden	555,530	796,256	1,017,136	+ 82'76
19. Turkey in Asia	537,683	658,729	931,961	+ 55'93

As regards last year's trade with each country the following remarks notice the variations so far as they require notice.

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

United Kingdom.

102. In cotton manufactures, which represent more than half the value of our imports from the United Kingdom, there was a material increase in yarn and twist and in grey and white piece goods, an increase in which coloured goods did not share. On the whole, the recorded value of all cotton manufactures, including twist and yarn, gives an increase of about 3'8 per cent. The increase, which amounted to Rx. 1,128,000, has been largely lost in the first three months of the present year, the trade for the quarter shewing a decline of Rx. 886,000. Considering the unfavourable climatic conditions and the high prices of food-grains now prevailing in many parts of India, it may be doubted whether the trade will revive during the present year.

In metals and in hardware and cutlery there was also a small increase with a larger one in railway material and coal, also in woollen goods and apparel. There was a decline in liquors and silk goods.

The whole increase of the import trade from the United Kingdom was 3'6 per cent. Our exports on the other hand (Indian goods) declined in value

by nearly 16.5 per cent. As our whole export trade to all countries declined by not more than 3.1 per cent, it follows that there was a large diversion of our exports to other countries last year. With few exceptions all the larger staples of export declined in quantity as well as in value. The exceptions were: wheat, lac, animal bones, and tea. Only the first and last of these are articles of first-rate importance, and of these two the increase in the quantity of tea was only 1.2 per cent.

103. Imports increased by more than 18 per cent, the increase being mainly due to larger imports of apparel, cotton yarn, artificial dyes, hardware and cutlery, lametta, printing paper, sugar, and woollen goods.

Austria.

Exports were smaller by about 7 per cent, the decline being chiefly in cotton and indigo.

104. With this country also the export trade was smaller by over 17.2 per cent, the exports of cotton, wheat, and rapeseed having materially diminished, in the last case owing to the lack of supplies from India where yield was very bad. Imports increased by between 11 and 12 per cent, the increase being most noticeable in mineral dyes, glass and glassware, matches, steel, and sugar.

Belgium.

105. Instead of imports increasing and exports decreasing, the reverse process took place. Imports decreased by over 16 per cent, exports increasing by about 1.2 per cent. The decrease of imports was mainly in apparel and silk goods; the increase in exports in cotton, wheat and oilseeds, rape excepted, in which there was a heavy decline.

France.

106. The imports from this country have been increasing at a most exceptional rate:—

Germany,

	Rx.
1886-87 . . .	160,300
1887-88 . . .	194,492
1888-89 . . .	248,016
1889-90 . . .	563,912
1890-91 . . .	1,691,649

They have thus increased tenfold in five years, the increase last year being at the rate of 200 per cent, and their value was double the value of the imports from France. In most of the imports there were more or less considerable increases: hardware and cutlery, matches, steel, paper, woollen goods, and salt. But the great augmentation of trade occurred in sugar, which represented quite half the whole value of the imports. It remains to be seen whether, without a recurrence of the exceptional conditions of the year in regard to exchange, it will be possible for Germany to continue exporting sugar in such quantities to India and find the business profitable. It is necessary, of course, that the steamers which the Germans have placed on the line between North Germany and India should find some bulky cargo to bring out to this country, and so far it has been found in sugar and salt, and doubtless efforts will be made to continue the trade; but it is not certain that the efforts will be successful as regards sugar. The successful competition of German salt with salt from Liverpool, which in the hands of a syndicate has been greatly increased in price, will be a good thing for the consumer in India.

Our exports to Germany have increased also very largely :—

	Rx.
1886-87 .	771,310
1887-88 .	1,014,889
1888-89 .	1,493,279
1889-90 .	2,764,657
1890-91 .	4,387,482

An increase of nearly 470 per cent in five years and of about 59 per cent in the year, the increase being most apparent in cotton, rice, hides, jute, seeds, and bones. There can be no doubt that this large increase indicates to some extent the diversion of trade formerly carried by way of England but now carried direct.

Holland.

107. Imports doubled in the year, but they are still quite insignificant. Exports increased from Rx. 359,000 to Rx. 410,000, linseed-forming the bulk of the exports. There was a large decline in wheat and rapeseed.

Italy.

108. Imports do not seem to be increasing. Those of last year amounted to Rx. 493,000, being about 3½ per cent short of the preceding year. The largest items in this trade are corals, glass beads, white and coloured cottons, and silks. Corals came in larger quantity, but the others fell off. Exports also declined by about 14 per cent, cotton, rice, hides, and linseed having all fallen off. Rice in fact has practically disappeared from the list of exports to Italy, only 161 cwt. having been shipped thither. This is the result of the fiscal regulations to which reference has been made in paragraph 75 of this review.

The export trade with Italy has given no indication of advance during the last five years ; there has indeed been an actual decline, and it may perhaps be concluded that, until Italy adopts a less restrictive fiscal policy and can find cargoes of bulk to send to India, the maximum limits of our trade with it have been reached. The exports of the last five years have been—

	Rx.
1886-87 .	5,269,431
1887-88 .	4,505,246
1888-89 .	3,470,113
1889-90 .	4,217,755
1890-91 .	3,627,870

Malta.

109. Practically the only trade we have with Malta lies in the shipment thither of rice and wheat to be stored in the old granaries of the Knights for reshipment to ports in the Mediterranean. Until recently our wheat was thus stored in considerable quantities, but we have sent no wheat to Malta for the last three years. Rice still goes there in large quantities, close on 116,000 tons having been shipped last year.

Russia.

110. The only import consists of mineral oil from Batoum. This has largely increased since the creation of the trade five years ago ; so largely indeed as to threaten eventually to drive American oil out of our market. The imports have been as follows since 1886-87 when the trade commenced :—

	Gallons.	Value Rx.
1886-87 .	1,577,392	67,043
1887-88 .	5,036,055	227,274
1888-89 .	17,516,083	834,588
1889-90 .	15,962,105	741,774
1890-91 .	19,843,423	858,476

Our exports to Russia have not increased in anything like the same degree. They consist mainly of cotton and indigo, with a small quantity of seeds. The trade in the last five years has been:—

	Rx.
1886-87	313,343
1887-88	470,958
1888-89	535,759
1889-90	412,414
1890-91	336,950

111. This is the only other European country with which our trade is of any importance. The trade is limited to the export thither of cotton and jute. There was a somewhat large increase in cotton last year, and this trade has developed materially in the last three years. To Gibraltar we send wheat and teak, but in very small quantities. *Spain.*

COUNTRIES IN AFRICA.

112. The only noticeable feature in the trade is a remarkable increase in the exports of *jawar* and *bajra*. These have risen from an average of less than 35,000 cwt. in the three years preceding 1889-90 to 210,000 cwt. in that year, and again to 465,000 cwt. last year. The cause of this sudden increase has not yet been ascertained, but it is presumed to be due to the Italian occupation of Massawah. *Abyssinia.*

113. The principal import from Mozambique, ivory, has undergone such a continuous decline in the last five years that it seems the trade is approaching extinction. Our exports to that colony, however, both of foreign and Indian goods, are increasing; these consist largely of Manchester and Bombay cottons, especially the latter. *Mozambique and Zanzibar.*

From Zanzibar the imports of ivory fluctuate much. In 1889-90 they fell to 141,566 lbs.; last year they rose again to 310,167 lbs. It is said that this trade rises or falls with the success or otherwise of the Arab slaving caravans; if so, the hunts recently must have been very fruitful. Cloves are the only other article of importance we receive from Zanzibar: of these also the imports of the year were large. Both cloves and ivory are very subject to fluctuation, and forming as they do more than three-fourths of the imports, the course of trade is very irregular.

The export trade consists largely of Manchester and Bombay cotton piece goods, the latter greatly preponderating. Last year's exports of Bombay goods amounted to 18,121,000 yards and of Manchester goods to 11,214,000 yards. Rice is another considerable article of export: this declined last year, but the quantity shipped in the preceding year had been exceptionally large. On the whole the export trade keeps up well and is increasing.

114. The import trade is small, amounting last year to Rx. 87,306 only, but seems to be increasing. We imported 3,513 cwts. of cotton last year from Egypt, and if the Bombay mills take, as they are doing now in a small way, to the manufacture of the medium and finer classes of yarn and goods, the importation of Egyptian cotton in future years may assume large dimensions. There is no particular reason why Bombay should not import such long-stapled cotton and *Egypt.*

spin and weave it in competition with the Lancashire mills. The other imports are apparel, cigarettes and tobacco, and ivory, but they are all unimportant.

Exports to Egypt are large, amounting last year to Rx. 4,500,000, but they consist to the extent of about 84 per cent of rice and wheat sent to Port Said for "orders," their ultimate destination being ports in Europe or on the Asiatic coast of the Levant. The other exports are indigo, gunny bags, and oilseeds, and as regards these also it is uncertain what proportion is actually destined for Egypt. Probably the trade to the extent of nine-tenths is really with other countries.

Mauritius and Réunion.

115. With the exception of a small quantity of cocoanut oil it may be said that sugar is the only article imported from Mauritius. The quantity of sugar received was larger than in the previous year, but the effects of competition stimulated by bounties and a rising exchange are shown in a fall in price. The exports consist mainly of cotton piece goods, nearly all European in this case, grain and pulse (rice, gram, oats, dal, wheat, &c.) and provisions (flour, ghi, lard, &c.) for Indian coolies. There was a largely increased trade in rice last year, and that article is the largest of all our exports to the island.

To Réunion also the exports of rice were unusually large. This is practically the whole of the trade with that island.

COUNTRIES IN AMERICA.

South America.

116. Practically the whole trade consists of the export of rice and gunny bags. The latter fell off much, but the exports in the preceding year had reached an unusually high figure. The rice trade was larger, but the result of the restriction in gunny bags was that export values fell from Rx. 782,892 to Rx. 730,153.

United States.

