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STATEMENT

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OF THE

TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

BRITISH POSSESSIONS AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

FOR THE FIVE YEARS

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1879-80 to 1883-84.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



LONDON:
PRINTED BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE.

To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from any of the following Agents, viz.,
Messrs. HANSARD and SON, 13, Great Queen Street, W.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, Westminster;
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1885.

[C.—4293.] Price 1s. 2d.

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REVIEW

OF

THE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR ENDED ON THE 31ST MARCH 1884.

BY J. E. O'CONNOR, ESQ.,

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

The steady increase in the dimensions of the external trade of India which has marked the record for a considerable period, with temporary checks from famine, is again a feature in the returns for 1883-84, the trade of the past year having been greater than that of 1882-83 by 4·57 per cent. The results of the decade may be briefly shown thus:—

				Percentage of increase on previous year's trade.
1874-75 -	-	-	-	6·82
1875-76 -	-	-	-	1·87
1876-77 :	-	-	-	8·90
1877-78 -	-	-	-	11·02
1878-79 -	-	-	-	12·59 (decrease).
1879-80 -	-	-	-	11·15
1880-81 -	-	-	-	12·23
1881-82 -	-	-	-	4·49
1882-83 -	-	-	-	4·62
1883-84 -	-	-	-	4·57

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

		Imports.	Exports.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1879-80 -	-	51,39,75,610	69,10,19,860	1,20,49,95,470
1880-81 -	-	59,29,70,482	75,94,06,850	1,35,23,77,332
1881-82 -	-	58,31,48,651	82,99,93,464	1,41,31,42,115
1882-83 -	-	63,45,61,977	84,38,17,237	1,47,83,79,214
1883-84 -	-	65,58,11,961	89,01,48,978	1,54,59,60,939

The value of the imports of last year was in excess of that of the previous year by 3·35 per cent. ; that of the exports by 5·49 per cent. The increase under both heads was entirely in merchandise, the imports and exports of treasure having fallen off to some extent during the year.

3. The imports of stores on account of Government were considerably larger (Rs. 2,57,54,569) last year than in 1882-83 (Rs. 2,09,26,701), the increase amounting to close on 24 per cent. The imports were smaller, however, than in 1880-81. About three-fourths of the whole increase are limited to railway plant and rolling-stock, which were imported to the value of Rs. 1,23,76,589 ; the value in 1882-83 was only Rs. 91,19,144.

Government
transaction

Under some other heads, too, there was an increase which causes some surprise. Thus, the imports of boots and shoes doubled; malt liquor increased by 37 per cent.; printing paper quite, and woollen goods very nearly, doubled in value. All these are articles that can be made in the country, and to some extent are so made now. But, however much the manufacture of such articles may develop in India, it is clear that no real impression will be made upon the totals of Government stores imported until the country is able to make railway material generally. This head accounts for half the whole imports of the year.

It has been pointed out in previous reviews that the large increase apparent in the returns of imports of Government stores since 1880-81 is due to the inclusion in the returns of stores imported for the East Indian Railway.

Out of the whole 257½ lakhs which represent the value of the imports, not so much as 7½ lakhs were shipped to India from places not within the United Kingdom, which practically holds the monopoly of the supply to India of stores required by the State.

4. The exports of stores and treasure by Government are of small importance, amounting to but little over 8½ lakhs of rupees, and show no tendency to increase. They call for no comment.

5. The proportion of the trade of India which is carried to the country, or carried away thence, through the Suez Canal, continues to increase. Last year the proportion was 65·8 per cent. For the last seven years the proportion has been—

1877-78	-	-	-	-	54·16	per cent.
1878-79	-	-	-	-	48·64	"
1879-80	-	-	-	-	51·64	"
1880-81	-	-	-	-	58·79	"
1881-82	-	-	-	-	61·39	"
1882-83	-	-	-	-	62·25	"
1883-84	-	-	-	-	65·8	"

6. In the figures of the imports to India the proportion carried through the Canal is very much greater than the proportion of the whole trade, imports and exports combined, because the exports of opium and other goods to China, Ceylon, the Straits, Australia, and other countries lying eastward of the canal, constitute an appreciable proportion of the Indian trade, and the percentage of exports carried from India through the Canal must always be much smaller than the percentage of imports into India carried through the Canal. In imports the proportion is as follows:—

1877-78	-	-	-	74·38	per cent.
1878-79	-	-	-	64·52	"
1879-80	-	-	-	69·44	"
1880-81	-	-	-	76·91	"
1881-82	-	-	-	74·27	"
1882-83	-	-	-	74·68	"
1883-84	-	-	-	78·01	"

7. Of the whole trade between the United Kingdom and India, no less than 87·85 per cent. was conveyed last year through the Canal, leaving less than 12¼ per cent. to be brought round the Cape. The value of this trade exceeded the value of the trade of France with India carried through the Canal by more than nine times, the figures being Rs. 77,91,96,972 for the United Kingdom, and Rs. 8,15,72,094 for France. Of the trade with France, however, even a larger proportion is carried through the Canal than of the trade with the United Kingdom, the proportion in the case of France being 88·4 per cent., or close on nine-tenths of the whole trade. Practically the whole of our trade with Austria (99·95 per cent.) was carried by this route, which was also taken by 95·6 per cent. of the trade with Belgium, and 98·5 per cent. of the trade with Italy. The trade with the United States, on the other hand, still mainly takes the old tracks, less than 32 per cent. having been carried through the Canal.

8. The proportion of the export trade from India which is carried by the Suez Canal increases much more steadily year by year than that of the import trade. The proportion now amounts to 56½ per cent. of the whole trade, having reached this figure from 36½ seven years ago.

36·52	per cent. in 1877-78.	52·01	per cent. in 1881-82.
37·66	" " 1878-79.	52·61	" " 1882-83.
38·06	" " 1879-80.	56·44	" " 1883-84.
43·98	" " 1880-81.		

9. 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 five 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

The total number of vessels shows a decrease in the past year, but both the aggregate tonnage and the average capacity of each vessel increased considerably. The increase year after year in the size of vessels trading to India is remarkable. Every year the process goes on of replacing smaller vessels by ships of larger capacity.

10. *Vessels entered and cleared.*—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 - - -	6,072	2,763,621	6,088	2,939,466
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 - - -	5,864	3,538,878	5,851	3,533,006
1883-84 - - -	5,812	3,632,305	5,850	3,618,298

11. These tables include sailing vessels as well as steamers. The following figures, confined to steamers alone, show 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 per cent. in 1879-80, 55 per cent. in 1880-81, 62 per cent. in 1881-82, 58 per cent. in 1882-83, and 63 per cent. in the past year. (The decrease in 1882-83 was apparent not real.)

	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	1,310,372
1882-83 - - -	1,550	2,050,515	1,544	2,050,549
1883-84 - - -	1,620	2,294,310	1,603	2,277,232

12. The following table contrasts the number of steamers and sailers which entered in 1877-78 with the number entered in 1883-84:

	1877-78.						1883-84.					
	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	1,124,046	153	141,641	1,123	1,265,687	1,204	1,753,401	416	540,909	1,620	2,294,310
SAILING VESSELS, ENTERED—	2,678	1,040,822	2,552	571,140	5,230	1,611,962	2,642	795,959	1,550	542,036	4,192	1,837,995

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 show a material reduction in both number and tonnage under both heads.

13. *Steamers in ballast.*—Number and tonnage of steamers entering and leaving India without cargoes in the last five 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	547,281	33	30,073
1882-83	404	485,848	56	49,371
1883-84	416	540,909	33	33,837

In Bombay, 78 steamers entered in ballast as against 115 in the previous year, and 17 cleared in the same condition as compared with 25 in 1882-83. In Bengal, 80 steamers entered in ballast as against 71 in the previous year, while none left without cargoes in the past year as in 1882-83. In Burma, 136 steamers entered, and 2 left in ballast as compared with 130 and one in the previous year. In Madras, the numbers were 57 and 12 as against 61 and 28 in 1882-83; and in Sindh, 65 steamers entered without cargoes, while 2 left in that condition, the entries in the previous year being 27 and clearances only two.

14. The great increase in the entries in ballast during the last three years was caused by the demand for tonnage which arose with the extended trade in wheat and seeds. 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	"

15. *Canal Steamers.*—The following table shows 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>via</i> SUEZ CANAL.		CLEARANCES <i>via</i> SUEZ CANAL.		TOTAL ENTRIES AND CLEARANCES <i>via</i> SUEZ CANAL.		Per-centage to total steam-tonnage.
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	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	1,403,007	1,091	1,746,785	1,930	3,151,792	69

This table indicates even more clearly than the preceding tables the progress which is being made in the construction of steamers of larger carrying capacity for the Indian trade. The number of steamers entered was smaller than in 1881-82, but their tonnage was larger than in any previous year. Of the total steam tonnage employed in the foreign trade of India no less than 69 per cent. passes through the Canal.

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

	1881-82.		1882-83.		1883-84.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
BRITISH POSSESSIONS :						
United Kingdom	2,231	3,071,738	2,082	2,922,798	2,003	2,992,945
India	112	83,204	92	98,510	93	106,002
Australia	92	133,989	165	201,224	147	188,039
Indies	16	11,985	21	16,580	12	10,515
Madagascar	5,513	762,328	4,893	708,657	5,094	699,998
Table of Good Hope	137	94,413	175	151,865	120	98,840
China—Hong-Kong	99	133,711	118	168,885	124	186,442
Australia	255	190,375	198	163,164	327	192,010
British Settlements	945	750,319	730	589,653	620	519,869
Total	66	35,861	89	51,480	81	53,484
FOREIGN COUNTRIES :						
Austria	89	132,987	92	150,358	99	158,977
Belgium	74	92,761	63	83,691	97	151,127
France	329	383,977	255	356,987	272	445,504
Germany	36	37,661	34	33,842	31	33,375
Holland	27	32,571	22	27,179	13	15,558
Italy	100	144,421	68	106,933	54	93,020
Eastern Coast of Africa	178	66,188	165	62,780	173	75,875
Egypt	290	350,212	175	229,860	250	327,952
United States	110	128,329	156	196,306	124	164,966
Arabia	496	139,961	538	131,515	467	110,725
China—Treaty Ports	53	91,099	49	93,235	37	75,933
Persia	353	105,610	316	106,789	321	117,252
Turkey in Asia	347	114,421	307	53,789	241	51,294

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, and in 1882-83 and in the past year 41 per cent. For the last three years the quantity of tonnage in the trade with the United Kingdom has remained stationary, while there has been a considerable increase in the tonnage employed in the trade with some other countries. There has been, for example, a considerable increase in the tonnage of vessels trading with Australia, Hong-Kong, Belgium, France, and the United States.

17. *Nationalities of Vessels.*—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	411,400	143
1882-83	4,257	5,366,770	1,261	2,525	361,189	143
1883-84	4,196	5,568,676	1,327	2,601	347,849	134

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, and 76·8 in the year under review; and of British Indian tonnage for the same period 6·32, 5·58, 5·11, and 4·8 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	-	-	-	16.02 "

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	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

In the past year, there was a decrease in the number and tonnage while the average tonnage of each vessel increased considerably. This is about half that of British vessels.

19. The proportion of steamers to sailing vessels in the shipping of foreign nationalities as shown below gives a per-centage of steam tonnage to total tonnage of 33 in 1879-80, and 54 in 1883-84:—

—				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

20. 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 three preceding years are shown in the following table:—

			1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
AUSTRIAN	No.	{	67	86	97	89
	Tons		90,419	112,235	138,215	130,071
BELGIAN	No.	{	5	16	3	12
	Tons		3,177	20,281	3,551	15,928
FRENCH	No.	{	228	226	219	231
	Tons		130,511	140,843	191,084	286,683
GERMAN	No.	{	118	124	238	178
	Tons		110,412	112,329	213,495	163,081
ITALIAN	No.	{	132	247	281	217
	Tons		137,182	230,643	281,454	248,608
NORWEGIAN	No.	{	58	80	130	74
	Tons		51,568	74,544	107,538	67,248
RUSSIAN	No.	{	4	12	17	11
	Tons		3,136	12,502	13,512	10,275
SWEDISH	No.	{	13	19	36	34
	Tons		5,527	8,988	21,045	18,728
AMERICAN	No.	{	85	74	73	44
	Tons		107,711	87,346	85,452	52,033
ARAB	No.	{	543	584	615	646
	Tons		76,813	85,853	79,045	102,393
TURKISH	No.	{	23	20	12	11
	Tons		17,416	14,876	10,315	9,041

21. *Native Craft*.—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—

3·7 in 1879–80.
3·0 in 1880–81.
2·45 in 1881–82.
2·48 in 1882–83.
2·37 in 1883–84.

---	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

22. *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 five years :—

---	Vessels.	Tons.
BENGAL - - - -	1879–80 - - - -	1,444
	1880–81 - - - -	1,549
	1881–82 - - - -	1,680
	1882–83 - - - -	1,348
	1883–84 - - - -	1,309
BOMBAY - - - -	1879–80 - - - -	1,661
	1880–81 - - - -	1,981
	1881–82 - - - -	2,171
	1882–83 - - - -	1,967
	1883–84 - - - -	2,030
SINDH - - - -	1879–80 - - - -	852
	1880–81 - - - -	716
	1881–82 - - - -	645
	1882–83 - - - -	774
	1883–84 - - - -	733
MADRAS - - - -	1879–80 - - - -	3,906
	1880–81 - - - -	3,683
	1881–82 - - - -	3,756
	1882–83 - - - -	3,443
	1883–84 - - - -	3,917
BRITISH BURMA	1879–80 - - - -	1,133
	1880–81 - - - -	1,194
	1881–82 - - - -	1,351
	1882–83 - - - -	1,334
	1883–84 - - - -	989

23. The gross amount of Customs duties levied on imported merchandise during the year amounted to Rs. 2,18,74,066. Of this amount, however, Rs. 1,75,06,467 represented the duty levied on salt; and as this duty is treated in the Finance Accounts under Salt, not under Customs, it may be left out of consideration here. Customs duties.