117. Imports from the States are now almost limited to mineral oil, the value of which is 92 per cent of the whole value of imports as shewn below:—

	Value of mineral oil. Rx.	Value of all imports. Rx.
1886-87 .	1,136,175	1,170,332
1887-88 .	982,052	1,030,279
1888-89 .	927,387	1,040,318
1889-90 .	1,644,473	1,729,156
1890-91 .	1,403,330	1,522,365

The only other articles that we receive from the United States are—in trifling quantities—clocks and watches, grey cottons, tobacco, and liquors. It will be seen from the foregoing figures that if the difference in freight between the Black Sea and the American coast of the Atlantic should be such as, other conditions being equal, to enable the Russians to land their oil more cheaply in India and oust American oil, our imports from the United States will be reduced almost to vanishing point. However, for the present the imports of oil continue on an extensive scale:—

29,144,942 gallons.
25,040,517 "
20,653,975 "
35,882,120 "
32,692,946 "

Our exports to the United States are fairly large :—

	Rx.
1886-87	3,190,976
1887-88	3,722,059
1888-89	3,589,255
1889-90	3,736,324
1890-91	3,968,735

They seem steadily improving. Luckily, most of the things that we export to the States are raw material required for industrial purposes. Most of our principal staples are on the free list or are charged with moderate duties in the McKinley Tariff, and that law, which has created such a disturbance in the business relations of European countries with the States, has no terrors for us. Our exports are catch, indigo, hides and skins, jute (which is more than a fourth of the whole exports), gunny bags and cloth, lac, saltpetre, linseed, mica, and rags. It is possible that the trade in mica, which is now trifling, may develop. This mineral is very useful for stove and furnace doors and in laboratories for purposes requiring transparency and the power of resisting great heat without fracture. There was a large increase in jute, gunny bags and cloth, hides and skins, and saltpetre last year. But there were no fluctuations of any special significance.

118. Trade is practically limited to the export of rice for the Indian coolies. There was a considerable increase last year, the total export value rising from Rx. 131,978 to Rx. 166,550. We are never likely to have dealings with the West Indies except in the shipment of rice for the coolies we send thither.

West Indies.

COUNTRIES IN ASIA.

119. Imports were very slightly smaller than in the preceding year. The trade is, however, unimportant, except in regard to salt, of which we received last year 36,662 tons from Aden. The salt is manufactured there by an Italian Company which has a concession on favourable terms from Government for the manufacture of salt for export. The development of this manufacture is of importance in view to the introduction of competition with Liverpool salt in Calcutta. Apart from salt, the imports from Aden are limited to trifling quantities of coffee, gums, hides, ivory, and fish maws and fins.

Aden.

Exports also slightly decreased. These consist mainly of cotton yarn and piece goods (chiefly Bombay goods), food-grains, and sugar. There were smaller exports of piece goods and jawar and bajra, but the fluctuations call for no remark.

120. The imports consist largely, or mainly, of gums, pearls from the Gulf fisheries, dates, and salt. There was a more or less material decline in all these, dates having been, it is said, injured by storms and the salt being unable to compete with the better salt from Aden.

Arabia.

Exports of Indian goods also declined considerably, the quantities of food-grains exported being small. The trade in these, however, fluctuates according to local conditions. The people in these tracts take small quantities of Bombay piece goods, their requirements being apparently in the direction of Manchester goods of which we send them considerable quantities.

Ceylon.

- 121. Imports and exports (of Indian goods) in the last five years :—

	Imports. Rx.	Exports. Rx.
1886-87	537,789	1,799,982
1887-88	633,599	1,983,216
1888-89	554,379	1,933,056
1889-90	632,119	2,195,241
1890-91	713,383	2,525,790

We imported considerable quantities of betelnuts, cocoanut kernel (copra), and cocoanut oil, which are the staples of our import trade from Ceylon. We also did a large export business in piece goods (Indian and European, but most largely the former), rice and paddy, and various things which are required by the Madras coolies on the plantations. It is likely that the increasing number of labourers on the expanding area of the tea estates will cause an increased demand for goods from India yearly. The export of rice, however, last year was doubtless exceptional, being due to failure of supplies from other places.

China.

122. Imports decreased about one per cent in the year, falling from Rx. 2,449,501 to Rx. 2,420,295. Our chief imports are raw silk and silk goods, tea, sugar, and copper. There was a considerable increase in silk, and in sugar which came from China, as from other countries, in large quantities. Chinese sugar, however, seems unable to compete in India with the sugar of other countries; for the quantity received in recent years is much smaller than it was. So far as the decrease in the imports of tea implies that more Indian tea is being taken by our neighbours in Persia, Afghanistan, and Central Asia, as well as by people in India, it is no subject for dissatisfaction. Amongst our neighbours, however, the place of China tea is being occupied by other foreign, not by Indian, tea (see paragraph 124).

Exports increased $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, rising from Rx. 13,801,476 to Rx. 14,295,934. There are but two articles of importance which we export to China—opium and cotton yarn. The former declined in value, but the increase in the latter more than compensated for the decline. The Chinese yarn market, according to recent accounts, has been overloaded with Bombay yarns. Various other articles are exported to China, but raw cotton is the only one amongst them of some importance.

Our trade with China is still principally conducted through Hong-Kong, but during the last few years an increasing proportion is being conducted with the Treaty Ports while trade with Hong-Kong seems to be declining, as the following figures representing the value of the whole trade, imports and exports, will shew :—

	Hong-Kong. Rx.	Treaty Ports. Rx.
1886-87	12,507,310	3,013,169
1887-88	12,289,765	3,079,466
1888-89	12,385,377	3,551,017
1889-90	12,694,790	3,556,188
1890-91	11,453,213	5,263,016

Japan.

123. Direct imports are still so trifling that they do not require notice.

The export trade is remarkable for shipments of rice, amounting to about 65,388 tons, value about Rx. 480,000, a circumstance without precedent in recent years and due to an extensive failure of the Japanese rice harvest. More than countervailing this, however, there was a very large decline in the exports of cotton twist, and in the result the total exports of the year were slightly smaller than those of the preceding year.

	Rx.
1889-90	1,218,998
1890-91	1,210,276

124. Imports declined from Rx. 803,916 to Rx. 710,182 last year, but the trade of the preceding year had been exceptionally active. With the exception of horses there was a decline in all the principal imports : cotton, wool, pearls, dates, and provisions.

Persia.

Exports of foreign goods to Persia are very much larger than those of Indian goods :

	Foreign. Rx.	Indian. Rx.
1889-90	1,225,603	497,102
1890-91	1,319,957	420,986

The increase under the first of these heads was mainly due to an expansion in the tea trade, Chinese, Java, and Ceylon tea having been shipped to the extent of nearly three million pounds to Persia from Bombay. This trade is to a large extent a diversion from the overland route by which Chinese tea used to (and still does in diminishing quantity) go to Central Asia through Afghanistan. The region which is traversed northwards from Bushire and Bandar Abbás forms in itself a better and freer market than Afghanistan, and the transit of the tea to Meshed and places beyond is not so expensive and so subject to tolls and extortions as transit through Afghanistan.

The quantity of Indian tea sent to Persia also slightly increased, but it amounted to only 1,221,478 lbs. compared with the 2,973,817 lbs. of foreign tea exported. Indigo greatly declined, but the decline followed on a year of unusually large export and it may mean nothing particular.

125. Imports and exports (of Indian goods) —

	Imports. Rx.	Exports. Rx.
1886-87	1,590,545	3,892,253
1887-88	2,119,599	3,823,815
1888-89	2,278,414	4,072,307
1889-90	2,441,400	4,536,746
1890-91	2,300,338	5,499,505

Straits.

A general, but small, decline in most of the articles imported, but nothing presenting any very marked or unusual feature.

Rice, which represented half the whole value of exports, was sent to the Straits last year in unusually large quantity for the reasons mentioned elsewhere. Cotton piece goods and gunny bags also give increased values, while opium slightly declined, though the quantity exported was larger. Rice and opium are the staples of our export trade to the Straits, constituting from three-fourths to four-fifths of the whole.

Turkey in Asia.

126. The trade closely resembles the trade with Persia, but on a much smaller scale. The principal imports are horses, dates, and ghi, to which has been added in the last three years a small but increasing import of wheat and other food-grains. There was a decline in imports generally, wheat excepted. There was also a decline in exports of Manchester and Bombay piece goods and in indigo; but an increase in gunny bags, required for the wheat trade, and in coffee. The European traveller in Persia, Asiatic Turkey, and Turkish Arabia, when he sings the praises of the coffee of Arabia does not suspect perhaps that he is often writing about coffee grown in Southern India.

Australia.

127. Imports from Australia are very limited in value and consist mainly of horses, copper, and coal. Last year's imports amounted to only Rx. 249,718, being as much as 36 per cent less than those of the preceding year, owing to a large decline in the imports of copper and coal. The imports of copper from Australia have been sensibly restricted during the last three years, no doubt in consequence of the speculations in the metal in Europe and America which resulted in the accumulations of large stocks to be worked off on the best obtainable terms, and in consequence of contracts having been entered into with the speculators which left no large surplus in Australia available for export to India. There was a material increase in the exports of Indian goods—

	Rx.
1886-87	. 523,743
1887-88	. 1,110,873
1888-89	. 1,088,250
1889-90	. 1,063,489
1890-91	. 1,219,037

The increase last year was at the rate of $14\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Our exports to Australia consist mainly of gunny bags, tea, and castor oil; bags being the staple of the trade, of the value of which they represent about 60 per cent. The exports of these have kept fairly steady since 1887-88 when, with good wheat harvests and wool clips, they more than doubled in one year. Last year there was another substantial increase. There was an increase also in castor oil, and a very satisfactory development in the export of tea. The exports of tea to Australia in the last five years may be noted here:—

	Pounds.
1886-87	. 1,645,888
1887-88	. 2,471,927
1888-89	. 2,880,596
1889-90	. 3,419,139
1890-91	. 5,118,714

Rapid and large as this increase has been recently it is not so rapid as the increase in the exports of Ceylon tea to the Colonies. On this subject the following extracts are taken from a review of the tea season in the *Melbourne Argus* of the 24th July: "From Calcutta we find a large increase in shipments * * * Large as this increase has been, it does not fairly indicate the increase in public favour of these full teas * * * From Colombo we have even a more rapid development of the exportations of teas to the colonies to chronicle, the shipments running up to 2,900,000 lb., as against 1,500,000 lb. and 146,000 lb. for the two preceding years respectively. The public taste has

“certainly taken rapidly to the more flavoured and softer teas of Ceylon, and there can be no doubt that not only China, but also India, has much to fear from the competition from Ceylon. The well-cured Ceylon teas are certainly most attractive, being remarkably flavoured, with good strength. Ceylon teas, however, have one serious drawback, and that appears to be their inferior keeping qualities; and, judging from the present year's receipts, this trade is certainly 'the jam tart trade' in tea, they are all better sold fresh than stale and flat, which, in many instances, from inferior manufacture they soon become.”

We ought to supersede Chinese tea in Australia as we are doing in England, and it is not too much to anticipate that in another five years or so our exports of tea to the colonies, if the business is judiciously and perseveringly worked, should reach 15 or 20 million pounds.

Trade through the Suez Canal.

128. The value of the trade (including Government stores) carried through the Canal in 1889-90 was Rx. 130,611,300 being 68 per cent of the whole trade; last year the value was Rx. 132,190,000, or about $67\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In 1880-81 it was Rs. 812 millions, being not quite 59 per cent of the whole.

The imports brought to India by this route in 1889-90 were about 80 per cent of the whole import trade, and exports sent the same way were about 58 per cent of the whole. Last year the figures were for imports about $77\frac{1}{2}$ and for exports again about 58 per cent.

Practically almost all our trade with Europe is now conveyed through the Canal, and it may be concluded that the proportions given above of the whole trade which is carried through the Canal will not vary materially for some time to come, unless, indeed, there should be a large augmentation of trade with countries lying east of the Canal (for instance, with Australia or with the East Coast of Africa) unaccompanied by corresponding augmentations in trade with countries lying westward of it.

CHAPTER V.

Provincial Trade.

129. The figures of the trade of each province stand thus (rupees 000's omitted) :

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
<i>Imported Merchandise.</i>					
Bombay	234,814	254,869	265,038	264,230	275,432
Bengal	233,380	232,984	257,021	251,316	260,803
Madras	53,181	53,270	57,960	61,663	62,193
Burma	37,100	56,893	50,054	54,544	54,897
Sindh	28,137	25,831	35,630	33,848	37,024
<i>Exported Merchandise.</i>					
Bombay	342,205	343,950	389,085	394,069	378,594
Bengal	355,983	371,085	378,208	396,727	372,593
Madras	91,113	97,323	103,257	115,149	107,144
Burma	65,866	66,317	61,088	77,813	96,029
Sindh	28,917	26,040	38,143	50,209	46,997

130. Taking imports and exports of merchandise together the foreign trade of each province stood as follows during the last three years in rupees (000's omitted) :—

	1888-89.	Percentage on whole trade.	1889-90.	Percentage on whole trade.	1890-91.	Percentage on whole trade.
Bombay	654,123	39.99	658,300	38.73	654,026	38.66
Bengal	635,229	38.84	648,043	38.13	633,396	37.44
Madras	161,218	9.86	176,812	10.4	169,337	10.01
Burma	111,142	6.80	132,357	7.79	150,926	8.92
Sindh	73,773	4.51	84,057	4.95	84,021	4.97

Every province had its share in the increase of imports, an increase which was more or less substantial except in the case of Burma where the excess was nominal. Every province also shared in the decrease of exports except Burma where there was a large increase in the export of rice.

In the total trade of each province the results of the year compared with the preceding year are—

Bombay decreased	0.65 per cent.
Bengal	2.26
Madras	4.23
Sindh	0.04
Burma increased	14.03

131. Into Bombay there was an active import of cotton yarn, and cotton and woollen goods, railway material and sugar; but a smaller import of machinery and silk goods.

In the staples of the export trade of Bombay there was a largely increased trade in cotton yarn and goods and in wheat, more than counterbalanced by a decline in opium, raw cotton, rapeseed, wool, coffee, and rice.

132. In imports into Bengal cotton yarn and goods, machinery (the increase being to some extent in connection with the so-called gold mines in Chota Nagpur), woollen goods, and sugar, were imported in excess, more or less largely,

of the quantities imported in the preceding year. There was a decline in the imports of railway material, salt and silk goods.

With the exception of rice and tea, all the more important staples of export from Bengal shrank either in bulk or value, or both. Larger quantities of jute and of gunny bags were exported, but with a heavy fall in prices there was a great decline in values. Gunny cloth fell away in quantity as well as value, opium, oilseeds, indigo, cotton, wheat, sugar, silk, and cotton yarn and goods, all shared in the decline of the export trade.

133. Madras imported larger quantities of railway plant and metals, but less of cotton goods.

The contraction of the export trade in this province was comparatively much greater than in the other provinces. Owing mainly to failure of crops the exports of rice, cotton, oilseeds, indigo, and sugar were reduced, and the increased exports of coffee, tanned skins and cotton yarns and goods were an insufficient compensation.

134. Burma imported more salt, sugar, machinery, and cottons and woollens, and smaller quantities of silks.

The province did a large export business in rice, but its one other staple, teak timber, was much depressed, owing to the competition of Siamese timber in the European markets.

135. Sindh, like the other provinces, imported more sugar, cottons and woollens, but had a restricted trade in its two staple exports, wheat and oilseeds. *Per contra*, since the close of the year there has been a remarkably large increase in both these articles.

136. The trade and navigation of India with foreign countries have been distributed during the last five years in the following proportions between the five chief ports. Treasure is included in the trade here :—

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
<i>Trade.</i>					
Bombay . . .	42.78	43.37	44.03	43.95	43.82
Calcutta . . .	36.9	35.87	35.6	34.04	34.08
Rangoon . . .	5.01	5.9	5.2	5.76	6.45
Madras . . .	5.58	5.44	5.3	5.58	5.38
Karachi . . .	3.68	3.2	4.26	4.53	4.41
TOTAL	93.95	93.78	94.39	93.86	94.14
<i>Shipping.</i>					
Bombay . . .	33.7	33.23	35.22	31.48	31.33
Calcutta . . .	24.52	24.44	25.41	24.74	23.61
Rangoon . . .	9.36	10.82	10.1	10.9	12.80
Madras . . .	8.07	8.05	7.22	8.26	7.87
Karachi . . .	6.62	5.65	6.71	7.76	8.03
TOTAL	82.27	82.19	84.66	83.14	83.64

The following figures shew the actual extent of the foreign trade of the seven largest ports of India in merchandise only, imports and exports (including re-exports), during the last five years in Rx. :—

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
Bombay	57,652,800	59,654,600	65,292,300	65,748,000	65,371,600
Calcutta	57,772,100	58,955,800	62,288,200	63,112,400	61,750,600
Rangoon	7,963,100	9,897,700	9,310,000	10,893,700	12,437,600
Madras	8,520,800	8,800,100	9,296,700	10,339,300	10,020,700
Karachi	5,705,400	5,186,800	7,377,200	8,405,700	8,402,100
Tuticorin	1,426,600	1,613,900	1,655,100	2,264,700	2,036,000
Chittagong	969,500	1,257,000	1,135,100	1,512,600	1,324,100

The increase of trade during this period in these ports has been at the rate mentioned below :—

	1890-91.	
Bombay	13'4	per cent.
Calcutta	6'9	"
Rangoon	56'2	"
Madras	17'6	"
Karachi	47'26	"
Tuticorin	42'7	"
Chittagong	36'57	"

Government Stores.

137. The total value of these transactions was Rx. 3,098,368, being about 12 per cent more than those of the preceding year. In that year, however, the importations were comparatively small. The transactions are not of a progressive character; last year they were smaller than in 1886-87, and they seem to range between Rx. $2\frac{3}{4}$ and $3\frac{1}{4}$ millions, the fluctuations depending mainly on the progress of railway construction by the State. The increase last year was occasioned by increased importations of railway material (which is much more largely imported by the State than any other class of articles) and of iron. There were also larger imports of arms, machinery and mill work.

Customs Revenue.

138. The gross sum received on imports (excluding salt) since 1886-87 was as follows :—

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
Arms and ammunition	21,711	22,370	26,089	23,867	28,047
Malt liquor	10,712	13,179	15,205	17,439	17,325
Cider and other fermented liquor	119	133	151	219	180
Spirits	429,708	462,935	482,854	492,371	533,385
Liqueurs	5,203	6,077	6,456	6,943	6,859
Wines	42,455	45,468	43,618	42,294	43,151
Opium	428	255	306	285	325
Mineral oil . . . . .	...	13,709	117,489	162,392	165,040
Imports by post, &c.	164	135	159	133	139
Total gross revenue	510,500	564,261	692,327	745,943	794,451

The net export revenue for the same years (levied exclusively on rice) was—

	Rx.
1886-87 .	696,462
1887-88 .	739,065
1888-89 .	597,956
1889-90 .	705,721
1890-91 .	900,647

139. There was an increase in the import revenue under most heads, but the increase was of no importance except in the case of spirits. The large increase under this head is attributable to the amendment of the Tariff Act in March 1890 which raised the rate of duty from five to six rupees the gallon. The quantity imported was smaller than in the preceding year.

The increase in the import revenue was about 7 per cent, but it would have been not more than one per cent if the spirit duty had not been enhanced. The duty on spirits and petroleum now bring in about 90 per cent of the whole import revenue. The returns under each of the other heads are relatively insignificant.

140. The export revenue increased in the large proportion of $27\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, in consequence of an exceptional demand for the export of rice. Unless similar exceptional conditions should recur during the present year it is likely that the revenue will fall again to between Rx. 750,000 and 800,000: it may indeed fall lower, having regard to the failure of crops in Southern India, the consequent rise in prices, and the necessity of resorting for supplies, which would otherwise have been exported, to Bengal and Burma.

The total revenue (net) from imports and exports was unusually large.

	Rx.
1887-88 . . .	1,288,846
1888-89 . . .	1,274,240
1889-90 . . .	1,429,837
1890-91 . . .	1,674,916

CHAPTER VI.

Balance of Trade.

141. The excess of exports over imports, including treasure as well as merchandise, for each of the last ten years was (Rx.) :

	Including Government transactions.	Excluding Government transactions.
1881-82 .	22,632,000	24,684,500
1882-83 .	18,978,300	20,925,500
1883-84 .	21,029,100	23,521,000
1884-85 .	15,634,600	18,059,700
1885-86 .	13,855,800	17,626,300
1886-87 .	17,357,900	20,398,400
1887-88 .	13,317,800	15,774,700
1888-89 .	15,548,400	18,266,400
1889-90 .	18,709,700	21,219,400
1890-91 .	8,440,700	11,253,200

142. In the same period the drawings of the Secretary of State in Council bills have been—

	£	Exchange. Pence.	Rx.
1881-82 .	18,412,429	19·895	= 22,191,400
1882-83 .	15,120,521	19·525	= 18,586,000
1883-84 .	17,599,805	19·536	= 21,621,400
1884-85 .	13,758,909	19·308	= 17,102,400
1885-86 .	10,292,692	18·254	= 13,532,500
1886-87 .	12,136,279	17·441	= 16,700,300
1887-88 .	15,358,577	16·899	= 21,812,400
1888-89 .	14,262,859	16·379	= 20,899,100
1889-90 .	15,474,496	16·565	= 22,418,700
1890-91 .	15,969,033·5	18·089	= 21,186,900

the average being £14,838,560 = Rx. 19,605,110.

The excess of exports over imports last year was abnormally small, and the means by which the settlement of the year was made have been explained in the first chapter of this review.

Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion.