24. Excluding salt, the Customs revenue stands thus for the last two years :—

	1882–83.	1883–84.
	Rs	Rs.
Arms and ammunition - - - -	1,08,738	1,47,004
Liquors—		
Malt liquor - - - -	72,933	78,575
Spirits - - - -	35,36,239	35,52,100
Wines and liqueurs - - - -	5,65,433	5,68,842
Other sorts - - - -	1,481	2,071
Opium - - - -	2,805	2,093
Miscellaneous - - - -	23,430	16,914
	43,11,059	43,67,599

The last of these heads includes duty on arms imported by post under arms; Customs collections made at the native port of Cambay, which are shared with the British Government; and goods on which duty was levied before the 10th March 1882 (when the import duties were abolished), though they are not shown by treaty as being payable before the year 1883-84. Drawbacks and refunds amounted to—

Rs. 2,15,144 in 1882-83,
 „ 55,456 in 1883-84,

so that the net duty realised on imports was—

Rs. 40,95,915 in 1882-83,
 „ 43,12,143 in 1883-84,

the increase being at the rate of about 5·3 per cent.

25. The gross amount of duty levied on exports was—

	1882-83. Rs.	1883-84. Rs.
Rice - - - -	83,19,940	71,88,762
Miscellaneous - - -	3,180	1,918
Total -	83,23,120	71,90,680
Deduct drawbacks and refunds -	7,34,657	4,71,407
Net -	75,88,463	67,19,273

The decrease was at the rate of nearly 11½ per cent., the result of the important restriction in the dimensions of the rice trade during the year.

Gold and silver coin and bullion.

26. The imports of gold were larger and the exports smaller than at any period during the last six years, as the following figures show:—

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.	Net Imports. Rs.
1878-79	1,46,30,495	2,35,92,228	- 89,61,733*
1879-80	2,05,03,929	29,98,893	1,75,05,036
1880-81	3,67,20,576	1,68,586	3,65,51,990
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	61,412	5,46,33,156
	22,60,64,842	2,85,87,836	19,74,77,006

27. The reversal of the flow of gold in 1878-79 was one of the results of the famine of that period. Since then with the return of prosperity there has been a continuous increase in the imports of gold each year, and the amount brought to the country and not re-exported in the last five years is about 1,974 lakhs, being at the average rate of 493½ lakhs a year.

28. More than four-fifths of the imports were received, as usual, from England, China, and Australia, from which three countries India always receives most of the gold imported:—

	Rs.
United Kingdom - - -	1,32,84,613
China - - - - -	1,36,05,297
Australia - - - - -	1,92,06,362
Total -	4,60,96,262

* Excess of exports.

29. The imports of silver last year were a good deal smaller than in 1882-83, and the exports a little larger. The following are the figures of the trade for the last six years:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1878-79	5,59,36,991	1,62,30,005	3,97,06,936
1879-80	9,60,50,019	1,73,52,586	7,86,97,433
1880-81	5,31,61,563	1,42,35,822	3,89,25,741
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	1,00,23,525	6,40,61,540
	42,74,77,745	7,74,93,327	34,99,84,418

The total value of silver imported and not re-exported during the last six years was nearly 3,500 lakhs. Last year they amounted to 640 lakhs, but the average of the six years was only 583 lakhs. About five-sixths of the imports were received direct from the United Kingdom. The flow of silver from Italy fell to a lower point than it had reached in the previous four years; and apart from Ceylon, with which country India keeps up a very active interchange of silver, China was the only other country which sent silver last year in considerable quantity to India.

30. In 1882-83 the drawings of the Secretary of State amounted to 15,120,521*l.*, at an average rate of exchange of 1*s.* 7*5*2*d.*, the equivalent in rupees amounting to 18,58,57,000. In 1883-84 the drawings amounted to 17,599,805*l.* = Rs. 21,62,16,000 at an average rate of 1*s.* 7*5*3*d.*

		Average.	
		Rs.	<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>
April	1883	2,19,30,500	1 7 <i>4</i> 5
May	"	1,85,10,000	1 7 <i>3</i> 8
June	"	1,68,67,500	1 7 <i>4</i> 2
July	"	1,34,29,500	1 7 <i>4</i> 4
August	"	1,59,55,000	1 7 <i>4</i> 8
September	"	1,17,01,000	1 7 <i>5</i> 6
October	"	1,31,23,000	1 7 <i>6</i> 1
November	"	1,08,32,000	1 7 <i>4</i> 8
December	"	1,71,12,500	1 7 <i>5</i> 1
January	1884	3,89,60,500	1 7 <i>5</i> 9
February	"	1,77,91,000	1 7 <i>7</i> 6
March	"	2,00,03,500	1 7 <i>6</i> 6
Total		21,62,16,000	1 7 <i>5</i> 3

31. In Madras there was some diminution of imported merchandise, and in Bengal, Bombay, and Burma of imported treasure. In all provinces, except Madras, the returns of imports exhibit an increase in merchandise. Trade of each Province.

32. Exports of both merchandise and treasure fell off in Burma to some extent, and both Bengal and Madras exported rather less treasure than in 1882-83. But exported produce shows a larger return from every province except Burma, where the rice trade was greatly restricted.

33. In imported merchandise the trade of 1883-84 shows the following results, as compared with 1882-83, for each province:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase or Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bengal	21,12,01,418	22,40,09,348	+ 6 per cent.
Bombay	19,38,96,318	20,76,02,709	+ 7 "
Sindh	1,18,68,556	1,34,77,585	+ 13 <i>5</i> 6 "
Madras	4,58,33,679	4,38,67,704	- 4 <i>3</i> "
British Burma	3,72,30,434	3,80,74,982	+ 2 <i>3</i> "

34. The considerable increase in the imports into Sindh was due mainly to the great stimulus given during the year to the export trade in wheat and seeds, which attracted shipping in larger numbers than had ever been seen before in the port of Karáchi. The extension of the British settlements in Biluchistan also led to a larger demand for goods, which reached consumers in those parts most conveniently from Karáchi.

35. As Bombay is the port to which the great current of imported treasure now flows for distribution throughout India, it seems unnecessary to compare the trade of the several provinces in the precious metals. There is no unusual feature in these returns except that the direct import of treasure into Karáchi showed a considerable increase over the insignificant trade formerly done.

36. In exported merchandise (including re-exports) the trade of each province stands thus:

	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase or Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bengal - - -	34,14,53,749	36,10,22,055	+ 57 per cent.
Bombay - - -	31,36,35,683	32,51,20,956	+ 3.66 "
Sindh - - -	2,61,96,837	3,70,05,392	+ 41.26 "
Madras - - -	8,23,96,242	9,14,68,601	+ 11 "
British Burma - -	7,03,26,138	6,57,34,387	- 6.5 "

Every province except Burma shows an increase. The augmentation in Sindh was extremely large owing to the great demand for wheat and seeds, especially the former, Karáchi having become, with the completion of the line of railway, the great outlet for Punjab wheat. In Burma alone was there a decrease of trade,—the result of a great restriction in the export of rice.

37. The following table exhibits the aggregate trade and shipping, foreign and coasting, of each of the 10 principal ports 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 -	20,75,09,401	10,22,40,763	30,97,50,164	Entered -	555	889,897	358	321,759	913	1,211,656
Exports -	32,50,68,798	6,95,66,008	39,46,54,806	Cleared -	585	925,086	358	282,696	943	1,207,782
Total -	53,25,78,199	17,18,26,771	70,44,04,970	Total -	1,140	1,814,983	716	604,455	1,856	2,419,438
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports -	10,32,19,580	13,35,971	10,45,55,551	Entered -	458	145,206	49,662	849,035	50,320	994,241
Exports -	69,26,075	1,68,16,930	2,37,43,005	Cleared -	376	91,158	11,089	349,157	11,465	440,315
Total -	11,01,45,655	1,81,52,901	12,82,98,556	Total -	834	236,364	60,951	1,198,192	61,785	1,434,556
GRAND TOTAL	64,27,23,854	18,99,79,672	83,27,03,526	GRAND TOTAL	1,974	2,051,347	61,667	1,802,647	63,641	3,853,994
	41.57 %	31.02 %	—		21.99 %	33.82 %	28.85 %	12.07 %	—	—
CALCUTTA—				CALCUTTA—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports -	22,36,93,937	3,33,17,031	25,70,10,968	Entered -	167	291,567	329	489,205	696	780,772
Exports -	34,96,61,286	4,73,83,813	39,70,45,102	Cleared -	234	391,099	567	545,166	801	936,265
Total -	57,33,55,226	8,07,00,844	65,40,56,070	Total -	401	682,666	1,096	1,034,371	1,497	1,717,037
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports -	2,03,55,058	41,75,961	2,45,31,019	Entered -	287	355,974	112	26,482	399	382,456
Exports -	11,11,473	93,68,655	1,04,80,128	Cleared -	511	562,875	65	6,159	576	569,034
Total -	2,14,66,531	1,35,44,616	3,50,11,147	Total -	798	918,849	177	32,641	975	951,490
GRAND TOTAL	59,48,21,757	9,42,45,460	68,90,67,217	GRAND TOTAL	1,199	1,601,515	1,273	1,067,012	2,473	2,668,527
	38.48 %	15.39 %	—		13.35 %	26.41 %	0.6 %	7.15 %	—	—

PORTS.	TRADE.			PORTS.	NAVIGATION.					
	Foreign.	Coasting.	TOTAL.		Foreign.		Coasting.		TOTAL.	
RANGOON—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	RANGOON—	Vessels	Tons	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports -	3,60,84,265	2,17,40,537	5,78,24,802	Entered -	112	107,889	368	304,665	480	412,554
Exports -	4,20,19,359	1,25,99,245	5,46,18,406	Cleared -	175	186,913	347	281,817	522	468,730
Total -	7,81,08,624	3,43,39,782	11,24,43,406	Total -	287	294,802	715	586,482	1,002	881,284
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports -	1,87,958	1,26,41,888	1,28,29,846	Entered -	81	84,574	178	12,034	259	96,608
Exports -	10,000	64,57,695	64,67,695	Cleared -	169	154,277	100	8,225	269	162,502
Total -	1,97,958	1,90,99,583	1,92,97,541	Total -	250	238,851	278	20,259	528	259,110
GRAND TOTAL	7,83,01,582 5.07 %	5,34,39,365 8.73 %	13,17,40,947	GRAND TOTAL	537 5.98 %	533,653 8.8 %	993 0.46 %	606,741 4.06 %	1,530	1,140,394
FORT ST. GEORGE—				FORT ST. GEORGE—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports -	3,77,11,338	1,31,00,160	5,08,11,498	Entered -	116	215,647	259	432,857	375	648,504
Exports -	4,05,24,860	57,03,571	4,62,88,431	Cleared -	103	195,017	244	403,586	347	598,603
Total -	7,82,36,198	1,88,63,731	9,70,99,929	Total -	219	410,664	503	836,443	722	1,247,107
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports -	29,95,925	1,00,000	30,95,925	Entered -	48	18,493	156	31,768	204	50,261
Exports -	4,59,070	8,99,613	13,58,683	Cleared -	39	9,686	106	29,935	145	39,621
Total -	34,54,995	9,99,613	44,54,608	Total -	87	28,179	262	61,703	349	89,882
GRAND TOTAL	8,16,91,193 5.23 %	1,98,63,344 3.24 %	10,15,54,537	GRAND TOTAL	306 3.41 %	438,843 7.24 %	765 0.36 %	898,146 6.01 %	1,071	1,336,989
KARACHI—				KARACHI—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports -	1,34,77,460	8,22,34,077	3,57,11,537	Entered -	95	99,917	163	139,085	258	232,952
Exports -	8,70,03,272	1,32,85,836	5,02,90,608	Cleared -	191	231,816	159	112,862	342	344,678
Total -	5,04,82,732	3,55,19,413	8,60,02,145	Total -	286	325,733	314	251,897	600	577,630
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports -	9,27,102	23,29,288	32,56,390	Entered -	24	15,085	1,347	68,671	1,588	83,756
Exports -	6,21,485	10,580	6,32,065	Cleared -	202	11,583	1,115	66,489	1,317	78,072
Total -	15,48,587	23,39,868	38,88,455	Total -	443	26,668	2,462	135,160	2,905	161,828
GRAND TOTAL	5,20,31,319 3.37 %	3,78,59,281 6.18 %	8,98,90,600	GRAND TOTAL	729 8.12 %	352,401 5.81 %	2,776 1.3 %	387,057 2.59 %	3,505	739,458
MOULMEIN—				MOULMEIN—						
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>						
Imports -	15,55,087	65,65,912	81,20,999	Entered -	43	36,681	164	95,161	207	131,842
Exports -	66,42,371	72,86,779	1,39,29,150	Cleared -	59	58,791	181	117,181	240	175,972
Total -	81,97,458	1,38,52,691	2,20,50,149	Total -	102	95,472	345	212,342	447	307,814
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>						
Imports -	38,495	41,65,798	42,04,293	Entered -	4	711	172	15,303	176	16,014
Exports -	16,960	2,38,445	2,55,425	Cleared -	31	22,089	166	19,790	197	41,879
Total -	55,475	44,04,243	44,59,718	Total -	35	22,800	338	35,093	373	57,893
GRAND TOTAL	82,52,933 0.53 %	1,82,56,934 2.98 %	2,65,09,867	GRAND TOTAL	137 1.53 %	118,272 1.95 %	683 0.32 %	247,435 1.66 %	820	365,707