143. The imports and exports during the last ten years were—

Gold—

	Rx.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Balance net imports.
1881-82 .	4,856,400	12,400	4,844,000
1882-83 .	5,095,100	164,200	4,930,900
1883-84 .	5,469,400	6,900	5,462,500
1884-85 .	4,778,100	106,200	4,671,900
1885-86 .	3,091,500	328,600	2,762,900
1886-87 .	2,833,600	656,500	2,177,100
1887-88 .	3,236,100	243,600	2,992,500
1888-89 .	3,119,100	305,200	2,813,900
1889-90 .	5,071,000	455,700	4,615,300
1890-91 .	6,500,800	864,600	5,636,200

Silver—

1881-82 .	6,466,300	1,087,300	5,379,000
1882-83 .	8,358,000	877,800	7,480,200
1883-84 .	7,408,500	1,003,400	6,405,100
1884-85 .	9,110,000	1,864,400	7,245,600
1885-86 .	12,386,200	779,600	11,606,600
1886-87 .	8,219,700	1,064,000	7,155,700
1887-88 .	10,589,800	1,361,100	9,228,700
1888-89 .	10,725,900	1,479,200	9,246,700
1889-90 .	12,388,500	1,450,600	10,937,900
1890-91 .	15,433,600	1,258,500	14,175,100

As was anticipated in last year's review the fall in the silver price of gold—or as it may otherwise be put, the rise in the gold price of silver—had the effect of stimulating the imports of gold, which were larger than they have been for many years.

Silver also was imported on a scale that has been equalled or exceeded only in two very exceptional years. The causes have been stated in the first chapter of the review.

Since 1859-60 the net imports of the precious metals have been—

	Rx.	
	Gold.	Silver.
From 1859-60 to 1872-73 .	72,606,200	117,224,200
From 1873-74 to 1890-91 .	50,893,500	135,162,400
Total .	123,499,700	252,386,600

The total value of both amounts to Rx. 375,886,300, to which may be added $101\frac{1}{2}$ millions imported from 1834 to 1859, making altogether since 1834 about Rx. 477,386,000, which does not include the unknown quantity imported across the land frontier. Probably the whole net imports since 1834 may be assumed at not less than Rx. 500 millions.

144. The silver coinage of the British Indian mints from 1859-60 to 1889-90 has amounted to Rs. 2,11,73,00,000. There are no statistics of the coinage in the mints of the Native States.

Appended is a statement kindly furnished by Colonel R. V. Riddell, R.E., Master of the Bombay Mint, shewing the descriptions of the silver received in that Mint for coinage during the year 1890-91 :—

	Weight in tolas.
London silver	21,512,228
Australian silver	3,312,797
American silver	12,102,226
Genoa silver	4,781,970
San Francisco silver	129,766
Sycee silver	10,033,321
Mexican dollars	2,519,542
Mexican Chopped dollars	14,584,907
Roumanian 5-lei pieces	9,048,324
Peruvian dollars	132,500
Japanese yens	1,613,122
Argentine Republic coins	227,500
Maria Theresa dollars	2,451,899
Country silver and ornaments	717,517
Native coins	2,077,183
TOTAL	85,244,802

Gold was, as usual, imported mainly from England, China, and Australia. Of silver a much smaller quantity than in the previous year was received from England, but importations from Austria, China, Japan, the Straits, and Australia were largely in excess of the quantities hitherto received from those countries. From Australia, whence hardly any silver had been received before, a quantity representing Rx. 500,000 was imported, and from Austria Rx. 973,000, the bulk of it consisting of Roumanian 5-lei pieces, that country having adopted a gold standard and shipped its silver coins to India.

CHAPTER VII.

Shipping.

145. The total number and tonnage of the shipping, steam and sailing, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to foreign countries, during each of the last five years, are as follow:—

YEAR.	Number.	Tons.	Average tonnage.
1886-87.	10,584	7,172,193	678
1887-88	10,893	7,189,465	660
1888-89	10,485	6,983,332	666
1889-90	10,673	7,315,586	685
1890-91	11,023	7,684,954	697

Steamer tonnage represented about 78 per cent of the whole: five years ago it was only 66 per cent of the whole. The total number of steamers which entered and cleared was 4,070, with an aggregate burden of 6,010,395 registered tons, the average tonnage of each steamer being 1,477 tons. About $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of the steamers which cleared left without taking away some cargo.

Of the 4,070 steamers, 1,717 passed through the Suez Canal, their tonnage (3,308,516 tons) being 55 per cent of the whole.

146. Of the total of 7,684,954 tons, the entries from and clearances to the United Kingdom were 2,659,655 or 34.6 per cent. Five years ago the proportion was 41.3 per cent, the actual tonnage being also larger. Entries from and clearances to British possessions have increased in the same period (in tonnage) by about 23 per cent, and the tonnage of vessels from and to foreign countries by about 15 per cent, Germany being the country in the navigation of which from and to India the greatest increase has occurred. The increase of direct trade with Germany has in five years raised the shipping trade with that country from 35 vessels and 49,398 tons to 120 vessels and 206,355 tons.

147. The tonnage of vessels sailing under the British flag represented 82.4 per cent of the whole, the proportion in previous years being in 1880 and in 1885, 79 per cent.

148. The tonnage of vessels under foreign flags was only 11.5 per cent of the whole: in 1883 the proportion was 16 per cent.

149. The proportion of tonnage of vessels under British Indian registry was only about 3.8 per cent of the whole. The number of these vessels is large, amounting to 2,023, but their tonnage is small, the average for each vessel being only 145 tons.

The average tonnage of British vessels is $1,490\frac{1}{2}$ tons, that of foreign vessels only $733\frac{1}{2}$ tons. The total number of vessels under foreign flags which

entered and left last year was 1,206, aggregating 884,684 tons, the principal flags being :

	1889-90.		1890-91.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Austrian	100	181,939	93	164,759
German	138	180,996	167	253,665
Italian	114	177,200	100	159,876
French	121	116,404	126	110,714
Arab	620	79,994	496	68,950
Norwegian	68	61,877	42	41,516
American	31	44,043	27	38,391
TOTAL	1,192	842,453	1,051	837,871

Only ships under the German flag shew a tendency to increase largely.

150. The native craft employed in the foreign trade do not increase. They represent less than $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent of the whole tonnage. Except for intercourse with the Straits and the Malayan Archipelago, Ceylon, the Maldives, and the Coast from Karachi to Maskat, these craft will no doubt eventually disappear from the foreign carrying trade, and be superseded by steamers.

151. The following table shews the share of each of the maritime provinces of India in the movement of shipping with cargoes in the last five years :—

		1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
Bengal.	No.	1,145	1,147	1,066	1,042	985
	Tons	1,646,298	1,683,421	1,656,576	1,675,515	1,697,642
Bombay	No.	2,025	2,027	1,939	1,869	1,850
	Tons	2,139,483	2,142,791	2,175,685	2,004,030	2,083,158
Sind	No.	712	795	767	927	927
	Tons	419,899	363,892	413,602	492,701	532,612
Madras.	No.	3,537	3,692	3,588	3,520	3,515
	Tons	1,170,488	1,200,274	1,105,546	1,195,697	1,194,062
Burma	No.	1,052	1,003	768	894	932
	Tons	959,417	1,045,425	816,187	980,567	1,127,186

The proportion in the last two years was—

	1889-90.	1890-91.
Bombay and Sind, about 39 per cent		39.4 per cent.
Bengal	26	25.6
Madras	19	18
Burma	15	17

Section II.—Trans-Frontier Trade.

CHAPTER VIII.

152 The trade of the last ten years was :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
1881-82 .	4,815,429	5,142,781	9,958,210
1882-83 .	5,341,136	4,653,112	9,994,248
1883-84 .	5,509,053	5,257,252	10,766,305
1884-85 .	5,514,562	6,122,349	11,636,911
1885-86 .	3,618,761	5,584,893	9,203,654
1886-87 .	3,772,285	5,650,475	9,422,760
1887-88 .	4,170,914	5,020,941	9,191,855
1888-89 .	4,226,145	4,696,702	8,922,847
1889-90 .	3,793,701	5,210,625	9,004,326
1890-91 .	4,025,305	4,642,478	8,667,783

These figures, standing by themselves, would seem to indicate a very unsatisfactory lack of vigour and progress in this trade. But they require explanation and modification. In the first place, they include the figures of the whole traffic on the Sind-Peshin railway which largely consisted in the earlier years of the transport of railway material. As this fell off with the completion of the line to Quetta, the aggregate value of exports in the later years appears to be smaller than in the earlier years. In the second place, the earlier years include trade between Lower and Upper Burma, and since the annexation of Upper Burma the figures of that trade do not appear in the returns of the trans-frontier trade. They have been replaced by a new entry, "trade with Western China," which, however, is as yet quite trifling compared with the trade that was recorded as with Upper Burma.

153. As regards the Sind-Peshin railway, it was stated in the review of the trade for 1889-90 that arrangements were in progress for the exclusion of the traffic on the line from these returns because it was almost entirely internal trade and for its replacement by the figures of the trade which crosses the frontier of Sind and British Biluchistan. These arrangements have now been completed and the returns of the first month (April) of the present official year have been framed on the new lines that have been settled. They shew only so much of the railway traffic as reaches or leaves it at points on the frontier.

154. In reviewing the progress of the frontier trade for the last ten years it will be best, for the reasons stated above, to exclude throughout the period the figures of the Sind-Peshin railway and those for Upper Burma. Even then the comparison will not be strictly correct, for we have to allow for that portion of the railway trade which always crossed the frontier and in the earlier years for that portion of the trade with Western China and the Shan States which reached or left Lower Burma. In both cases, however, the sum involved was too small to affect appreciably the general results, and the totals given below may be taken to be approximately correct and fair for purposes of comparison. They exclude in the whole of the years the traffic on the Sind-Peshin railway and also for the earlier years the trade with Upper Burma which since the annexation has ceased to be recorded as trans-frontier trade. The figures represent merchandise only,

for the returns of treasure are so imperfect and misleading that it is considered best to exclude them altogether.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Rx.	Rx.	Rx.
1881-82 . . .	3,219,193	2,629,820	5,849,013
1882-83 . . .	3,378,932	2,256,033	5,634,965
1883-84 . . .	3,527,033	2,281,491	5,808,524
1884-85 . . .	3,245,371	2,301,264	5,546,635
1885-86 . . .	3,201,360	2,178,626	5,379,986
1886-87 . . .	3,330,172	2,444,418	5,774,590
1887-88 . . .	3,446,463	2,700,156	6,146,619
1888-89 . . .	3,369,932	2,545,720	5,915,652
1889-90 . . .	3,261,658	3,263,440	6,525,098
1890-91 . . .	3,515,153	3,029,732	6,544,885

155. These figures as they stand give an increase of nearly 12 per cent in the ten years, or an annual average of 1·2 per cent. Making the allowance referred to above for Western China and the Shan States, the average rate of increase may perhaps be taken at 1 per cent annually. Even at the higher rate this is very slow progress compared with that of our foreign trade by sea, which in the same period has increased nearly three times as fast. But if the conditions are considered, the rate of increase in our frontier trade is not so disappointingly slow as it appears at first sight. Our foreign trade by sea is facilitated in every possible way: means of transport are easy, cheap, and abundant; our ports are easy of access, and every danger is minimised by careful conservancy, by the provision of lights, buoys, beacons, and pilots; the railways which cross the country have their termini in close proximity to the steamers which now carry the bulk of our trade; the trade is largely conducted with the civilised nations of the West which are as anxious on their side as we are on this to facilitate the operations of commerce; and at least half of our whole trade is conducted with a country (the United Kingdom) whose fiscal policy is the most liberal of any country in the world, India excepted.