PORTS.	TRADE.			PORTS.	NAVIGATION.						
	Foreign.	Coasting.	TOTAL.		Foreign.		Coasting.		TOTAL.		
CHITTAGONG—				CHITTAGONG—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	<i>Steam—</i>	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	
Imports -	3,15,191	1,08,12,482	1,11,27,673	Entered -	—	—	109	58,618	109	58,618	
Exports -	97,46,776	81,32,279	1,28,79,055	Cleared -	5	5,679	118	69,858	123	75,537	
Total -	1,00,61,967	1,39,44,761	2,40,06,728	Total -	5	5,679	227	128,476	232	134,155	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports -	—	5,72,000	5,72,000	Entered -	14	13,245	736	82,379	750	95,624	
Exports -	—	1,78,000	1,78,000	Cleared -	60	58,397	238	82,398	298	90,793	
Total -	—	7,50,000	7,50,000	Total -	74	71,642	974	114,777	1,048	186,419	
GRAND TOTAL	1,00,61,967 0.65 %	1,46,94,761 2.4 %	2,47,56,728	GRAND TOTAL	79 0.88 %	77,321 1.27 %	1,201 0.56 %	243,253 1.63 %	1,280	320,574	—
COCONADA—				COCONADA—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports -	2,27,307	21,38,855	24,16,162	Entered -	—	—	246	349,896	246	349,896	
Exports -	81,09,792	59,13,124	1,40,22,916	Cleared -	23	84,319	238	336,024	261	370,343	
Total -	83,37,099	81,01,979	1,64,39,078	Total -	23	84,319	484	685,920	507	720,239	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports -	—	18,81,200	18,81,200	Entered -	5	3,866	60	21,789	65	25,655	
Exports -	2,869	50,000	52,869	Cleared -	34	16,400	55	20,654	89	37,054	
Total -	2,869	19,31,200	19,34,069	Total -	39	20,266	115	42,443	154	62,709	
GRAND TOTAL	83,39,968 0.54 %	1,00,33,179 1.64 %	1,83,73,147	GRAND TOTAL	62 0.69 %	54,585 0.9 %	599 0.28 %	728,363 4.88 %	661	789,948	—
TUTICORIN—				TUTICORIN—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports -	15,89,983	22,26,071	38,16,054	Entered -	8	12,520	106	179,342	114	191,862	
Exports -	1,20,00,891	10,47,573	1,30,48,464	Cleared -	7	9,902	107	181,902	114	191,804	
Total -	1,35,90,874	32,73,644	1,68,64,518	Total -	15	22,422	213	361,244	228	383,666	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports -	3,71,455	—	3,71,455	Entered -	481	43,979	508	15,127	984	59,106	
Exports -	6,30,000	1,22,500	7,52,500	Cleared -	532	55,417	223	11,408	755	66,825	
Total -	10,01,455	1,22,500	11,23,955	Total -	1,013	99,396	726	26,535	1,739	125,931	
GRAND TOTAL	1,45,92,329 0.94 %	33,96,144 0.55 %	1,79,88,473	GRAND TOTAL	1,028 11.45 %	1,21,818 2.01 %	939 0.44 %	387,779 2.8 %	1,967	509,597	—
ARYAB—				ARYAB—							
<i>Merchandise—</i>				<i>Steam—</i>							
Imports -	1,36,038	50,45,088	51,81,126	Entered -	—	—	121	73,569	121	73,569	
Exports -	81,11,011	6,82,939	87,93,950	Cleared -	81	37,517	122	74,101	153	111,618	
Total -	82,47,049	57,28,027	1,39,75,076	Total -	81	37,517	243	147,670	274	185,187	
<i>Treasure—</i>				<i>Sailing—</i>							
Imports -	—	27,35,900	27,35,900	Entered -	3	2,384	189	7,445	192	9,329	
Exports -	—	8,48,390	8,48,390	Cleared -	64	56,211	43	5,633	107	61,844	
Total -	—	35,84,290	35,84,290	Total -	67	58,595	232	13,078	299	71,673	
GRAND TOTAL	82,47,049 0.53 %	93,12,317 1.52 %	1,75,59,366	GRAND TOTAL	98 1.09 %	96,112 1.58 %	475 0.22 %	160,748 1.08 %	573	256,860	—

38. It seems from these figures that during the year the trade of India was divided as follows amongst the principal ports:—

	Foreign.	Coasting.
Bombay	- 41·57 per cent.	- 31 per cent.
Calcutta	- 38·48 „	- 15·39 „
Rangoon	- 5·07 „	- 8·73 „
Madras	- 5·28 „	- 3·24 „
Karachi	- 3·37 „	- 6·18 „
	<u>93·77</u>	<u>64·54</u>

39. While the foreign trade is almost entirely confined to these five large ports, the coasting trade is much more widely distributed over the other smaller ports.

40. For tonnage (that is, of shipping which entered and cleared with cargoes) the figures are:—

	Foreign.	Coasting.
Bombay	- 33·82	- 12·07
Calcutta	- 26·41	- 7·15
Rangoon	- 8·8	- 4·06
Madras	- 7·24	- 6·01
Karachi	- 5·81	- 2·59
	<u>82·08</u>	<u>31·88</u>

These ports do not apparently receive such a large proportion of the tonnage of shipping from foreign ports as they do of foreign merchandise.* The disproportion, however, is more apparent than real, for in the shipping returns after a ship has touched at any Indian port her further voyage to other Indian ports is treated as a coasting voyage.

41. The observation has been made in former reviews that, although Bombay has the largest per-centage of the foreign trade, this is due to that port being the place at which most of the treasure imported is landed. If the returns of goods alone are looked at, Bombay, still comes after Calcutta, though she is running Calcutta closer for first place even in regard to goods.

TRADE WITH COUNTRIES.

42. The following table exhibits the trade between India and most of the countries with which India has commercial connexions, and it shows the proportion of the trade with each country to the total trade of India with all countries, for each of the last two years. The countries are enumerated according to the importance of the trade with them in 1883-84:—

Countries.	1882-83.		1883-84.	
	Imports and Exports (Merchandise and Treasure).	Per-centage on total Trade of India.	Imports and Exports (Merchandise and Treasure).	Per-centage on total Trade of India.
	Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom	81,77,01,060	55·31	86,69,55,943	56·08
2. China—Hong-Kong	13,85,13,467	9·37	12,95,33,955	8·38
3. France	7,75,78,186	5·25	9,22,69,868	5·97
4. Straits Settlements	5,33,04,705	3·61	4,79,81,924	3·1
5. Italy	5,40,98,044	3·66	4,32,15,634	2·8
6. China—Treaty Ports	3,83,36,257	2·59	4,29,55,811	2·78
7. Egypt	2,40,55,112	1·63	3,99,36,227	2·58
8. United States	4,27,75,606	2·89	3,63,17,952	2·35
9. Belgium	2,23,01,618	1·51	3,57,95,887	2·32
10. Australia	2,99,11,923	2·02	3,07,47,590	1·99
11. Austria	3,21,71,045	2·18	2,88,93,429	1·87
12. Ceylon	2,73,91,585	1·85	2,64,48,240	1·71
13. Persia	2,06,43,757	1·4	2,24,99,489	1·46
14. Mauritius	1,47,82,752	0·999	1,67,08,637	1·081
15. Arabia	1,55,84,661	1·054	1,33,25,403	0·894
16. Malta	76,69,418	0·519	1,84,41,869	0·675

TABLE—continued.

Countries,	1882-83.		1883-84.	
	Imports and Exports (Merchandise and Treasure).	Per-centage on total Trade of India.	Imports and Exports (Merchandise and Treasure).	Per-centage on total Trade of India.
	Rs.		Rs.	
17. Turkey in Asia - - -	1,05,87,771	0·718	89,14,622	0·577
18. Aden - - - - -	72,12,608	0·488	78,82,359	0·509
19. Zanzibar - - - - -	75,58,578	0·511	78,36,550	0·507
20. Germany - - - - -	60,92,129	0·412	73,81,595	0·477
21. South America - - -	28,00,945	0·198	43,92,758	0·284
22. Holland - - - - -	47,12,383	0·319	34,51,699	0·223
23. Japan - - - - -	25,11,901	0·170	30,49,259	0·197
24. Mozambique - - - - -	25,36,128	0·170	26,17,577	0·169
25. Spain, including Gibraltar	30,47,912	0·206	22,68,611	0·147
26. Réunion - - - - -	21,41,982	0·145	20,27,148	0·131
27. Russia - - - - -	13,39,307	0·089	14,96,351	0·097
28. West Indies - - - - -	12,93,796	0·088	12,07,389	0·078
29. Natal - - - - -	6,70,251	0·045	9,08,554	0·059
30. Sumatra - - - - -	4,06,139	0·027	7,36,584	0·047
31. Spain—Gibraltar - - -	25,72,928	0·174	7,20,248	0·047
32. Siam - - - - -	5,57,404	0·038	5,06,130	0·033
33. Java - - - - -	5,87,809	0·04	4,96,664	0·032

The first twelve countries on this list have between them 92 per cent. of the whole Indian trade.

United
Kingdom.

43. The trade between India and the United Kingdom amounted to Rs. 86,69,55,943. In 1882-83 it was Rs. 81,77,01,060, the increase during the year being at the rate of 6·02 per cent.—a rate greatly in excess of the rate of increase in the whole trade of India, which, as stated in a previous paragraph, was only 4·57 per cent. The increase was much larger than the increase in the two previous years.

The proportion borne by British trade with India to the whole trade of the year was 56 per cent. In 1882-83 it was 55·31 per cent.

The merchandise imported represented a value of Rs. 42,92,51,837, which was 6·3 per cent. in excess of the imports of 1882-83. This sum represents 81½ per cent. of the total imports of merchandise into India.

The merchandise exported represented a value of Rs. 36,96,90,684, which was 4·3 per cent. in excess of the exports of 1882-83. This sum represented only 42 per cent. of the gross exports of merchandise from India to all parts.

As long as the imports of India continue to be most largely cotton and woollen piece-goods; metals, machinery, coal, and railway material, which account for three-fifths of the imports, it may be expected that the imports from England will be largely in excess of the imports from other countries. On the other hand, there is a tendency to take Indian goods direct to the consuming countries without making England a distributor, and moreover England has no share in a notable portion of the Indian exports—opium.

All the great staple imports mentioned above represent increased values in 1883-84 as compared with 1882-83 in the returns of trade with the United Kingdom, the increases in coal, machinery, metals, and railway material being important. Amongst the goods exported to England, the most noticeable increases occurred in coffee, indigo, wheat, rape seed, and tea. The exports of cotton, rice, jute, and teak, on the other hand, exhibit a large falling off.

Austria.

44. The trade with Austria shows a reduction of more than 10 per cent. on that of 1882-83, having fallen from Rs. 3,21,71,045 to Rs. 2,88,93,429. The value of imports from Austria was larger by 5·4 per cent., but the export trade was less by nearly 14 per cent., the restriction being the result of a smaller export of cotton.

Belgium.

45. Indian trade with Belgium took an enormous stride during the year, having increased by no less than 60½ per cent., from Rs. 2,23,01,618 to Rs. 3,57,95,887.

Imports increased from Rs. 7,84,339 to Rs. 17,62,578, being at the rate of nearly 125 per cent., while exports rose by 58 per cent., from Rs. 2,15,17,279 to Rs. 3,40,33,309. The only other European countries which had a larger share of Indian trade last year than Belgium were France and Italy, and the trade of Belgium worked up to a figure not very substantially smaller than that of the latter country. The increase in the

import trade was distributed over a large number of articles, but specially large increases are noticeable in candles, sheet glass and glassware, iron and steel, railway material, and woollen goods. The increased values of exports are due to greatly augmented shipments of cotton, wheat, oil seeds, and hemp.

It may be remarked here that there is abundant room for the development of a considerable and permanent trade between India and Belgium. As a port, Antwerp is already to some extent, and will become to a greater extent hereafter with the extension of works there, a convenient commercial centre for a great part of Northern Europe. The industrial resources and capacity of the Belgian people and the free trade policy of the Government enable them to produce well and cheaply many articles which are in great and constant demand in India—textile fabrics, iron and other metals and metal ware, glass, railway material, paper, hardware, machinery, and other articles of lesser importance,—while there will be a reciprocal demand for raw material to feed the industrial establishments of Belgium and Northern Europe generally. The Exhibition to be held at Antwerp next year offers an excellent opportunity for making known Indian products to this thriving and industrious people, and it is to be hoped that the opportunity may not be lost. It may be predicted with confidence that the better the resources and wants of each country are made known to the other, the closer and more extended will their commercial relations become.

46. With France the trade of India rose from Rs. 7,75,78,186 to Rs. 9,22,69,868, France. the increase being at the rate of nearly 19 per cent. Imports increased by 60 per cent., and exports by nearly 16 per cent.

The principal increases in the imports were in clocks and watches, white and coloured cotton piece goods, saffron, salt, and silk goods, the import of these latter especially having been on a scale far in excess of that of 1882–83 when the trade had fallen to a very low point. The imports of piece goods of silk mixed with other materials assumed larger dimensions than at any previous time, while the trade in pure silk still remained at a low point notwithstanding the recovery from the recent depression.

The larger value of exports to France was mainly due to an increase in the trade in oil seeds. Coffee, cotton, indigo, raw silk, and rice also represent an expanded trade, though the first two were still below the level of recent years. The rice sent to France is mostly of the kind used for distillation. The value of the rice exported last year was 17½ lakhs—in 1882–83 it was 14 lakhs. Of mowa flowers, also used for distillation, the value was nearly 6½ lakhs. The French consumption of Indian wheat was not equal to that of 1881–82 and that again was very much less than the demand of 1881–82.

47. The trade with Germany increased fairly during the year—33 per cent. in Germany. imports and 19 per cent. in exports—but the trade is a small one: the value of imports was only a little over 12 lakhs and of exports under 61¼ lakhs; and it is unnecessary to enter into detail in regard to the items. Much of the trade of India with Germany is carried on through such ports as Trieste, Venice, Antwerp, Amsterdam, or *via* London, and is recorded in the returns under those heads.