All these conditions are non-existent and reversed in the case of our frontier trade. Transport is as difficult as it is costly; we are shut out from almost all our neighbours by a vast mountain barrier extending from Quetta to the Malay Peninsula; across this barrier trade is in most cases carried by rugged and painful mountain paths, by men and women, by camels, by oxen, ponies, mules, even by sheep and goats; in the higher regions the passes are snowed-up and impracticable for five or six months in the year; in many places the routes, which degenerate into tracks beyond British territory, are made unsafe by tribes who prey upon the peaceful trader crossing their country and who praise their own moderation when the trader is allowed to pass with the loss of only a portion of his property; when the trader does finally reach his destination it is not to find a civilised people desirous of encouraging trade; in most cases he finds himself harassed by petty officials here and there whom he has to bribe if he wishes to escape any portion of the extortionate transit dues levied on his goods at station after station throughout his journey; and finally, his customers are poor, their conditions of life primitive, their wants few, much trade has to be done by barter, and facilities for exchange are almost entirely absent.

When the conditions of the frontier trade are thus contrasted with those of the seaborne foreign trade the limited extent and comparatively slow progress of the former need excite no surprise. It is, indeed, perhaps surprising that it is as large as it is and that it advances at all. Hereafter, if we can see roads and railroads made over the main trade routes crossing our frontiers we may expect in due course that augmentation of trade which has always followed the provision of facilities for intercourse in India. But until then we must rest satisfied if the trade continues small and slowly increases.

156. With these preliminary remarks we may now proceed to consider the trade of each country last year with the trade of the preceding year. The following figures give the imports and exports for each country in both years in Rx., the figures being limited to merchandise :—

	1889-90.		1890-91.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
Lus Bela . . .	32,798	29,112	48,787	28,591
Khelat . . .	39,864	35,504	33,088	33,970
Sewestan . . .	64,018	75,360	63,389	63,329
Kabul . . .	325,287	796,517	208,637	459,870
Bajaur . . .	75,743	89,678	93,416	93,473
Kashmir . . .	578,681	563,845	543,204	565,173
Ladakh . . .	24,555	22,285	34,191	27,561
Thibet . . .	101,427	40,400	77,713	40,174
Nepal . . .	1,542,114	1,258,025	1,719,548	1,285,397
Karenni . . .	76,259	34,944	148,661	14,404
Shan States . . .	94,222	123,383	181,158	155,066
Zimmé . . .	146,841	42,560	141,422	59,056
Siam . . .	49,910	30,094	48,708	23,444
Western China . . .	4,908	48,441	53,435	108,749

Of the countries mentioned above those with which the total trade, imports and exports, exceeds a million of rupees are the following :—

	Rx.		Rx.
Sewestan . . .	131,718	Nepal . . .	3,004,945
Kabul . . .	668,507	Karenni . . .	163,065
Bajaur . . .	186,889	Shan States . . .	336,224
Kashmir . . .	1,108,377	Zimmé . . .	200,478
Thibet . . .	117,887	Western China . . .	162,184

The only really important trade is with Kabul, Kashmir, Nepal, and the countries lying along the Eastern border of Burma (Western China, the Shan States, Karenni, and Zimmé).

Kabul.

157. The trade of the last ten years has been as follows in Rx. :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1881-82 . . .	276,355	838,926	1,115,281
1882-83 . . .	312,867	574,328	887,195
1883-84 . . .	249,332	521,111	770,443
1884-85 . . .	238,393	469,103	707,496
1885-86 . . .	229,307	536,746	766,053
1886-87 . . .	257,366	636,349	893,715
1887-88 . . .	237,526	574,890	812,416
1888-89 . . .	187,335	526,798	714,133
1889-90 . . .	325,287	796,517	1,121,804
1890-91 . . .	208,637	459,870	668,507

It will be observed that even the remarkable increase of trade in 1889-90 only brought the trade up to the level of 1881-82, and that there is no indication of progress in it. Indeed, it can hardly be looked for under such a fiscal régime as that which is persisted in by the Amir even if the Russians in Central Asia were to cease from their determined efforts to thrust our goods out of those markets. The Russian prohibitions are in fact now practically unnecessary as regards goods brought into Russian Turkestan from India, for these goods, laboriously and expensively conveyed across Afghanistan by caravan, and subject to transit duties at numerous places between the Khyber and Balkh, cannot compete with goods brought into Turkestan from Moscow by steamer and railway and subject to no transit duties. Our transit trade through Afghanistan with Central Asia may be said to have ceased and trade is now limited to what is required for consumption in Afghanistan. It is easy to understand that, weighted as it is by heavy dues, it must necessarily be restricted, especially when these dues are—as is the case—proportionately much heavier than the dues imposed on competing goods brought from Russian Turkestan into Afghanistan. The following statement of the taxation of tea in transit through the Amir's territory, given by the District Officers at Peshawar, will illustrate the incidence of these duties :

Dues on Kangra tea, first quality, purchased at four annas per pound, per camel load of 450 lbs., average value of the load Rs. 140.

	10	Kabuli rupees at Dakka.
	15	” at Butkhak.
	37½	” at Kabul (town or import duty).
	37½	” ” (export duty).
	19 or 12	” as the tea takes the Shaikh Ali or the Bamian route.
	7	” at Khulm.
	9	” at Khulm Tangi.
	7	” between Khulm Tangi and Khilif.

Total 138 Kabuli rupees=Rs. 106, or about 76 per cent.

The tea has further to pay 2½ per cent *ad valorem* at Bokhara, the value being the value there not what was the value at Peshawar. Adding the cost of the conveyance by camel between Peshawar and Bokhara (the hire of a camel from Peshawar to Khilif is Rs. 81-4) it is manifest that it is cheaper to ship tea from Bombay up the Persian Gulf and send it through Persia (where a 5 per cent duty clears it through the country).

The increase of trade in 1889-90 was attributed by the local authorities “to the cessation of disturbances in the dominions of the Amir,” namely, the Ghilzai and Afghan-Turkistan troubles. The decline which last year followed that increase is attributed immediately to the rigorous winter which blocked the passes with snow for an unusually prolonged period, to the Amir's quarrel with the Nasir Povindahs, the carriers of the Derajat frontier, who are still forbidden to enter the Amir's territory, and to the uneasiness caused by rumours of the Amir's death. The Deputy Commissioner of Peshawar, however, considers that the conditions of the year's trade were normal. He writes as follows :—

“There has been a revolution in the conditions of Central Asian trade. With this change we cannot contend. The removal of Afghan dues and customs would no doubt lead to some expansion, but it is beyond question that Central Asia is now closed to British

trade, in part owing to the prohibitive Russian customs tariff, in part, where that tariff is not yet in force, by the superior facilities for successful competition afforded to Continental merchants by the railway. In respect of trade with Kabul, which includes consignments to and from Central Asia, the year was one of normal conditions. There was peace in Afghanistan and beyond the Hindu Kush, and the figures for this year are therefore a fair criterion of the effect of the railway and extension of the Russian customs line. Nor were any fresh duties introduced in Afghanistan which could have materially affected trade. The news of the death of the Amir and the very severe winter which blocked the higher passes for a time were a sensible disturbance; but then they affected all articles alike and cannot be held to account for fluctuations in single articles."

Of the exports to Kabul the principal are cotton goods, indigo, sugar, and tea. The figures appended give the exports in the last five years of cotton goods:—

	<i>European.</i>		<i>Indian.</i>	
	Cwt.	Rx.	Cwt.	Rx.
1886-87	15,768	217,235	25,243	165,071
1887-88	19,260	270,874	19,967	128,360
1888-89	15,269	209,236	18,591	120,865
1889-90	25,169	380,349	26,013	191,152
1890-91	15,493	211,699	13,456	95,793

The next important article, and indeed the only other one of real importance, is tea. The following figures shew the condition of this trade:—

	<i>Foreign.</i>		<i>Indian.</i>	
	Cwt.	Rx.	Cwt.	Rx.
1886-87	12,434	134,496	3,655	15,721
1887-88	6,529	70,147	2,180	12,927
1888-89	8,662	89,415	2,333	10,661
1889-90	8,424	88,052	2,655	16,468
1890-91	4,479	44,304	4,429	22,900

Kashmir.

158. The trade of the last five years has been as follows in Rx. :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1886-87	487,659	426,174	913,833
1887-88	537,284	525,831	1,063,115
1888-89	502,265	485,565	987,830
1889-90	578,681	563,845	1,142,526
1890-91	543,204	565,173	1,108,377

Among the largest imports from Kashmir are ghi, timber, and woollen goods, largely shawls. According to the returns all these have declined, but it appears that no arrangements have as yet been made to register the traffic on the Sialkot-Jamu line of railway—an unaccountable omission—and it is probable that there has been no decrease at all in the trade: it may be that there was an increase. The same remarks apply to the export trade which largely consists of European and Indian cotton piece goods, and in these, according to the returns, there is a material decline. That this omission has vitiated the returns may be gathered from the sudden decline in the value of shawls imported from Kashmir from Rx. 70,830 to Rx. 19,625. Although the trade is far from flourishing, it

is very unlikely that this is a real decline, and on the other hand shawls are an article the transport of which would be effected by railway as soon as communication was established.

Nepal.