48. With Holland the trade fell off considerably during the year, though it might Holland. have been hoped that the trouble and money spent over the representation of India at the Amsterdam Exhibition would have stimulated trade. Imports fell from Rs. 1,84,615 to Rs. 47,438, or to about one-fourth of the level of 1882–83. Exports fell from Rs. 45,27,768 to Rs. 34,04,261, or by more than 24 per cent. The imports of liquors almost ceased and the exports of wheat to Holland were only a third of those of the previous year. There was, however, a large increase of trade in cotton and linseed. Of tea 11,670 lbs. were exported, the first recorded export of Indian tea to Holland.

49. Imports from Italy show a heavy decline—only Rs. 80,08,225 as compared Italy. with Rs. 2,02,62,971. The decrease lay entirely under the head of treasure, for comparatively little of the precious metals was shipped from Italy in 1883–84, while the imports in 1882–83 were no less than Rs. 1,58,18,645. In merchandise the imports of the year amounted to Rs. 51,87,825 against Rs. 44,44,386 in 1882–83, an increase of nearly 17 per cent. Most of this increase of trade occurred under the head of corals, white and coloured cottons, glass beads, brandy, and salt.

The exports from India to Italy increased by 4 per cent., from Rs. 3,38,35,073 to Rs. 3,52,07,409. There was a considerable increase in the trade in rice, wheat, jute, rapeseed, til seed, and hides; with some diminution in the exports of cotton and silk.

- Malta.** 50. From Malta there are no imports worth mention, but large quantities of rice and wheat—mainly rice—are sent thither to be stored for a market. The value of the rice so sent last year amounted to about 96½ lakhs of rupees, and of wheat to 5½ lakhs. The total value of all exports came to Rs. 1,03,34,562, a large increase on 1882-83, due to larger quantities of rice going thither in the absence of a present market. This practice has increased very greatly of late years: in 1879-80 the value of the rice sent to Malta was no more than Rs. 14½ lakhs, and it has continuously increased every year since until it has reached the figure mentioned above.
- Russia.** 51. Of Indian trade with other European countries it seems unnecessary to speak in any detail. It presented no new feature during the year, except that for the first time there was a direct shipment, though of small importance, of rice to Russia.
- Africa and adjacent islands.** 52. Most of the trade is conducted with Egypt, Mozambique, Zanzibar, Mauritius, Réunion, Natal, and the Cape of Good Hope. With other parts of the African Continent and the islands on the east and west coast the trade is of trifling dimensions.
- Cape.** 53. Imports from the Cape hardly exist, the only items in the way of trade being coal and copper.
Exports last year were much larger than usual, having amounted to Rs. 13,36,878. They consist almost exclusively of rice, gunny bags, and teakwood, which form the staples of the small trade that exists.
- Mozambique.** 54. The import trade with Mozambique amounted to Rs. 9,58,228, which was more by 14½ per cent. than the trade of the previous year. Exports fell from Rs. 17,00,434 to Rs. 16,59,349, a decrease of about 2½ per cent., while imports of merchandise rose from Rs. 3,78,032 to Rs. 5,01,780, an increase of nearly one-third. The chief import is ivory, and it is to the increase of this article that the larger value of imports is due. About half of the total exports are re-exports from Bombay of foreign goods, in which cotton goods are prominent. In these there was a restriction of trade, while on the other hand Indian grey cottons were shipped in larger quantities.
- Zanzibar.** 55. The imports from Zanzibar into India do not seem to have a tendency to progress; if anything there are signs of restriction. In 1879-80 their value was a little over 28 lakhs; 1882-83 it was over 28½ lakhs; last year it was under 26 lakhs. Exports to Zanzibar, on the other hand, have increased considerably. Last year they amounted to Rs. 52,38,542 which was 11 per cent. in excess of the trade of the previous year.
From Zanzibar two staple articles are imported, ivory and cloves. India also receives some cocoanut kernel, gum (copal), fish maws and shark fins, horns, cowries, and various other products, but all of minor importance. The decline in the imports was due to the diminished imports of ivory and cloves.
A re-export trade of some dimensions is carried on from Bombay with Zanzibar, the staple of which is coloured cottons. In these however the trade does not seem to increase, a diversion from Bombay having been effected by the opening up of steam communication from Aden to Zanzibar. The other articles of European manufacture which are re-exported from Bombay are numerous enough, but individually of no importance. On the whole the re-export trade does not seem to thrive. While the re-export of English cottons to Zanzibar does not appear to increase, the export of Bombay cotton goods expands yearly, the trade comparing thus:—
- | | | Exports of— | |
|---------|---|------------------|-----------------|
| | | English cottons. | Indian cottons. |
| | | Yds. | Yds. |
| 1882-83 | - | 7,170,471 | 9,927,129 |
| 1883-84 | - | 6,567,947 | 11,069,847 |
- In 1879-80 the exports of Indian cottons amounted to but little more than 2½ million yards, the trade in English cottons being quite double this figure. The figures have now been entirely reversed, the trade in Indian cottons being twice as large as that in English cottons, at least so far as concerns re-exports from Bombay. The aggregate value of Indian cotton goods sent to Zanzibar last year was 12¼ lakhs. The only other Indian export of importance is rice (151,715 cwt., value 6½ lakhs last year). The rest of the trade includes numerous items none of which is individually of any importance.
- Egypt.** 56. If it were not for the nominal exports to Egypt of rice, wheat, and oilseeds, the trade in merchandise between India and that country would hardly be worth consideration. The imports from Egypt last year were less than seven lakhs in value, of

which about 2½ lakhs represented the value of salt brought hither from the Red Sea ports. Some apparel, cigarettes and tobacco, drugs and silk goods make up most of the remainder of the imports.

Treasure was imported to the value of 32½ lakhs.

Re-exports are unimportant also; coffee and raw silk are the principal items, and the aggregate last year was well under 4 lakhs.

The Indian exports to Egypt represented last year the considerable sum of 356 lakhs. The trade has increased greatly since 1879-80, when its aggregate was only 91 lakhs. But of this value nearly 300 lakhs represented the value of rice, wheat and oil seeds, shipped from India for the European market but nominally destined to Port Saïd, where the ship containing the cargo finds orders awaiting her as to the actual port of destination. This practice is the result of the speculative nature of many operations in rice and wheat, the ultimate destination of the grain being undecided and unknown when the ship leaves India with her cargo and being settled on her arrival in European waters by reference to the actual state of the markets.

Amongst the other articles of Indian origin sent to Egypt are coffee, in which there was a great fall in trade last year, indigo, which likewise declined materially, catch, hides, gunny bags, sugar, and teakwood. There was a large increase in the trade in gunny bags, and this and indigo are the only articles of which it can be said with any certainty that they are intended for use in Egypt. The trade in teakwood shows a sudden and large development.

57. Imports from Mauritius were in—

				Rs.
1882-83	-	-	-	88,56,062
1883-84	-	-	-	76,88,116

Mauritius.

Exports thither were in—

				Rs.
1882-83	-	-	-	59,26,690
1883-84	-	-	-	90,20,521

Sugar being the staple import from Mauritius the decline in imports means a reduction in the trade in that article, the importation of which has fallen gradually since 1880-81, when it had reached 746,209 cwt., until in 1883-84 only 501,108 cwt. were imported. This trade is subject, as has been pointed out before, to much fluctuation.

The exports of foreign merchandise to Mauritius last year amounted to just under five lakhs, the two principal items being cotton goods, and wheat.

Indian cottons do not appear to be in demand in Mauritius. The whole quantity exported last year only amounted to 258,034 yards and this small quantity was much in excess of the trade of previous years. The export of English cottons also from Bombay is comparatively very small. As there is a very large coolie population in the island the demand must be supplied from other sources than Bombay. It would probably be worth the while of Bombay manufacturers to take measures to ascertain whether there is not, as may reasonably be supposed, a considerable outlet in this island for their manufactures.

The export of rice was very much larger than in 1882-83, and food-grains generally—the trade constituting the bulk of the exports to Mauritius—were more extensively shipped than in the previous year. Oils, provisions, gunny bags and tobacco, were also sent in augmented quantities.

58. From Natal the imports to India are of no consequence; only a little coal, Natal. copper and sugar were received last year, aggregate value only Rs. 18,000.

The exports to Natal reached nearly nine lakhs of rupees, as against 6½ lakhs in the previous year. The increase is due to some extent to the export of sugar, a new trade, the value of which last year reached 1½ lakhs. In other respects the export trade is similar to that with Mauritius, consisting of rice and other food-grains for the coolies, gunny bags, oils, and provisions. Here too there would seem to be an outlet for Indian cotton goods, not only amongst the Indian coolies employed by the colonists but amongst the indigenous population.

59. The island of Réunion figures for the first time this year as an exporter of Réunion. sugar to India, but it was on a very small scale (1,265 cwt., value Rs. 17,509). The total value of the imports was no more than Rs. 24,593.

Indian goods were exported to the value of nearly 20 lakhs, a smaller amount than in 1882-83, but the trade fluctuates a good deal. The character of the exports is similar to that of the exports to Mauritius and Natal, similar conditions existing. In rice, which forms the bulk of the export trade, there was some diminution as well as in provisions.

South
America.

60. The trade with South America is of much the same character as with these South African ports just mentioned. India sends thither rice, oils and provisions for the sustenance and comfort of the Indian coolie employed in the Colonies of Demerara, Cayenne, and Surinam and gunny bags for the packing of sugar. The total value of the exports last year was a little over 43½ lakhs, a sum which is not far from double the value of recent trade, the increase being due to a great augmentation in the export of rice.

United
States.

		Imports.		Exports.
		Rs.		Rs.
61.	1879-80 -	- 52,62,618	-	3,28,66,501
	1880-81 -	- 49,08,480	-	2,61,82,252
	1881-82 -	- 46,60,641	-	2,69,54,335
	1882-83 -	- 93,43,420	-	3,34,32,186
	1883-84 -	- 52,91,060	-	3,10,26,892

The reduction in the imports from the United States amounted to as much as 43 per cent. on the trade of 1882-83, but the trade of that year was abnormally large by reason of the sudden development of the trade in kerosene oil, which constitutes the great bulk of the import trade. In 1882-83 there were imported of mineral oil more than 20 million gallons valued at nearly 87 lakhs of rupees. Last year the quantity fell to 12¼ million gallons representing a value of only 49¼ lakhs of rupees. The only other imports needing mention were clocks and watches, grey cotton goods, liquors, and tobacco. In the last mentioned of these trade of the year was at a low level compared with the trade of 1882-83. The imports of railway material also practically ceased. In grey goods also the trade was only half as large as that of 1882-83.

In the value of the export trade to the United States the decrease amounted to 7 per cent., an appreciable decline, but nothing like the decline in the imports.

The value of the indigo exported fell from nearly 79 lakhs to 65 lakhs, and of jute from 81½ lakhs to 56¼ lakhs, these being the two chief articles in the export trade from this country to the United States. Caoutchouc, tanned skins, shell lac, saltpetre, all of them important in the trade with the States, show a restriction of greater or less extent, very marked in the case of shell lac, which fell off by 50 per cent., and tanned skins. The efforts made to develop a trade in tea have not so far been successful, as the figures of the exports will show:—

		lbs.		Rs.
	1879-80 -	- 65,944	-	51,799
	1880-81 -	- 68,597	-	39,568
	1881-82 -	- 197,302	-	1,48,381
	1882-83 -	- 676,507	-	5,15,775
	1883-84 -	- 198,612	-	1,37,806

As to some extent balancing these restrictions there were expansions in the exports of catch which increased threefold, in raw hides and skins, gunny bags and gunny cloth, rags, and linseed, the trade in this oil seed also increasing more than threefold. The net outcome of the trade of the year however was, as said above, a reduction of 7 per cent.

West Indies.

62. Trade with the West Indies is of the same character as with the South American colonies, consisting of the export of rice and other food-grains and provisions for the coolie population. Exports last year amounted to 12 lakhs of rupees in value, of which rice represented 11.62 lakhs, a considerable reduction on the trade of the two previous years. Imports are insignificant.

Aden.

63. Between Aden and India there is a considerable trade, but it is hardly one that can be said to be increasing:—

		Imports.		Exports.
		Rs.		Rs.
	1879-80 -	- 12,81,391	-	49,20,276
	1880-81 -	- 17,75,977	-	74,89,149
	1881-82 -	- 20,41,380	-	51,40,902
	1882-83 -	- 14,36,888	-	57,75,720
	1883-84 -	- 17,76,370	-	61,05,989

Both imports and exports were larger than those of 1882-83. Of the total imports of last year only Rs. 7,10,026 represent the value of merchandise, the balance being treasure, which is imported annually to a fairly large extent from Aden. The two main articles of import are ivory and gums, the trade in the latter however exhibiting a tendency to decline. Last year the imports were not half as much as those of 1882-83. The ivory trade on the other hand has increased slightly. Its importance in the trade of Aden may be estimated by the fact that its value represents about a third of the aggregate value of the imports. Fish maws and shark fins and shells and cowries are the only other merchandise of any importance shipped to India from Aden.

Foreign merchandise is re-exported to Aden from Bombay to some considerable extent—value last year $10\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs—of which British cotton goods (twist and piece goods represented over $6\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. The trade is of the same character as that with Zanzibar, Arabia and Persia. Aden indeed is merely a depôt for the supply of the adjacent regions: in itself it has hardly any trade.

Exports of Indian goods:—

				Rs.
1879-80	-	-	-	38,42,438
1880-81	-	-	-	49,66,943
1881-82	-	-	-	41,51,162
1882-83	-	-	-	48,62,785
1883-84	-	-	-	49,10,924

This may be called on the whole a trade with a tendency to increase. The principal items are cotton twist and piece goods, the value of which last year exceeded 29 lakhs. This trade has decidedly increased during the last few years. Next in importance is rice (value $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs last year). Wheat was exported in large quantities until last year when the trade fell to a low point. There is also a tolerably extensive trade in other food-grains and flour. Tobacco makes a considerable figure in the returns still, though the exports have steadily diminished year by year for the last five years. The exports of ginger and pepper on the other hand keep increasing.

64.

Arabia.

		Imports. Rs.		Exports. Rs.
1879-80	-	72,02,274	-	91,31,821
1880-81	-	98,56,688	-	1,07,36,067
1881-82	-	83,05,589	-	99,36,833
1882-83	-	73,18,351	-	82,66,310
1883-84	-	60,36,831	-	77,88,572

The imports always consist much more largely of treasure than of merchandise. Last year the value of the merchandise imported was less than 28 lakhs and there has been a steady diminution in the aggregate value year by year for the last five years. The two most important items are dates and pearls. The value of the former last year was Rs. 10,39,505 and of the latter Rs. 4,77,375. It may however safely be assumed that the actual imports of pearls are much understated in the returns, much of them not being registered at all. Gums, fish maws and shark fins, and salt, are the most prominent of the other articles imported.

British piece goods and sugar are the only articles of foreign origin which are largely re-exported. The value of the former last year was about $12\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs and of the latter over $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. But there is an active peddling trade done in a great variety of other goods.

The exports of Indian goods to Arabia last year amounted to Rs. 49,18,101, of which Rs. 26,65,149 represented the value of rice. The exports of this grain and of other food-grains have been greatly reduced during the last two years. Amongst other exports of importance coffee also shows a great decline, only 7,155 cwt. having been exported compared with 10,823 cwt. in 1882-83 and 15,319 cwt. in 1881-82. The trade in cotton twist and piece goods also fell off though slightly. English goods are taken to Arabia from Bombay in the proportion of more than two to one as compared with Indian cotton goods: these textures however are largely of a kind not yet made in the Bombay mills.

Ginger, pepper and sugar are the only other articles shipped to Arabia in appreciably large quantities, though the list of articles is long.

Ceylon.

65. Import and export trade with Ceylon :—

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
1879-80 -	- 1,04,59,523	- 2,66,73,080
1880-81 -	- 74,11,195	- 2,36,24,780
1881-82 -	- 69,60,717	- 2,05,96,643
1882-83 -	- 87,74,231	- 1,86,17,354
1883-84 -	- 67,91,483	- 1,96,56,757

There is an active interchange of silver between Ceylon and India, a considerable proportion of the imports of silver generally representing transshipments for Calcutta of silver from Europe or elsewhere, and the figures given above, which include treasure, are much in excess of the figures representing the value of merchandise only. These for the same years are :—

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
48,10,979 -	-	- 2,00,20,316
49,53,806 -	-	- 1,77,85,316
40,18,387 -	-	- 1,61,53,163
57,37,866 -	-	- 1,39,26,160
56,88,389 -	-	- 1,53,50,147

The import trade seems therefore to be on the increase while the reverse must be said of the exports from India. The imports of coffee last year were reduced to a very low point and the reduction followed on a reduction in each of the two previous years. The trade in grey cottons of English manufacture, which were sent in considerable quantities to the ports of Southern India, also last year was carried on on a very restricted scale; in 1880-81 the value was 12½ lakhs, last year it was less than 3½ lakhs. Betelnuts and kopra (cocoanut kernel) together constituted last year nearly half the aggregate value of the whole import trade. The development of the latter has been as large as it was rapid. Three years ago the trade was of little importance. In 1882-83 its value amounted to Rs. 9,11,724 and last year to Rs. 10,87,085. The betelnut trade has also augmented, but more slowly: in 1879-80 its value was Rs. 10,07,443, last year Rs. 14,39,963. A large importation of copper last year must have consisted of Australian or Japanese copper, brought to India *via* Colombo. In gunny bags, cocoanut oil, shells, and timber and woods, there is a fairly large trade. The gunny bags are, so far as they are not required for local packing, sent from Calcutta to Colombo as a matter of convenience and economy as regards freight and thence brought to the ports of Southern India by the small coasting vessels that carry on the local traffic between those places.

Amongst the exports to Ceylon may be noted British and Indian cotton piece goods, cattle, rice and other food-grains and pulse, bones for manure, oils, oilseeds and oilcake, gunny bags, salted fish, flour and other provisions, spices, sugar, teakwood, and manufactures of wood. The trade in rice represented more than half the value of the whole export trade, but the trade has been greatly restricted within the last two years, averaging about 81 lakhs in value against 133 lakhs five years ago. Exports of grain and pulse generally have greatly declined during the last two years. On the other hand the shipments of Indian piece goods have made great progress. Only about 4 million yards were exported in 1882-83, while last year they were just under 6 million yards representing a value of nearly 86 lakhs of rupees. The trade in handkerchiefs, which are used mainly to tie round the head or waist and not for the hand, is a small one and is not progressive. Oilcake and bones are in regular demand for the coffee plantations and the demand is on the whole maintained notwithstanding the depressed condition of the coffee industry. With the extension of tea planting in Ceylon a large export of tea seed from India has commenced. Last year the value of this seed amounted to about 2½ lakhs.

China.

66.

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
1879-80 -	- 5,58,69,579	- 15,73,16,873
1880-81 -	- 3,69,90,455	- 14,98,16,002
1881-82 -	- 4,43,04,687	- 13,63,25,643
1882-83 -	- 4,50,57,306	- 13,17,92,418
1883-84 -	- 4,04,71,114	- 13,20,18,652

These figures include the imports of the precious metals which are large, China being, next to England, the greatest source of supply of gold and silver to India. Exclusive of treasure the figures of trade in merchandise are as follow :—

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
1879-80 -	- 1,57,90,744	- 15,52,36,773
1880-81 -	- 1,98,97,618	- 14,94,36,502
1881-82 -	- 1,54,09,611	- 13,62,50,499
1882-83 -	- 2,07,20,370	- 13,16,01,055
1883-84 -	- 2,13,36,436	- 13,17,56,052

The largest import from China is raw silk. The value of this product last year amounted to Rs. 75,41,874, which was much smaller than the value (Rs. 84,57,304) of the imports of the previous year. It was still, however, very largely in excess of the average value of recent years. Silk piece goods (which stand next in order of importance) on the other hand increased in value to over 40 lakhs from a value of a little over 34 lakhs. Here too the development of trade has been considerable. Sugar—refined and candy—represented a value of Rs. 33,66,057, a very remarkable increase on the value (Rs. 14,42,511) of 1882-83 and on those of recent years. These three items account for nearly 150 out of the 213 lakhs which represented the value of the whole import trade of last year. Less important than these are—

- (1.) Tea, with a value of nearly 20 lakhs last year for a quantity of 2,340,767 lbs., a quantity equal to about 4 per cent. of the whole production of India.
- (2.) Copper, unwrought: value last year Rs. 8,82,607, a reduction of nearly 50 per cent. on the imports of 1882-83, but this is a very variable trade;
- (3.) Drugs (chiefly camphor and cassia lignea), value 8½ lakhs, which is a slightly smaller sum than the value of 1882-83;
- (4.) Glass and glassware, mainly in the form of glass bangles, value Rs. 7,93,135, that of the previous year having been Rs. 9,21,300;
- (5.) Fireworks, value Rs. 3,40,707, a slightly smaller trade than in 1882-83.

None of the remaining items in the list of imports constitute a considerable trade.

The bulk of the imports from China is received from Hong-Kong, tea alone forming an exception to the rule. Of that article much the largest proportion—quite four-fifths last year—is shipped to India direct from the Treaty Ports. The value of this tea constituted about half of the aggregate value of all the imports into India from the Treaty Ports, the aggregate being Rs. 35,60,761 of which tea represented Rs. 17,12,896. The only other goods received in any quantity from the Treaty Ports were sugar and raw silk, the shipments of the former last year being the first of the kind direct from those ports.

There is no re-export trade of importance from India to China. Provisions alone are sent thither in any quantity. These consist mainly of fish maws and shark fins (delicacies much esteemed by Chinese) brought from Sonmiani and the coasts of Arabia to Bombay and thence shipped to China. The value of these last year was a little under 4½ lakhs, and, adding to them the value of fish maws and shark fins obtained from India waters, the total trade in these comestibles reached a value of about 6 lakhs.

It is hardly necessary to say that the staple of the Indian exports to China is opium. This drug last year represented a value of Rs. 10,28,83,526, being 78 per cent. of the whole exports of merchandise from India to China. This sum was a small increase on the value of the trade in 1882-83, Rs. 10,14,00,789 which was 77 per cent. of that year's trade. The number of chests exported was in—

1882-83 -	-	-	-	-	80,696
1883-84 -	-	-	-	-	83,728

of these 27,481 were shipped direct to Treaty Ports last year and 56,239 to Hong-Kong.

The other exports to China which need remark are—

- (1) Cotton twist and yarn—

	Lbs.	Rs.
Exports in 1882-83 -	- 37,372,185	- 1,49,78,944
„ 1883-84 -	- 41,040,629	- 1,58,54,907

China is much the largest market outside India for Bombay twist, and the trade has nearly doubled itself within the last five years. The outbreak of hostilities between France and China has therefore been regarded with grave concern by the millowners of Bombay, and no doubt if hostilities are prolonged the mills will suffer heavily by the interruption and dislocation of this very important trade. The export of manufactured

cotton goods is by no means large as yet, though it is increasing. The value last year was Rs. 3,18,445.

(2.) Raw cotton.

	Cwt.	Rs.
1882-83 - - -	368,556 -	95,16,692
1883-84 - - -	313,226 -	74,56,541

(3.) Gunny bags, of which 14,669,343 were exported last year, value Rs. 18,25,136, and it may be added that gunny cloth to the value of a little less than 2½ lakhs were also exported last year. Under both heads the trade sensibly increased.

Thus while the Bombay cotton mills found Chinese customers for their goods to the value of nearly 162 lakhs, the Calcutta jute mills found custom in China to the extent of about 21 lakhs—a total support from that country to the mill industry of India of 183 lakhs of rupees. Any circumstances which tend to interrupt such an extensive trade as this cannot but be viewed with anxiety.

(4.) Saltpetre—mainly used in the manufacture of fireworks—value of trade last year a little under 9 lakhs.

The other exports to China are comparatively unimportant and require no particular mention.

The proportion of the export trade which is directed to the Treaty Ports of China is much larger than is the proportion of the import trade. While exports to Hong-Kong last year amounted to Rs. 9,76,91,343 the trade to the Treaty Ports aggregated Rs. 3,40,64,709, or a little less than three tenths of the whole. Nearly all this sum represented the value of opium, of which a substantial proportion (27,489 chests out of the 83,728 shipped last year) is taken direct to the Treaty Ports.

Japan.

67. The direct imports from Japan are of no importance. The value of the exports thither was last year Rs. 28,78,721. The bulk of this trade consists of cotton twist, which finds in Japan a yearly extending circle of demand, as the following figures indicate:—

	Lbs.	Rs.
1879-80 - - -	1,814,090 -	7,82,556
1880-81 - - -	2,142,896 -	9,76,571
1881-82 - - -	2,921,000 -	12,73,251
1882-83 - - -	5,600,600 -	22,26,723
1883-84 - - -	6,247,470 -	24,60,472

Last year a consignment of teakwood was sent to Japan, the first of the kind, representing a value of a little under 2 lakhs. The shipments of gunny bags (579,500 in number, value Rs. 1,18,686) were also very much larger (seven times) than the exports of the previous year which were the first on record. The trade in cotton piece goods is still small though increasing. The direct exports of Indian merchandise to Japan have augmented so steadily and quickly during the last five years that the figures are of interest, showing as they do the expansion in the trade in Indian twist:—

	Rs.
1879-80 - - -	8,36,921
1880-81 - - -	10,56,999
1881-82 - - -	13,41,852
1882-83 - - -	22,98,242
1883-84 - - -	28,75,482

Java.

68. Practically nothing is imported from Java, and the exports thither are of no importance. There is a small but increasing export of cotton twist, the value of which last year reached Rs. 1,45,990. In 1882-83 there was an active export of rice from Burma to this island, but it fell to next to nothing last year.

Persia.

69.

	Imports. Rs.	Exports. Rs.
1879-80 - - -	59,26,794 -	1,25,36,000
1880-81 - - -	53,53,726 -	1,23,01,612
1881-82 - - -	55,67,253 -	1,27,76,147
1882-83 - - -	76,63,397 -	1,29,80,360
1883-84 - - -	77,32,768 -	1,47,66,721

These sums include treasure. The imports of merchandise, treasure being excluded, were as follow for the same years :—

Rs.
53,72,103
49,08,732
49,36,205
57,36,204
56,39,728

The imports which represent the largest value are dates and other dried fruits (about 11½ lakhs last year)—a tolerably steady trade, but giving little sign of advance.

Raw cotton stands next, but it is not an increasing trade. It is used in the Bombay mills as a substitute for Indian cotton when the supply of the latter is not sufficient for requirements or the price runs to too high a level. When there are large crops in Indian and prices in the European market are comparatively low, Bombay millowners have little inducement to buy cotton from Persia. Last year a little less than 43,000 cwt. were imported, a larger quantity than in 1882-83, but the price was a good deal lower.

Pearls come next, with a value of Rs. 6,59,700 last year, but there is little doubt that these figures do not represent the whole of the imports. Horses are also an item of some importance: last year 1,502 were imported on a declared valuation of Rs. 4,78,410, giving them an average value of 318 each. Horse dealers in Bombay, which is the place to which these horses are brought, must make handsome profits if these declarations of value are correct.