159. The imports and exports of merchandise for the last five years are :

	Imports. Rx.	Exports. Rx.
1886-87 .	1,669,738	860,639
1887-88 .	1,644,006	1,120,148
1888-89 .	1,388,086	1,100,910
1889-90 .	1,542,114	1,258,025
1890-91 .	1,719,548	1,285,397

The bulk of the trade of Nepal crosses the Behar border. The value of the trade of the last three years was as follows in Rx. :—

	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
Imports into North-Western Provinces .	534,729	484,516	568,990
" " Bengal	853,357	1,057,598	1,150,558
	<u>1,388,086</u>	<u>1,542,114</u>	<u>1,719,548</u>
Exports from North-Western Provinces .	350,728	362,358	337,594
" " Bengal	750,182	895,667	947,803
	<u>1,100,910</u>	<u>1,258,025</u>	<u>1,285,397</u>

For the second year in succession the importation of food-grains from Nepal has been very large, under the combined stimulus of good harvests on that side of the border and good prices on this side. We imported altogether last year from Nepal 2,871,295 cwt. of food-grains and pulse, most of it being rice and paddy.

The fluctuations in the exports call for no remark.

Karenni and Zimme.

160. The trade practically consists of the import of teak timber floated down the Salween river :—

	From Karenni.		From Zimme.	
	Tons.	Rx.	Tons.	Rx.
1886-87 .	79,746	315,483	49,073	123,211
1887-88 .	75,797	345,790	65,102	224,040
1888-89 .	92,558	521,629	63,881	303,182
1889-90 .	11,739	75,946	25,164	126,605
1890-91 .	35,894	148,573	29,990	116,459

The re-imposition of the 7 per cent duty had the effect of bringing all available timber down before the duty took effect on 1st April 1889, and for the same reason stocks on hand were cleared before that date. The reduced stocks had to be replenished, but, for the reasons mentioned in the review of the seaborne foreign trade, prices fell heavily.

Western China.

161. The registration of this trade only began in June 1889 and it was at first necessarily so imperfect that no comparison between the figures of last year and those of the ten months of 1889-90 can usefully be made. Imports last year were valued at Rx. 53,435, the principal imports being raw silk and orpiment. Exports were valued at Rx. 108,749, the principal export being raw cotton. Very little cotton cloth or yarn is exported as yet, but these will perhaps follow in due course. When the country along the border is more settled and the caravan routes safer from the attacks of murdering and plundering savages it may be hoped that the trade will largely increase, unless the Chinese provincial official steps in to interfere with and check it.

162. The subjoined list of imports and exports in the trans-frontier trade gives a general idea of the relative commercial importance of each large article of trade and of the principal countries with which trade is conducted:—

	1889-90. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.
IMPORTS.		
Animals: Horses, cattle, sheep and goats, and others	367,839	341,506
[Horses chiefly from Kabul and cattle from Nepal.]		
Drugs and medicines.	76,407	101,815
[Charas chiefly from Ladak; asafœtida and other kinds from Kabul, Kashmir, and Nepal.]		
Fibrous products	52,590	46,993
[Mainly from Nepal.]		
Fruits and nuts	286,842	259,124
[Most largely imported from Kabul and Southern Afghanistan; in smaller proportion from Kashmir and Nepal.]		
Grain: Rice husked and unhusked	566,588	773,994
Other kinds	106,029	141,169
[Rice and other rain crop grains almost entirely from the Nepal terai; other kinds mainly over the North-West frontier.]		

Attention may be drawn here to the extent of our importations of food-grains and pulses over the Indian frontier in the last three years. These have amounted to—

	Cwt.
1888-89	1,686,364
1889-90	2,501,796
1890-91	3,077,540

Our exports in the same three years have been—

	Cwt.	1889-90. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.
	518,960		
	472,938		
	397,361		
Hides and skins		101,997	106,195
[From Kashmir and Nepal.]			
Oilseeds		221,716	217,358
[Mainly from Nepal.]			
Provisions: Ghi		341,202	278,607
Other kinds		116,785	171,313
[Half the ghi from Kashmir; the rest from Nepal and Northern Afghanistan; other sorts of provisions chiefly from Nepal and the Shan States.]			
Spices		77,773	81,252
[Kabul, Southern Afghanistan, and Nepal.]			
Tobacco		47,781	32,455
[Mainly from Nepal.]			
Timber		398,924	522,282
[More than half is teak brought down the Salween from Karenni and Zimmé; the rest imported chiefly from Kashmir and Nepal.]			
Wool, raw		242,270	205,743
[Mainly from Southern Afghanistan and Khelat, and in a smaller degree from Thi- bet.]			
Woollen goods, including shawls		159,199	98,187
[Almost entirely from Kashmir.]			

EXPORTS.

The list of exports is not much larger :

	1889-90. Rx.	1890-91. Rx.
Cotton, raw	73,122	130,926
[Mainly to Western China; in smaller quantity to Northern Afghanistan and Nepal.]		
Cotton twist and yarn, European and Indian	54,703	92,165
[To Nepal, the Shan States, and Northern Afghanistan.]		
Cotton piece goods, European and Indian	2,063,816	1,655,991
[Most largely to Nepal, Kashmir, Kabul, and Southern Afghanistan, but exported in more or less considerable quantities to all countries, these goods constituting the bulk of the ex- port trade. European goods largely exceed in value Indian goods.]		

	1889-90. Rs.	1890-91. Rs.
Indigo	68,528	45,639
[Mostly to Northern and Southern Afghanistan.]		
Fruits and nuts	72,555	81,736
[Mainly to Nepal and Southern Afghanistan.]		
Grain and pulse	152,228	131,607
[Rice to Southern Afghanistan and Lus Bela; gram and pulse to Kashmir and Nepal; other kinds trifling.]		
Metals and Metalware : Brass and copper	119,957	112,653
Iron	67,222	65,321
Others	25,647	22,586
[Mostly to Nepal, Kashmir, and Northern and Southern Afghanistan, the bulk of the copper being exported to Nepal.]		
Provisions	138,165	158,164
[Largely to Nepal; some salted fish and ngapi also going to the Shan States.]		
Salt	161,244	166,298
[To Nepal, Kashmir, Kabul, and the Shan States.]		
Silk goods	58,697	60,921
[Some to Kashmir and Nepal, but mostly to the States on the western frontier of Burma, Siam, the Shan States, Karenni and Zimmé.]		
Spices	133,082	123,338
[Mostly to Nepal.]		
Sugar	154,199	185,099
[Of refined sugar the exports are mainly for Nepal, Kashmir and Kabul; unrefined sugar is exported chiefly to Nepal and Kashmir.]		
Tea, Indian and foreign	138,043	106,261
[In 1890-91 exports of Indian exceed those of foreign tea. Kabul takes the bulk of the foreign tea and some Indian tea, but of the latter the largest quantity is exported to Kashmir.]		
Tobacco	54,767	59,722
[Mainly to Nepal.]		
Woollen goods, including shawls	50,359	61,976
[Chiefly to Nepal and Southern Afghanistan.]		

Section III.—Coasting Trade.

CHAPTER IX.

163. The total trade, imports and exports, merchandise and treasure, was in the last ten years—

	Rx.
1881-82 . .	53,058,534
1882-83 . .	57,326,755
1883-84 . .	61,461,631
1884-85 . .	58,401,555
1885-86 . .	57,598,286
1886-87 . .	56,165,363
1887-88 . .	60,738,634
1888-89 . .	60,166,070
1889-90 . .	59,211,043
1890-91 . .	65,586,392

164. After two years of stagnation the trade of last year was very active, the increase amounting to nearly 11 per cent. In the coasting trade, imports into one Indian port being exports from another, the actual value of the trade may be taken to be about the mean between the two, or either the import or export value may be taken to represent the actual value of the trade. Taking the export value, the trade of the last two years compares thus, in Rx. :—

	1889-90.	1890-91.
Merchandise (Indian) . .	20,602,449	22,416,965
" (foreign) . .	6,570,235	6,566,577
Treasure	1,651,528	2,236,590

The figures do not include exports of Government stores or treasure, which last year were valued at—stores Rx. 761,824 and treasure Rx. 2,432,087.

Foreign Merchandise.

165. The largest part of the trade, it will be seen, consists of the exchange of Indian goods, the transport of foreign merchandise coastwise being comparatively small, the proportion being less than 23 per cent of the whole merchandise carried. Most of the foreign merchandise which is consumed in the country does not take the sea again after it is imported, but finds its way inland by rail and river. The small proportion which is sent from the port of import to other parts of the country by sea is mainly exported from Bombay to Karáchi and other ports on the West Coast and from Calcutta to the Burman ports, to Chittagong, and Orissa, all these places being still largely dependent on Bombay and Calcutta for their supplies of foreign goods. Rangoon also is a depôt for the supply of foreign goods to Moulmein and other ports in Burma, and there is a similar dependence on Madras by the other ports of that presidency, so far as their needs are not met from Bombay or

Calcutta. But the bulk of the exports is from Calcutta and Bombay as already stated. This is shewn in the following figures :—

	Rx.
Exports from Bombay .	4,117,596
„ „ Bengal .	1,402,807
„ „ Burma .	553,322
„ „ Madras .	261,800
„ „ Sindh .	231,052
	<hr/>
Total .	6,566,577
	<hr/>

Thus Bombay and Calcutta together have about 84 per cent of this trade, the share of Bombay being over 62 per cent.

166. The exports coastwise of foreign goods are largely limited to cotton yarn and piece goods, metals (copper and iron), kerosine oil, provisions, and sugar. The trade generally does not give any indication of improvement :—

	Rx.
1886-87 . . .	6,629,152
1887-88 . . .	6,948,917
1888-89 . . .	6,757,844
1889-90 . . .	6,570,235
1890-91 . . .	6,566,577

As one port after another establishes direct communications with foreign countries, it may be expected that the use of the chief ports of a province as a storehouse for the supply of foreign goods to the smaller places on the coast will tend gradually to diminish. Thus, in the last few years, the trade of Karáchi and Chittagong with Europe has largely augmented; and Colombo has become a convenient depôt for the supply of the Southern Indian ports. On the other hand, improvements in internal communications tend to augment the trade between the smaller and the larger ports. Thus, it has become convenient for Bombay to send supplies of foreign goods to Goa whence they are transported by rail into the country above the Ghâts; Rangoon is not so largely dependent on Calcutta for its supplies as formerly, getting them now direct from Europe, but it has in turn become a depôt for the supply of other places on the Burman coast; and in consequence of improved communications the local manufacture of salt in Northern Orissa has been unable to survive the competition of Liverpool salt imported from Calcutta. Modifications such as these, acting in different directions, seem on the whole to balance each other, and, while the volume of the trade does not seem to increase appreciably, neither on the whole does it seem to diminish materially.

167. A few remarks on the more important articles which were exported last year will shew the general course and direction of this trade.