Raw wool and madder (or manjit) are also articles in which there is a fairly large trade. The imports of madder last year (Rs. 3,85,440) were greatly in excess of the trade of previous years. The imports of asafœtida on the other hand were somewhat smaller than in 1882-83. Raw silk also fell off by nearly 50 per cent.

The exports of merchandise are as follow :—

		Foreign (re-exports).		Indian
		Rs.		Rs.
1879-80	-	70,14,694	-	33,06,852
1880-81	-	72,26,267	-	32,10,243
1881-82	-	89,43,804	-	27,63,634
1882-83	-	92,06,424	-	30,32,361
1883-84	-	1,09,33,919	-	28,10,767

Bombay has thus become more and more a depôt for the reception of European goods and their reshipment to Persia, while Indian goods do not appear to find extended markets in that country. The principal products of Indian origin comprised in this trade are indigo and rice. The trade in indigo does not give signs of increasing: last year the exports were valued at less than 8 lakhs, the value in 1882-83 having been over 11 lakhs, and the quantity was proportionately smaller. The value of the exports of rice was 7¼ lakhs, an increase on the trade of the previous year, but this is a fluctuating trade the condition of which depends upon the outturn of crops in Persia. Five years ago it was nearly twice as large as it was last year. Indian twist and piece goods find a very small and restricted market in Persia and there are no other goods exported which are worth mention. English twist and piece goods on the contrary are largely and increasingly in demand, coloured goods especially, and the re-exports of twist last year (936,775 lbs., value Rs. 5,46,514) were double those of 1882-83. The value of cotton manufactures in 1882-83, was Rs. 65,22,626, last year it was Rs. 69,90,559. Sugar was re-exported to the value of nearly 15 lakhs, and the trade in copper iron and other metals is also active and increasing. Of China tea 414,869 lbs., value Rs. 3,94,444, were exported. This is an increasing trade to the existence of which the notice of the tea planters of India was drawn in the review of trade for 1882-83 as indicating, with other known facts as to the import of Java tea into Persia, an outlet for their leaf which should not be neglected. Nothing seems to have been done, however, as yet, for the export of Indian tea to Persia in 1883-84 reached only 13,269 lbs.

70.		Imports.		Exports.	
		Rs.		Rs.	
	1879-80	-	1,42,36,515	-	2,74,87,723
	1880-81	-	1,55,16,902	-	3,18,32,688
	1881-82	-	1,62,87,220	-	3,54,09,253
	1882-83	-	1,67,31,307	-	3,65,73,398
	1883-84	-	1,70,98,658	-	3,08,83,266

Straits
Settle-
ments.

Of merchandise alone the imports and exports were :—

Imports.		Exports.	
Rs.		Rs.	
1,27,86,448	-	2,72,32,976	-
1,47,62,440	-	3,16,17,470	-
1,54,18,852	-	3,52,41,043	-
1,59,66,919	-	3,63,87,345	-
1,61,28,886	-	3,06,53,028	-

The principal imports are :—

- (1.) Spices, mainly betelnuts and pepper. Value of imports Rs. 23,90,846 which is a slight increase on the trade of 1882-83. The trade in betelnuts was nearly doubled, and the imports of pepper were reduced by more than 50 per cent., the relative positions of the two spices being almost exactly reversed and the general result but little affected.
- (2.) Tin, unwrought : 38,167 cwt., value just over 23 lakhs, were imported. In 1882-83 the imports amounted to 41,657 cwt., representing a value of 27 lakhs ; but the imports of last year were still very considerably larger than the average of recent years.
- (3.) Silk, raw : value Rs. 18,37,774—a moderate increase on the trade of the preceding year.
- (4.) Silk piece-goods : value a little over 9 lakhs : also a moderate increase.
- (5.) Salted fish : value Rs. 8,16,465.
- (6.) Other provisions were imported to a value somewhat in excess of the value of salted fish.

Amongst other goods imported in smaller quantities from the Straits are coffee, sugar, gambier, cotton goods, camphor, cocoanuts, tea, and umbrellas ; some of them the products of the Settlement itself, others brought to Singapore and Penang as a depôt from China, Java, the Philippines, and other parts for reshipment to India or elsewhere. As the trade in these goods and in the others detailed in the long list given in the returns is of comparatively small importance, it is not necessary to recapitulate the figures of the year.

European cotton goods to the value of 16½ lakhs were re-exported last year to the Straits, the trade being a little in excess of the previous year's. It is not an increasing trade, however, as that in Indian cotton goods certainly is. The exports of Indian piece-goods have increased in five years from 965,939 yards to 3,799,104 yards, and their value from Rs. 3,15,581 to Rs. 12,57,752, steady progress being exhibited each year. The two most important items in the export trade, however, are opium and rice. The trade in opium was in :—

	Chests.	Rs.
1882-83 -	10,316	value 1,24,90,570
1883-84 -	7,320	„ 89,43,170

these being the lowest figures reached for the last five years. In rice also there was a material restriction of trade :—

	Cwt.	Rs.
1882-83 -	4,092,521	value 1,21,01,949
1883-84 -	2,469,976	„ 91,26,870

The other more important items are :—

- (1.) Gunny bags : value last year 17½ lakhs—a reduction in the value of the previous year due to reduction of price, for the number exported was slightly larger.
- (2.) Cotton, raw. This trade nearly doubled itself during the year, rising to a tolerably high figure.

	Cwt.	Rs.
1882-83 -	34,569	value 6,70,084
1883-84 -	66,282	„ 13,53,159

- (3.) Jadestone : value Rs. 8,12,960. This is sent to the Straits mainly for re-shipment to China. It is subject to considerable fluctuation, owing to the situation of the jade mines in Independent Burma, and the uncertainty of business, which depends upon the capricious action of Burmese officials.

Raw and dressed hides, horses and cattle, wax, ghee, fish maws and shark fins, castor oil, essential seeds, silk pieces-goods, and cutch are amongst the other articles

exported to the Straits; but the trade in these does not offer any feature of special interest, nor are the figures of much importance. On the whole, the total value of the exports of Indian produce to the Straits exhibits a notable reduction, which is due to the restriction in those two great items, opium and rice.

71. There was some development in the import trade last year, the value of the betelnuts sent to India—these constituting the whole of the trade—having risen to over six lakhs of rupees, more than double the value of the trade in 1882–83. Rice, cotton piece-goods, and teakwood were exported, but in small quantities, and the direct trade with Sumatra is still quite insignificant.

72.

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1879–80 - -	41,53,697	40,10,883
1880–81 - -	38,53,706	39,58,861
1881–82 - -	46,69,438	35,91,764
1882–83 - -	63,51,650	42,36,121
1883–84 - -	49,07,218	40,07,404

Sumatra.
Turkey in
Asia.

More than half the average annual value of imports represents treasure.

The largest trade is in dates, of which the value last year was $10\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs: it exhibits no tendency to increase, rather the reverse. The production last year is said to have been below the average. Wheat represented a value of $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and horses of $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. There is nothing else worth mentioning. The whole trade in merchandise aggregated Rs. 22,27,269—a sum which was rather smaller than the value of the preceding year.

About half of the exports are re-exports of foreign merchandise, of which English piece goods (Rs. 10,21,594) and sugar (Rs. 3,45,035) comprised the bulk last year, as they always do. Hardly any Indian piece goods are taken, and the only Indian exports of consequence are indigo (10 lakhs), gunny bags (over $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs), and coffee (under 2 lakhs). There has been a material restriction in the exports of coffee during the last two years. The trade in bags is an increasing one. For indigo the demand is tolerably steady, but hardly progressing.

73. Trade is practically confined to the export of opium—a trade which commenced three years ago. Exports last year 771 chests, value Rs. 9,38,735. This business is increasing.

Cochin
China
(Saigon).

74.

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1879–80 - -	25,24,014	45,98,940
1880–81 - -	40,69,671	53,33,284
1881–82 - -	1,55,91,495	80,37,633
1882–83 - -	1,90,22,740	1,08,89,183
1883–84 - -	2,47,78,644	59,68,946

Australia.

Excluding treasure, the figures stand thus for merchandise for the same years —

Imports.
Rs.
24,43,600
11,20,552
22,59,890
47,65,914
55,72,292

The figures for exports all relate to merchandise, no gold or silver being sent to Australia from India.

Horses and copper are still, as they have always been, the principal imports. The considerable development of trade during the last two years occurs under these two heads and that of coal, which is the only other import of any consequence. The imports of copper last year were 80,297 cwt., valued at Rs. 34,06,449. The horses imported numbered 3,272, value Rs. 12,72,760, the number being only 56 in excess of those imported in 1882–83. The average price, however, has largely increased, from Rs. 332 to Rs. 390. Coal represented a value of Rs. 4,90,722 last year. There were various other increases in minor articles, due mainly to the importation of goods for show at the Calcutta International Exhibition, but nothing which invites particular mention.

The number of gunny bags exported to Australia fell from 21,867,902 in 1882-83 to 12,543,198 in 1883-84, and their value from Rs. 74,27,255 to Rs. 40,78,909. This great shrinkage of trade, in what is by a long way the most important article in the exports from India to Australia, largely affected the aggregate of trade.

Tea also was reduced from 2,772,461 lbs. to 379,204 lbs., and its value from Rs. 18,17,789 to Rs. 2,43,384. Rice fell from Rs. 3,49,055 to Rs. 2,64,025; raw jute from Rs. 1,59,085 to Rs. 1,19,575; and teakwood from Rs. 2,16,098 to Rs. 1,980. The returns of the export trade, in short, are wholly unsatisfactory. The tea trade, from which much was hoped, has practically collapsed, for the present at any rate, and in every other article of any importance there has been a serious restriction of trade. Much has been said in connexion with the Melbourne Exhibition of 1880-81 and the Calcutta Exhibition of 1883-84 of the capacity of India and the Colonies to develop an extensive commercial interchange with profit to both countries, and it cannot be doubted that the trade is susceptible of being developed in course of time to dimensions equal to those of the trade between India and any other country, England excepted. But it seems clear enough that the time has not yet arrived, and that those who expect great things immediately will be disappointed, especially those who think that there is a great market in India for Australian products and manufactures. In the review of trade for 1882-83, I referred to the causes which at present obstruct the progress of Indo-Australian trade, and it is not necessary to revert to them here; it is sufficient to say that their removal must be the work of time, and that they will not disappear until the Australian Colonies become much more largely a manufacturing country than they are now, and until the fiscal policy of the Colonial Administrations is radically altered. In the tea trade alone was it possible for India at once to secure a great Australian market now monopolised by China, but the chances of success in this direction have been materially affected by causes which will be stated in the general remarks in the section of this review which treats of the export trade under the head of Tea.

IMPORT TRADE.

75. A change has been made in the returns. The simple alphabetical enumeration of articles has given place to a classification under certain main heads and sub-heads in accordance with the system adopted in the English and French returns of trade. The heads adopted are those noted below. In each case the total value of the imports of the last two years is also given.

	1882-83. Rs.	1883-84. Rs.
I.—ANIMALS, LIVING - - -	19,03,825	20,75,017
II.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK	5,14,50,672	5,38,19,820
III.—RAW MATERIALS AND UNMANUFACTURED ARTICLES - - -	3,03,87,381	3,08,86,740
IV.—ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED—		
(a.) Yarns and textile fabrics - - -	26,95,59,800	27,68,29,865
(b.) Metals and manufactures of metal - - -	5,40,77,770	5,98,94,297
(c.) Machinery and mill-work - - -	1,34,23,985	1,78,88,682
(d.) Apparel - - -	86,26,011	97,38,110
(e.) Chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics and dyeing and tanning materials - - -	83,78,253	87,69,884
(f.) Other articles manufactured - - -	5,17,13,741	6,05,87,635
Total of IV. - - -	40,57,79,560	43,37,08,473
V.—OILS - - -	1,05,08,967	65,42,278
GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS - - -	50,00,30,405	52,70,32,328

76. The value of the imports under the first of these heads is quite trifling compared to the gross total. Under the second head—articles of food and drink—the value amounted to 10 per cent. of the gross total of the year. In this head are comprised the important items of liquors, provisions (including oilman's stores, dried fruits, salted fish and other edibles), salt, spices, sugar.

The third head—raw materials and unmanufactured goods—comprises the two important items of coal and raw silk, which represent about two-thirds of the total under this head. The aggregate of this head is not more than 5.8 per cent. of the gross total of imports.

The fourth and most important of these heads represented more than 82 per cent. of the whole import trade. Under this head the items of cotton twist and cotton goods represent nearly 58 per cent. of the whole head, while they also represent 47.6 per cent. of the whole imports of merchandise into India.

77. The following are the principal goods imported into India, arranged in the order of their importance during the year, with the value of the trade in each item in each of the last five years :—

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Cotton goods (including twist and yarn) -	19,66,08,170	26,60,98,935	23,39,41,634	24,81,00,625	25,10,83,306
2. Metals, including hardware and cutlery, &c. -	3,84,51,931	4,33,22,336	4,14,34,866	5,40,77,770	5,98,94,297
3. Silk, raw, and manufactures -	1,52,11,255	2,41,74,021	1,96,09,163	2,05,19,229	2,17,09,230
4. Machinery and millwork -	61,68,327	76,98,437	1,22,10,454	1,84,23,985	1,78,88,682
5. Railway plant and rolling stock -	1,03,30,492	1,11,77,649	1,07,95,093	1,11,64,342	1,63,32,830
6. Liquors -	1,30,92,845	4,38,65,658	1,30,86,720	1,33,46,139	1,38,93,773
7. Woollen goods -	92,78,764	1,29,91,299	1,12,12,320	98,48,725	1,21,70,531
8. Coal -	1,13,82,075	1,23,98,552	1,02,00,436	1,01,98,835	1,16,37,904
9. Sugar, refined and unrefined -	1,06,87,881	1,61,11,572	1,24,37,580	1,08,69,610	1,14,83,701
10. Provisions -	1,04,88,322	92,01,815	1,05,30,831	1,08,71,862	1,03,39,314
11. Apparel (including haberdashery and millinery, boots and shoes, but excluding hosiery) -	57,41,552	71,76,858	72,17,540	86,26,011	97,38,110
12. Oils -	54,59,315	52,91,746	56,05,853	1,05,08,967	65,42,278
13. Salt -	76,25,321	66,55,174	56,90,671	51,51,838	62,30,110
14. Glass and glassware -	32,93,209	38,02,409	45,48,024	48,37,427	56,00,615
15. Spices -	52,63,283	54,28,610	50,71,379	51,08,537	55,71,094
Total -	34,90,82,742	44,53,95,071	40,95,92,564	43,66,53,903	46,01,15,775

In no other item does the trade amount to as much as 50 lakhs in value and in every case it is a great deal below that sum.