Cotton yarn : 5,406,000 lbs. About half the exports were shipped from Bombay, chiefly to Karáchi, Goa, the Madras ports on the Malabar coast, and Káthiawár and Kutch. About a fifth of the exports are shipped from Calcutta to Burma, Orissa, Chittagong, and Madras ports. From Rangoon and Madras a certain quantity is shipped to neighbouring ports.

Cotton piece goods (grey) : 86 $\frac{3}{4}$ million yards, of which 63 $\frac{1}{4}$ millions were exported from Bombay to Karáchi, the Malabar ports, Káthiawár and Kutch, Goa, and to Calcutta. This latter port shipped under 19 million yards to Chittagong, Orissa, Burma, and Madras.

Cotton piece goods (white) : 58 $\frac{1}{4}$ million yards. Bombay shipped about 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ millions, chiefly to Karáchi, smaller quantities going to the Malabar coast and elsewhere. Calcutta shipped about 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ millions, mostly to Burma.

Cotton piece goods (coloured) : 33 $\frac{1}{4}$ million yards, of which about two-thirds were exported from Bombay, chiefly to Karáchi and Káthiawár.

Copper : 55,031 cwt., of which 34,765 cwt. were shipped from Bombay mainly to Karáchi, Káthiawár, the Malabar ports of Madras, and ports in the Bombay Presidency. 19,743 cwt. were shipped from Calcutta mainly to Orissa and Chittagong, and also to Bombay, Madras, and Burma.

Iron. The trade in iron is centred at Bombay in an even larger degree than the trade in copper, 14,853 tons having been shipped thence out of 19,309 tons, mostly going to the Malabar ports, Káthiawár, Karáchi, and Goa. From Calcutta some was sent to Madras and Burma.

Oil, Kerosine. This also is mainly a Bombay trade, 6,288,000 gallons having been shipped thence out of a total export of 7,380,000 gallons. It was sent to the Malabar ports, to Karáchi, Goa, Káthiawár; in fact, the whole West Coast is supplied with Kerosine oil from Bombay, the only exception being the quantity which is brought direct to Karáchi by foreign-going steamers. Calcutta and Rangoon similarly supply the Bengal and Burman ports respectively. There is but little shipped from Madras, and it must be inferred that the people on the Coromandel Coast have not yet learnt the advantages of mineral oil as an illuminant, or that it is still too expensive for them.

Provisions. Also almost exclusively a Bombay and Karáchi trade.

Salt. Salt is made all over the Indian coasts and is not imported in any quantity from foreign countries except into Bengal and Burma. There is but little coastwise trade therefore in foreign salt, and what there is consists of an export from Calcutta to Orissa in the northern districts of which province the local manufacture was so wastefully and inefficiently conducted that it has been unable to resist the competition of Liverpool salt. Exports from Bengal have increased from 12,663 tons in 1889-90 to 16,197 tons last year,

Sugar. The trade is, nearly altogether, in refined sugar. The exports rose from 289,688 cwt. in 1889-90 to 402,223 cwt. last year, the increase following on the very large imports of sugar from countries during the year to which reference has been made in other sections of the review. The trade is centred

almost entirely in Bombay whence supplies were sent to the whole West Coast Káthiawár and Kutch taking more than half of the whole quantity.

Woollen piece goods. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ million yards, of which over one million were shipped from Bombay, chiefly to Karáchi, the Malabar ports, and Burma.

Indian Merchandise.

168. The dimensions of this trade are between three and four times larger than those of the trade in foreign merchandise. The trade is also in other respects of greater importance, giving as it does an indication of the extent to which the various parts of India interchange their respective productions and the character of those productions. Much of the trade consists of articles which are merely sent from the smaller to the larger ports for convenience of export to foreign countries, but a material proportion of the trade also consists of articles intended for local use and for manufacture into articles which are partly exported and partly locally consumed.

169. The following figures give the recorded values of the exports in each of the past five years :—

	Rx.
1886-87 .	18,518,927
1887-88 .	20,917,114
1888-89 .	20,954,550
1889-90 .	20,602,449
1890-91 .	22,416,965

The values of imports of Indian goods are much larger every year than the values of exports as the following figures shew :—

	Rx.
1886-87 .	20,850,668
1887-88 .	23,340,125
1888-89 .	23,136,488
1889-90 .	23,315,951
1890-91 .	26,581,110

170. This is the reverse of what we see in the case of foreign goods in which the exports always exceed the imports. The reason is that in the case of foreign goods the flow of the coasting trade is outwards towards the smaller ports and to foreign-Indian ports, the records of which latter are not incorporated in our trade accounts. In the case of Indian merchandise the flow of the trade is, as mentioned above, towards the chief ports of a province which receive goods from the smaller ports and from foreign-Indian ports. There are certain important exceptions, such as cotton twist and piece goods and manufactures of jute, the trade in which consists of exports from Bombay and Calcutta, but the largest proportion of the trade is inwards to the larger ports. The treatment of this part of the trade therefore, in order to afford a fair idea of its flow and dimensions, must be different from the treatment of the trade in foreign merchandise in discussing which account was taken of exports only.

171. The principal articles in the trade are mentioned below, in the order of their importance, and placed against them are their import values in the last two years, that is, the value of the imports into British Indian ports:—

	1889-90.	1890-91.
	Rx.	Rx.
1. Cotton, raw	3,984,187	5,429,809
2. Grain and pulse	3,623,702	4,494,350
3. Cotton manufactures, in- cluding twist and yarn	1,753,704	2,016,576
4. Jute manufactures	1,231,946	1,525,141
5. Spices	1,384,095	1,314,806
6. Seeds	976,335	1,163,681
7. Teak timber	850,828	943,323
8. Jute, raw	1,164,136	918,360
9. Salt	738,652	905,368
10. Provisions	719,810	817,548
11. Cocoanuts and Kernel	721,496	748,529
12. Oils	630,862	624,895
13. Sugar	653,662	619,936
14. Tobacco	459,407	500,590
15. Hides and Skins	470,841	460,214
16. Timber and wood, other than teak	420,692	405,808
17. Spirits	347,015	342,347

The apportionment of the trade between the different provinces will be seen from the figures of last year's trade given below:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rx.	Rx.
Bengal	4,817,113	6,430,702
Bombay	13,242,527	7,937,410
Sindh	764,111	1,164,904
Madras	4,331,027	4,673,459
Burma	3,426,332	2,210,489

The following are the most noticeable and important articles in the trade.

172. Coal commenced to figure pretty largely in the coasting trade returns only three years ago, and in that time the trade has trebled. Last year Burma imported 64,244 tons, and Madras 20,214 tons, from Bengal. It is to be hoped that nothing will occur to interfere with the progress of this trade, and that the industrial development of the other provinces may be assisted by cheap coal from the mines of Bengal.

173. There was a large increase in the trade during the year, the quantity (over two million cwts.) being 35 per cent in excess of the previous year. Most of it was imported into Bombay, to be exported to foreign countries or to feed the local mills, from Káthiawár, Goa, Karáchi, Karwar and Kumta. Largely increased supplies were received from Káthiawár in the year. Bengal is also an importer of cotton from Bombay, Madras, and Burma. The Calcutta cotton mills are at a disadvantage in comparison with those of Bombay in having to obtain their cotton from long distances by rail and sea.

174. The exports of twist by sea have nearly doubled in the last five years— *Cotton twist and yarn.*

	lbs.
1886-87	18,725,000
1887-88	20,256,000
1888-89	22,400,000
1889-90	26,324,000
1890-91	35,169,000

This trade is largely centred in the Bombay Presidency from which 24,648,000 lbs. were exported last year, being an increase of 20 per cent in the year. Bombay sends its twist all over India, but chiefly to Calcutta and Madras, thus—

	lbs.
To Calcutta	10,832,000
To Madras Presidency	6,019,000
To Burma	2,749,000
To Karáchi	744,000
To Kutch and Káthiawár	1,540,000
To Goa	786,000

and small quantities to other places.

Bengal also exports twist, chiefly to Burma, but the quantity is very small compared to the quantity exported from Bombay.

The exports of Indian twist from Bombay, Bengal, and Madras respectively in the last five years have been as follows (in million lbs.) :—

	From Bombay.	From Bengal.	From Madras.
1886-87	16.48	2.02	0.6
1887-88	17.86	1.93	0.44
1888-89	18.9	2.43	1.03
1889-90	20.51	4.93	0.78
1890-91	24.65	9.46	1.02

175. Of this trade Bombay possesses the largest share in a still greater degree than the trade in twist. Indeed, with the exception of a very small export *Cotton goods (grey) picce.* from Madras, Bombay may be said to have the monopoly of the trade. Last year there were imported into the other Presidencies from Bombay 41,373,384 yards besides 2,616,762 yards imported into the ports of the Presidency itself and over half a million brought in from Káthiawár—altogether about 44½ million yards. This trade has increased much in recent years, the exports from the port of Bombay to places outside the Presidency having been as follows (in yards) :—

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
To Bengal	9,722,604	9,164,002	11,538,655	11,950,605	12,587,844
„ Madras	1,080,624	1,263,736	1,812,644	1,790,310	1,708,493
„ Burma	431,833	492,421	287,558	427,406	275,342
„ Sindh	16,175,956	13,562,332	16,698,380	16,692,407	18,421,134
„ State of Travancore.	55,063	70,040	126,233	151,957	160,341
„ Pondichery	185,732	130,270	114,960	510,256	8,000
TOTAL	27,651,812	24,682,801	30,578,430	31,522,941	33,161,154

In other kinds of cotton piece goods the trade is relatively small and requires no remarks.

Drugs, medicines, and narcotics: Tobacco.

176. Tobacco is the only article requiring notice under this head. It is chiefly imported in the form of leaf tobacco into Burma from Bengal (10 $\frac{3}{4}$ million lbs.) and from Madras (7 million lbs). From Madras more tobacco, in the form of cigars, is sent to other provinces, chiefly to Bengal and Burma. The total imports of Madras cigars into the other provinces last year was 313,618 lbs.; in the preceding year they amounted to 316,000 lbs. It might be supposed, judging from the extent to which Europeans in India smoke these cigars all over the country, that the trade should be larger. But considerable quantities are sent by rail to Bombay and the central parts of the country. The imports of cigars from Burma are comparatively very small now, these cigars having fallen much (and deservedly) out of favour and being unable to compete with the improved cigars now made in Madras.

Fruits and vegetables: Cocoanuts and cocoanut kernels.

177. These are really material for the manufacture of oil for the most part, and can hardly be regarded as a fruit, though some of the entire cocoanuts are no doubt so used. Cocoanuts are most largely imported into Bombay from Travancore, the British ports on the Malabar coast, and Goa, and the kernels are also imported into the same place from the Malabar ports and Travancore.