These items may conveniently be treated in the order of classification given above.

78. The horses imported numbered altogether 5,667, which was 194 more than in 1882-83: value 20½ lakhs, a figure which when compared with the value of the previous year (Rs. 18,68,150) indicates a better stamp of horses and a corresponding higher price. Australia remains the main source of supply and with the substitution which has to some extent been effected of steamers for sailing vessels in the transport of the animals, the trade is being conducted in more satisfactory conditions for the beasts as well as their owners. Arrangements are being made now by the head of the remount department of the army, who has been sent to the Colonies for the purpose, to introduce a system by which a certain stamp of horses will be bred and imported for the cavalry. For Western India the shores of the Persian Gulf produce all the horses imported. Importations of horses, mainly from Australia, have greatly increased during the last few years.

The trade in animals other than horses is quite trifling.

79. This head includes :—

Coffee.
Fruits and Vegetables.
Grain and Pulse.
Hops.
Liquors.

Provisions.
Salt.
Spices.
Sugar.
Tea.

CLASS II.
Articles of
food and
drink.

80. *Coffee*.—Mostly imported from the Straits into Bombay and chiefly intended for re-export when it is almost always declared and shipped as Indian coffee. The imports, however, are neither large nor increasing, last year they were only 22,231 cwt., value under 5¼ lakhs.

81. *Fruits and Vegetables*.—An increasing trade, value last year Rs. 22,37,196. The heading is apt to mislead, for the largest part of the value (19½ lakhs) represents cocoanuts and cocoanut kernels which are imported from Ceylon, the Maldives and the Straits for the expression of oil, not to be eaten.

82. *Grain and Pulse*.—A small trade in ordinary times in India, assuming importance only when famine afflicts the land.

83. *Hops*.—Although hops have been produced with success in Kashmir, the production has as yet been so small that India may be said still to be entirely dependent upon the imported article. The imports have certainly not increased in proportion to the extension of brewing operations. These are the figures for the last five years :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	3,185	2,716	2,795	1,940	2,802.

The reduction in 1882-83 was coincident with an excessive rise in prices caused by the failure of the hop crop in England. How the Indian brewers have managed to increase their production of beer without materially increasing their stock of hops is a matter for conjecture; perhaps they have practised judicious economy, perhaps they have used innocuous substitutes. Anyhow their beer is wholesome and sound.

84. *Liquors*.—The importation of beer shows hardly any, if any, tendency to increase :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Gallons -	1,065,347	1,152,678	1,199,395	1,170,554	1,261,444

And yet with the increasing European population, it would have progressed with sensible rapidity if it had not been replaced by country-brewed beer, by other liquors, or if the consumption had not been reduced by the spread of temperance. Probably all three causes have combined to restrict the consumption of malt liquor. A great taste has been developed for the lighter beers of German origin, especially what is known as Pilsener. Even Bass and Company have had to brew a lighter tap for Indian consumption.

In connexion with beer it may be of interest to state the quantity brewed in the country. The figures given by the brewers are these :

	Gallons.	Gallons.	
1878 - - - -	1,522,769	1881 - - - -	2,448,711
1879 - - - -	1,569,026	1882 - - - -	2,591,667
1880 - - - -	1,974,578	1883 - - - -	2,597,298

This shows an increase of more than 2 million gallons within the last five years. In 1883 the army took 1,936,221 gallons, leaving 661,077 gallons for consumption by the public, being rather more than half as much as was imported. The purchases for the army have much more than doubled within the last five years, for in 1879 they amounted to no more than 872,096 gallons. The operations of the brewers of Northern India are being widely extended now. A brewery is at work at Lucknow producing excellent beer, another is being established at Darjeeling, a third is projected at Poona, and a fourth at Peshin in Southern Afghanistan. Within the next three or four years the production will probably increase by another million gallons.

85. *Spirits*.—In these too the trade gives no particular indication of advance :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Gallons -	814,334	848,238	842,739	949,169	894,420

The increase has been under 10 per cent. in five years, or an average of less than 2 per cent. annually. As far as European consumption is concerned, it may be affirmed that it has hardly, if at all, increased, but considerable quantities of very cheap spirit are imported for native consumption. In whisky there is a continued increase with a continued decline in brandy.

86. *Wines and Liqueurs*.—Imports in :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Gallons -	443,985	481,153	430,900	418,169	422,140

This is an increase of less than one per cent. in the year, but the trade is still materially smaller than it has been in recent years. The consumption of claret and sherry has

decidedly been restricted, while in other wines there is not much change in the extent of trade. Attempts were made, with doubtful success, at the Calcutta Exhibition to introduce Australian wines to the Indian public. These wines have against them no doubt two facts: they have not been manufactured to stand the Indian climate and will not keep well here, and also certain improvements are required to remove a flavour which is peculiar to some of them. But the chief obstacle is that people who drink wine are generally conservative in their predilections.

87. The money value of the liquor of all kinds imported was, in—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Rs.	Rs.
Malt liquor - - -	27,23,226	30,32,236
Spirits - - -	67,49,693	68,20,983
Wines and liqueurs - - -	38,45,705	40,11,383
Other sorts - - -	27,515	29,171
Total - - -	1,33,46,139	1,38,93,773

being an increase in value of just over 4 per cent., which was more than double the increase in quantity.

88. It may be noted here that the Customs authorities in Bombay mention the fact that large importations have been made there of cheap spirit, much over proof, in wood, and that empty brandy bottles fetch a good price in the local market, especially if the labels are intact. This seems to be a matter for investigation by the officers of health and police.

89. *Provisions.*—Of the specified kinds of provisions, dates from the Persian Gulf and salted fish from the Straits and the Mekran coast are the most important. Dates last year represented a value of close on 24½ lakhs, a smaller figure than in recent years, the result of poor crops in the palm groves of Asiatic Turkey. The value of salted fish was 10½ lakhs. A considerable proportion of the salted fish imported from the Straits is, with the evil-smelling preparation known in Burma as *ngapee*, a paste universally used by Burmans as a condiment with their rice, sent on to Upper Burma for consumption there. The fish brought from Mekran and Sonmiani is salted whole and is consumed in Western India. Cheese is imported for consumption by the European population, to the value of more than 3½ lakhs a year. Very little is made in India, and that little not good, but there would seem to be an opening for a profitable industry in this direction, as well as in the manufacture of butter. Why do not some of the philanthropists who are trying to settle Eurasians on farms in the hills think of this as an industry that might be very profitable? Flour was imported last year to a larger extent than ever, 2½ million pounds, worth nearly 2½ lakhs: an unnecessary import if ever there was one, for India should be able not only to make all the flour required for local needs, but to export flour of excellent quality on the largest scale. In “Other sorts” of provisions—in large proportion canned meats, fruits and vegetables, oils, sauces and condiments, and other luxuries for European consumption—the trade was slightly smaller than in 1882-83; it is one of considerable extent, the value last year being Rs. 41,65,271.

90. *Salt.*—The imports amounted to 383,089 tons, an increase of 45,024 tons on the trade of 1882-83, being at the rate of 13·3 per cent. The value was Rs. 62,30,110. Of this quantity 302,752 tons were Cheshire salt, 19,998 tons came from Egyptian Red Sea ports, 18,564 tons from Persia and Arabia (Muscat and Red Sea ports), 21,871 tons from Italy, 10,336 tons from France, and 9,194 tons from Germany. Burma received 48,197 tons and Bengal 334,603 tons.

91. *Spices.*—Betelnuts represented rather more than three-fifths of the whole value of the spices imported. The trade largely increased during the year. These nuts are imported most largely from the Straits,—Ceylon and Sumatra (the latter to a smaller extent) furnishing the rest. Madras received about two-thirds of the whole quantity, that is, 20½ million pounds out of 30½ million pounds. There would seem to be a considerable difference in the quality of these nuts, those from Ceylon being much more highly priced than those from the Straits, while the Sumatran nuts are more valuable than either. It is probable, however, that not much trust can be placed in the accuracy of the values furnished for this article. In Cloves there was a great fall in price. The quantity imported was a little larger than in 1882-83, while values were much smaller. This spice is imported almost exclusively from Zanzibar into Bombay. The impor-

tation of Pepper has been steadily declining for years and has now reached a low point. As this spice is largely produced in India, whence it is exported in great quantities, there ought to be little or no occasion at all for its importation into the country. The aggregate value of the spices of all kinds imported was close on 55½ lakhs. The trade is but slowly increasing.

92. *Sugar*.—Total imports of refined and candied sugar, which is the bulk of the trade:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	669,348	729,321
Rs. -	1,08,56,003	1,14,61,689

Prices have fallen and have continued falling since the end of the year. Beet sugar in Europe has been selling recently at from 11s. to 12s. a cwt., a price at which it is difficult for cane sugar to compete. With such a range of low prices in Europe and with good seasons in India, it may be expected that Mauritius and China sugar will be brought in largely increasing quantities to this country, and in fact in the first four months of the present year the imports have been double those of the same period of last year. With the exception of a small quantity imported into Burma from the Straits the whole of the sugar brought to India is imported into Bombay.

93. *Tea*.—Imports have exceeded three million pounds, value 23½ lakhs, a considerable increase on the trade of the previous year. More than 2½ million pounds of this quantity were imported into Bombay. The augmentation of trade was in green tea, a kind which is imported almost exclusively for re-export to Persia and Afghanistan. Much of it goes across the frontier over the railway to Quetta and Kandahar. In black tea, which is consumed in India itself, there was a restriction of trade which is so far satisfactory as indicating that Indian tea to some extent displaced China tea.

CLASS III.
Raw material, and unmanufactured articles.

94. A much less important class than the one which has just been treated of, although it contains seventeen more specified items. The items are:—

Canes and rattans.	Manures.
Caoutchouc.	Natural curiosities.
Coal and coke.	Pearls and precious stones.
Coir.	Pitch, tar, and dammer.
Cotton.	Plants, living.
Feathers.	Seeds.
Flax and hemp.	Shells and cowries.
Gums and rasins.	Silk.
Hides and skins.	Stone and marble.
Horns.	Tallow.
Ivory.	Wax.
Jade.	Wood and timber.
Jute.	Wool.
Lac, stick.	

95. *Coal* is the most important by a long way of these items, representing about a third of their aggregate value. Imports of coal, coke and patent fuel:—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Tons -	590,923	683,768	637,124	638,824	708,358
Rs. -	1,13,82,075	1,23,98,552	1,02,00,436	1,01,98,835	1,16,37,904

Most of this is imported into Bombay (half a million tons last year). In Bengal Raniganj coal is now mostly used for industrial purposes and what is imported is mainly if not wholly for supply to steamers. The considerable increase in the imports last year points to increased activity in the Bombay mills as well as to increased demand by shipping. A period may now be reasonably anticipated when, by reason of the extension of railways in the near future, and the reduction of freights in the coasting trade, it will be possible to supply Bombay with Indian coal more cheaply than with imported coal.

96. *Cotton*.—A small trade, limited to the import of between 40 and 50,000 cwt. from Persia for the Bombay cotton mills.

97. *Ivory*.—There was a slight increase of trade—462,403 lbs. imported, being 14,000 lbs. more than in 1882-83, but it was still below the level of the average of previous years.

98. *Silk*.—Imports in—

	1882-83.		1883-84.
Lbs. -	2,386,150	-	3,210,893
Rs. -	1,07,41,556	-	96,95,749

A fluctuating trade with on the whole a tendency to increase. The silk is mostly Chinese, imported into Bombay for the mills there and for handloom work and embroidery. A fairly large quantity is imported into Burma where an extensive manufacture of *putsoes* and *tamains* is carried on by women in their own homes. It is surprising that no silk mill has been as yet started in that province, where the population extensively wear silk garments, and that silk locally manufactured by machinery has not taken the place, to some extent at least, of imports of silk goods from Europe, from Bombay, and from China.

99. *Pearls and Precious Stones*.—A very fluctuating trade, but there has been a continuous decline in the recorded value for the last three years. Last year it represented only 13½ lakhs, but the figures are hardly trustworthy. These are mostly pearls from the Persian Gulf imported into Bombay and whether as regards these, or as regards gems brought from Europe or elsewhere, it may be assumed that much escapes registration and that for what is registered the values cannot always be trusted.

100. *Wood*.—This is not a trade of any importance. It attracts notice only by reason of the great increase in the imports of teak. Last year 4,600 cubic tons were imported from Siam, the Straits, and Ceylon. Before 1882-83 it may be said that there was practically no trade. Considering this increase with the restriction in the export of teak from Burma, it may be reasonably inferred that that province can no longer supply all demands at a reasonable price.

101. *Wool*.—A little over 2½ million pounds imported into Bombay and Sind, mostly from the shores of the Persian Gulf and the Mekran coast. It is re-exported as Indian wool to Europe. It is not a progressive trade.

102. This class is divided into six sub-classes, which comprise all the most important items of merchandise in the lists of imports, those which constitute the staple and bulk of the import trade. The aggregate value of the trade in this class is about four-fifths of the whole Indian import trade.