Grain and pulse.

178. Next to the trade in cotton, the trade in food-grains is the largest in the coasting trade.

The quantity of the imports in the last two years compares thus:—

	1889-90.	1890-91.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
Gram	401,303	423,830
Jawar and bajra	362,401	264,116
Pulse	535,233	670,102
Rice and paddy	7,143,383	9,558,824
Wheat	431,569	893,548
Other sorts . . .	433,697	391,782

Gram and pulse are most largely imported into Madras, in both cases in increased quantities during the year.

Jawar and bajra are mostly brought into Bombay from Karáchi, Káthiawár, and Goa.

Wheat also is mainly brought into Bombay from Karáchi and Goa, from which latter place the imports amounted to 401,000 cwt. in the year, being double the imports of the preceding year. This increase of trade is the effect of joining Goa to the Southern Maratha Country by rail and of linking Goa to Bombay by rapid and frequent steamers.

Other sorts of grain are also mainly brought into Bombay from Bengal, Sindh, Goa, and Káthiawár.

Of all the food-grains much the largest trade is done in rice, husked and unhusked. Rice in the husk is mainly imported into Madras which also imports much husked rice. Excluding the trade between ports in that Presidency, the

following figures shew from what external sources Madras obtained the rice and paddy which reached it in the last two years :—

	1889-90. Cwt.	1890-91. Cwt.
From Bengal	905,654	1,791,854
„ Burma	225,685	755,539
„ Bombay	127,742	342,419
„ Sindh	41,748	84,155
„ Travancore	342	10,209
„ other places	2,817	21,261
	<u>1,303,988</u>	<u>3,005,437</u>

This great increase of the imports in the year was the consequence of the failure of crops in some of the Madras districts. As soon as matters began to look serious in November 1890 and prices to rise, traders began to pour in rice from Bengal, Burma and other places. It has been said that in such cases the “ordinary economic laws” (by which phrase is meant in this connection the expectation of profit) are slow to work and that prompt action by the State is necessary. The fallacy of this remark has been so often proved before that its survival would be astonishing if we did not know how hard it is to remove the fallacies of unreasoning people. State intervention in such cases for the importation of food should be resorted to only when ordinary trade fails entirely: if the State intervenes when trade is able to do its work, traders stand aloof, the labour and difficulty are doubled, and the cost enormously enhanced. Given the existence of supplies and the means of transporting them to the places where they are required, experience shews that the operation of the “ordinary economic laws” brings in the supplies where they are wanted immediately and adequately.

The importations of rice into Bombay from the other Presidencies somewhat declined in the year, falling from 2,530,000 cwt. to 2,334,000 cwt., probably as the consequences of higher prices which diverted supplies to Madras.

179. With the exception of a small quantity sent from Calcutta to Madras, this trade is limited to the import of jute into Calcutta from Narainganj *via* Chittagong. There was a decline in the trade in the year, exporters, it is said, finding transport to Calcutta by inland waters of more advantage than transport by sea. *Jute.*

180. This is exclusively a Bengal trade, that is, the bags are all originally shipped from Calcutta to various ports, the larger ones being used as depôts whence bags are reshipped to other smaller places where they are wanted. The imports into other provinces very largely increased in the year, great numbers of bags being required to provide for the extremely active export of rice from Burma to foreign ports. In 1889-90 Burma imported from Bengal under 12 million bags: last year that province imported 16,835,000 bags. *Jute manufactures:
Gunny bags and
gunny cloth.*

Bombay is an even larger consumer of gunny bags than Burma. Last year Bombay received from Bengal over 19 million bags compared with less than 12 millions in 1889-90, the increase being mainly to meet the demand which in January and February seemed likely to arise in connection with the export of wheat and oilseeds.

The total number of bags exported from Bengal to places outside the Presidency was, in—

1889-90 . . .	36,200,822
1890-91 . . .	52,370,394

Gunny cloth is chiefly imported into Bombay from Bengal: last year Bombay imported 10½ million yards and Madras about a million. There was a rather large decline in the trade, but it is not an extensive business compared with that in bags.

Liquors.

181. Though in the aggregate an extensive trade, this is almost entirely limited to internal transport of country liquor from one place to another inside the Bombay Presidency and from Bombay to Karáchi. There is also some similar internal traffic in Madras.

Oils.

182. About 811,000 gallons of petroleum were imported into Bengal from Burma which was just a little more than in the preceding year.

Castor oil is imported into Burma, Bombay and Bengal from Madras, and also from the Gaekwar's territory into Bombay.

Cocoonut oil is also mainly an importation from the Madras (Malabar) ports into Bombay and (in smaller quantity) into Burma and Bengal.

Burma also receives a tolerably large quantity of earthnut oil from Pondichery. It is used by the natives of Madras in Burma for cooking, for which purpose it is an excellent oil.

Provisions.

183. Ghi is chiefly imported into Burma from Bengal and Madras and into Bombay from Káthiawár. It is a somewhat extensive trade.

So also is the trade in salted fish, which is imported into Bombay from Sindh, Madras, the Portuguese Settlements and Káthiawár. Bombay also imports large quantities of dried fish (unsalted) from Káthiawár and the Portuguese Settlements, and Burma imports it from Travancore and Madras.

Salt.

184. The coasting trade in salt consists of imports into Calcutta from Bombay and (in small quantity) from Madras; to the Malabar ports and Travancore from Bombay; and some small traffic between Goa and Bombay. The important part of the trade is the import into Bengal (21,158 tons) and into the Malabar ports (45,124 tons). The extent and fluctuations of the former are dependent on conditions of freight, the trade falling off when good outward freights are obtainable in Bombay. The Malabar ports are almost entirely dependent on Bombay for their supply of salt which finds its way through them into the interior of the country. Exports from Bombay to Goa appear to be increasing, and as Bombay salt is both cheaper and better than the salt made in Goa, it is possible that it may eventually supersede Goa salt in the country above the Ghâts and perhaps in Goa itself.

Seeds.

185. Castor seed was imported in unusually large quantity (395,000 cwt.) from Madras into Bengal where local supplies proved insufficient during the year. Earthnuts are also mainly an import into Bengal from Madras and Pondichery, Burma also taking smaller quantities from the same places.

Linseed and til seed are imported into Bombay from Goa, but neither to any great extent. Bombay also imports rapeseed in small quantities from Calcutta and Karáchi, Burma and Bengal also import til seed from Madras.

Although the trade in the aggregate is large, in no separate kind is the traffic really extensive.

186. There is a considerable trade in betelnuts which are extensively imported into Burma from Bengal (nearly 23 million lbs. last year). Bombay also imports them largely from Bengal, Madras and Goa. Bombay and Bengal also import cardamoms and pepper, the former from Madras and the latter from Travancore as well as from the Malabar ports. *Spices.*

187. The bulk of the refined sugar which is imported is brought into Bengal, Bombay and Burma from Madras, the total imports into these provinces from Madras being 97,000 cwt. Of unrefined sugar also the principal imports are from Madras into the same provinces (89,000 cwt.), but the main part of the trade consists of internal transport between ports in Bombay. *Sugar.*

188. The trade is still very small. Bombay received 829,000 lbs. from Calcutta, and 44,000 lbs. from Travancore. Imports into the other provinces are very small. *Tea.*

189. Burma exported 136,307 tons against 110,565 tons in 1889-90, the increase affording some compensation for the decline in the exports to foreign countries. Burman teak is taken by all provinces. In other descriptions of wood and timber the trade is of relatively small importance. *Teakwood.*

General.

190. The trade is classed under three heads : (1) between ports in different Presidencies ; (2) between ports in the same Presidency ; (3) between British and non-British ports. The first of these is much the most important, the last is the least important. The exports of merchandise in the last four years are thus recorded in Rx. :—

	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
To ports in other Presidencies .	15,422,162	14,958,748	14,591,045	16,290,194
To ports within the Presidency .	9,491,819	9,383,036	9,415,972	9,414,965
To non-British ports .	2,952,050	3,370,611	3,165,667	3,278,383

191. The following table gives the totals of the trade in merchandise in each of the last five years for each province in Rx. :—

	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.
<i>Bengal :</i>					
Imports .	4,937,341	5,285,334	5,008,572	4,955,879	5,552,017
Exports .	6,836,612	7,937,832	7,202,850	7,027,769	7,833,509
<i>Bombay :</i>					
Imports .	11,093,836	12,870,946	12,860,227	12,627,403	14,010,906
Exports .	10,947,082	11,693,168	12,167,988	11,653,021	12,055,006
<i>Sindh :</i>					
Imports .	2,326,873	2,085,507	2,090,122	2,092,328	2,152,112
Exports .	1,102,519	1,507,408	1,507,177	1,503,534	1,395,957
<i>Madras :</i>					
Imports .	4,416,765	4,461,454	4,331,340	4,879,425	5,751,898
Exports .	4,156,902	4,445,826	4,694,455	4,604,355	4,935,259
<i>Burma :</i>					
Imports .	3,996,221	4,445,803	4,321,651	4,108,172	4,611,334
Exports .	2,104,963	2,281,797	2,139,925	2,384,005	2,763,811

Coasting shipping.

192. The following table gives the number and registered tonnage of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade during the last five years (ooo's omitted in tonnage) :—

Entered.

	STEAMERS.		SAILING VESSELS.		NATIVE CRAFT.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1886-87	6,807	6,325	2,879	326	175,865	2,899
1887-88	7,342	7,310	3,237	332	184,104	3,164
1888-89	7,316	7,246	3,241	245	185,659	3,089
1889-90	7,847	7,643	2,959	227	182,155	3,006
1890-91	8,751	8,673	2,565	202	166,113	2,826

Cleared.

1886-87	6,794	6,286	2,893	308	159,041	2,796
1887-88	7,308	7,238	3,301	314	166,928	2,955
1888-89	7,307	7,213	3,370	252	167,221	2,953
1889-90	7,844	7,617	3,066	233	165,673	2,881
1890-91	8,759	8,717	2,550	193	153,824	2,682

193. The increase of trade in the year was accompanied by a corresponding increase in the number of the steamers employed in the trade. There was no such increase in the number of the sailing vessels and native craft also engaged in the trade: on the contrary, there was a decline in both the numbers and tonnage of these, and they are gradually being superseded by steamers whose tonnage now amounts to about 75 per cent of the whole. Sailing vessels (other than native craft) are indeed retiring rather rapidly from the business. For native craft there will still for a long time to come be room for occupation in the carriage of the cheapest and bulkiest goods between the smaller ports which it is not worth the while of a steamer to enter.

SIMLA;

J. E. O'CONOR.

August 28, 1891.