The total value of the trade in the items comprised in this class was last year Rs. 27,68,29,865, being 52½ per cent. of the whole import trade.

CLASS IV.
Articles
manufactured and
partly manu-
factured.
A.—Yarns
and textile
fabrics.

103. *Cotton Twist and Yarn*.—Imports in—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Lbs. -	33,212,952	45,876,575	40,761,751	44,859,175	45,378,956
Rs. -	2,74,53,060	3,69,91,768	3,22,20,648	3,37,81,904	3,46,59,429

Very little twist below No. 33 was imported, the lower qualities to No. 32 having been to a great extent displaced by Indian made twist.

104. *Cotton Manufactures*.—Value of imports—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Rs. -	16,91,55,110	22,91,07,167	20,77,20,986	21,43,18,721	21,64,23,877

As in the case of twist, manufactured goods exhibit a small advance in value during the year, the advance however being less than one per cent. The import of grey (unbleached) piece goods has declined each year since 1880-81. Last year the quantity imported (1,079,938,865 yards) was 6,346,807 yards short of the quantity imported in 1882-83. There was a much larger proportionate decrease in coloured piece goods, which amounted to 299,536,491 yards, being 21,399,427 yards short of the trade in 1882-83. White (bleached) goods on the other hand recovered from the low point to which they fell in 1882-83, and an import of 342,367,839 yards was reached, a quantity largely in excess of previous imports.

It cannot be said that the trade in cotton piece goods, taken as a whole, gives any particular indications of development. If the trade of last year is compared with that of 1879-80, it shows an increase of nearly 30 per cent., but the trade has made practically no advance on the start which was made in the following year, although in the interval import duties have been taken off, the population has increased, and good harvests have kept the people fairly comfortable. The fact probably is that the supply from Manchester has permanently overtaken the consumption of this country. Various causes have combined to lead manufacturers and exporters to keep throwing large supplies of goods on the Indian markets in the hope that they would be worked off. This hope, however, has been disappointed, and has been so far followed by complaints of the tendency to low prices and the inability of the Indian market to respond to the expectations formed of it. The production of piece goods in the Indian mills has, of course, to a sensible extent restricted the market open for imported piece goods. Compared with the trade of 1882-83, imports of piece goods exhibit an increase of 5 per cent. in quantity and of less than one per cent. in value.

105. *Flax and Hemp*.—The trade does not increase. Value of imports last year a little over 11 lakhs, of which canvas represented about half. The trade in hempen goods is quite insignificant.

106. *Jute*.—The imports are chiefly gunny bags from Ceylon, and represent Calcutta bags shipped to Colombo as a matter of convenience and economy in freight and thence brought to Southern Indian ports.

107. *Silk*.—In piece goods of silk and of silk mixed with other materials there was a considerable increase of trade in the year, the value having risen from 97½ lakhs to 120 lakhs, with a corresponding increase in quantity. Little less than half of the whole imports of silk piece goods was taken to Burma alone, the greater part of the rest being imported into Bombay. It is only in these two provinces that silk is commonly worn by the natives. Elsewhere the use of silk is to a great extent limited to the European population.

B.—Metals,
and manu-
factures of
metals..

108. The total value of imports under this sub-class was, in—					
1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
3,84,51,931	4,33,22,336	4,14,34,866	5,40,77,770	5,98,94,297	

a large increase due mainly to augmented imports of copper and iron.

Hardware and Cutlery.—The value of the imports reached Rs. 81,38,871, an increase of about 2½ lakhs in the year. This trade has greatly developed in recent years. Five or six years ago it was only about half as large as it is now. Some of the increase of last year is to be attributed to the importation of goods for the International Exhibition at Calcutta.

109. *Brass*.—A small though increasing trade. Brass is extensively manufactured in India from imported copper and tin.

110. *Copper*.—There were 530,226 cwt. imported last year, an increase of 80,128 cwt. on the imports 1882-83. The value was Rs. 2,20,78,413, value in 1882-83, Rs. 1,93,83,758, an increase of nearly 27 lakhs. Of this quantity, 163,435 cwt. was unwrought copper (a large increase in this), 200,889 cwt. was mixed or yellow metal for the sheathing of ships' bottoms and 162,259 cwt. was sheet copper and other manufactures of the metal. Nearly four-fifths of the whole was received from the United Kingdom: Australia sent 80,367 cwt., and China and Japan 24,974 cwt.

111. *Iron*.—Imports in —

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	2,111,156	2,665,604	2,452,507	3,151,935	3,583,662
Rs. -	1,22,93,847	1,54,75,409	1,41,43,838	1,87,04,937	2,14,04,911

With a very low range of prices for the metal and increased industrial and railway development in India, the trade has progressed rapidly. The largest imports

are under these heads: (1) bar, (2) sheets and plates, including tinned plates, (3) angle, bolt, and rod, (4) beams, pillars, girders and bridge-work, (5) galvanised, (6) nails, screws and rivets, (7) hoops, (8) pipes and tubes. In galvanised iron, now extensively used for roofing, the trade has doubled within the last two years.

The imports of *Steel* have also greatly increased. The quantity has nearly trebled in five years, having risen from 95,953 cwt. to 253,426 cwt.; about half of the whole quantity consists of hoops for bales.

112. In *Tin* also the trade has greatly expanded in the last five years, the quantity imported having risen from 20,840 cwt. to 38,988 cwt. Of this quantity all but 821 cwt. consisted of block tin from the Straits. Imports of *Lead* amounted to 82,564 cwt. of which nearly half was imported in the form of sheets for the lining of tea chests. The trade is not on the whole a quickly increasing one except in regard to tea-lead for which of course the demand widens with the extension of tea production. Nor is the trade in *Zinc* or *Spelter* an increasing one. In *Quicksilver* the returns indicate a small and fluctuating business.

The aggregate value of the metals imported last year (excluding hardware and cutlery) was 517½ lakhs; five years ago it was 341½ lakhs. The quantity has increased in the same period from 2,831,465 cwt. to 4,648,721 cwt.

113. *Machinery and Millwork*.—The value of the imports under this head reached last year the large sum of nearly 179 lakhs. The figures for the last five years are of interest as indicating in some way the industrial development of the country.

1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
61,68,327	76,98,437	1,22,10,454	1,34,23,985	1,78,88,682

The remarkably good profit made by the Calcutta jute mills in 1882 tempted the owners to make large extensions, and it is estimated that about a thousand additional looms were arranged for altogether. New cotton mills also are constantly being projected and constructed, and, in other, industries factory enterprise has been conspicuous for the last two or three years. Hence the great increase in the imports of machinery and millwork. Rather less than half the value of the imports of last year (about 81½ lakhs) represented the cost of steam engines entire and in parts. Most of these were required for the new cotton mill under construction in Bombay, while of the other machinery the bulk was imported into Bengal, being mostly looms, spindles, and other machinery for jute mills and leaf-drying machines for the tea gardens of that province and Assam. It may be said that drying by machinery has been now almost universally adopted by tea planters. In the demand for machinery Burma follows after Bombay and Bengal, a good deal being required for the rice and timber mills of the province. There are 41 rice mills in Burma.

114. The value of the imports of *Apparel*, excluding boots and shoes, has risen in five years from Rs. 53,10,305 to Rs. 86,96,866. The increase of the trade of last year over that of 1882-83 was as much as 10 lakhs, and that again was more than 12½ lakhs in excess of the trade of 1881-82. If this rate of progression continues the value at the end of the present year may be expected to approach 100 lakhs. Most of the imports are of European origin and consist of hats, caps, dresses, underclothing and millinery generally, imported from England, France, Austria, and Italy. From Egypt the imports valued nearly two lakhs last year, and it is said that a good deal of the trade is comprised in the red fez caps which are commonly worn by Turks, Egyptians, and Arabs, and for which the Mahomedan natives of India have acquired a fancy, the fashion having probably been set by pilgrims returning from Mecca. These fez caps are generally supposed to be truly Oriental, though in fact they are most largely made in Marseilles for export to the East. The dyeing of these and the red breeches of the French troops is now the main support of the madder industry in the South of France.

D.—Apparel.

Gold and silver thread have contributed to the increase under apparel.

115. *Boots and Shoes*.—The imports have increased in five years from 123,204 pairs to 304,505 pairs, and the value of the trade from Rs. 4,31,247 to Rs. 10,41,244. To a material extent this great increase is due to the increased use of such articles by natives. As observed last year, this increased importation has not interfered with the

development of the shoemaking industry in India. This latter, in fact, is prospering, for the demand for better covering for the feet has increased and will increase amongst all classes of natives, but chiefly those living in the large towns, as time goes on.

E.—Chemicals, drugs, medicines, and narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials.

116. In *Chemical Products and Preparations* the value of the trade has increased from 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs five years ago to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The increase in the year was a little under 2 lakhs. Of the specified kinds alum is most largely imported, copperas and sulphuric acid coming next. There is a great demand for the latter, and it is now largely manufactured in the country. The imports of arsenic still increase.

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	300	576	877	1,098	1,162

It is now commonly used in the curing of hides, and also (less commonly, it is to be hoped) for less lawful purposes.

117. *Drugs, Medicines, and Narcotics*.—Value of imports last year Rs. 43,91,294, which was Rs. 3,65,212 less than in 1881-82. There was a considerable restriction in the trade in *Camphor*. *Quinine*, with a fall in price was more largely imported,

118. *Tobacco*.—The importation of cigars further largely augmented, as did unmanufactured tobacco, while in manufactured tobacco a very large diminution is apparent.

119. *Dyeing and Tanning Materials*.—In this head the principal items specified are aniline dyes, saffron, gambier, madder or manjit, and cochineal. In this last the trade was very small during the year, but it is a fluctuating business which varies with extremely variable prices. In all the others an increased trade is manifest, specially in aniline dyes, the imports of which have rapidly increased until in five years they have advanced from 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ million ounces to over 8 million ounces, and the value from under 6 lakhs to more than 11 lakhs. The increase over the trade of 1881-82 was extremely large. These dyes have taken a hold in India which it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to shake off. So much the worse for the vegetable dyes of the country and for the textile fabrics on which these mineral dyes are employed. The Persian Government in 1883 issued a decree prohibiting the importation of aniline dyes which were found to exercise an injurious effect upon the textile industries of the country. If the decree is carried out Persian carpets will recover and maintain their reputation. Sometimes one is almost inclined to regret that the summary methods of Asiatic despots cannot be adapted by a free trade and civilised administration.

F—Other manufactured articles.

120. The chief items in this sub-class are:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Arms and ammunition. | 14. Instruments and apparatus. |
| 2. Art, works of. | 15. Jewellery and plate. |
| 3. Books and printed matter. | 16. Leather. |
| 4. Building and engineering materials. | 17. Matches. |
| 5. Cabinetware and furniture. | 18. Paints and colours and painters' materials. |
| 6. Candles. | 19. Paper and pasteboard. |
| 7. Carriages and carts. | 20. Perfumery. |
| 8. Chinese and Japanese ware. | 21. Railway plant and rolling stock. |
| 9. Clocks and watches. | 22. Ships, parts of. |
| 10. Corals. | 23. Soap. |
| 11. Earthenware and porcelain. | 24. Stationery. |
| 12. Fireworks. | 25. Umbrellas. |
| 13. Glass and glassware. | |

The trade in the first ten of these items has sensibly increased, and an augmentation of trade in such goods is a very fair indication of general prosperity. To some extent the increase in these and various other items in the foregoing list, such as earthenware and porcelain, glassware, musical and scientific instruments, and so forth, is attributable to the importation of goods for the International Exhibition at Calcutta. The fact that the imports of corals have more than doubled during the last five years proves the general well-being of the native population; there were 182,514 lbs. imported last year, value Rs. 23,11,665. It must be added however that there was a large display of corals at the Exhibition.

121. *Earthenware and Porcelain* have also increased in value in five years from Rs. 12,24,837 to Rs. 23,40,697, so that the trade has nearly doubled. Burma continues to take a disproportionately large share of these goods, nearly a third of the whole imports of last year, their use being much more extensive in that province than elsewhere, but even in other provinces platters and utensils of stone, brass, and copper are beginning gradually to give way to the employment of earthenware.

122. *Glass and Glassware*.—In sheet and plate glass there was a small increase, but the still comparatively trifling importation shows how slowly native dwellings are being improved. As a contrast one may point to China where the trade in window glass has large dimensions and to Japan where the trade is so large that native manufacture has been started to compete with it. The British Consul at Chinkiang (China) for instance, reporting on the trade there says that “window glass is very popular with all classes. “It has nearly completely driven out the paper and bottle green glass formerly used. “Even the poorest mud hovels now possess a few shining squares of light in the midst of the dingy surroundings of the peasant proprietor, and they are regarded with “proportionate pride by the inmates.” In beads and false pearls the trade has nearly doubled in five years, an indication, like the increase in corals, of general well-being amongst the native population. The imports of glassware (unspecified) have increased in the year from Rs. 29,703,31 to Rs. 32,04,900.

The whole value of glass and glassware imported was just over 56 lakhs, which was more than $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in excess of the trade of the previous year and 23 lakhs larger than the trade of five years ago.

123. In *Matches* there was a reaction from the very extensive trade of the two previous years and the trade represented a value of only $13\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs which was about four lakhs short of the trade of 1882-83. In the present year the trade is again being conducted on a large scale.

124. In *Paints and Colours* there was a small increase of trade; the value represented nearly 19 lakhs.

125. *Paper and Pasteboard*.—Value $37\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, which was about four lakhs in excess of the previous year's trade. In printing paper the trade was restricted, while it increased considerably in writing paper. The Titagarh Paper Mills, near Calcutta are now making paper on which one of the leading daily papers of Calcutta is printed. A company for the manufacture of paper is being floated at Poona, entirely by natives, another indication of the industrial enterprise so conspicuous in Western India.

126. *Railway Plant and Rolling Stock*.—This important head must in future form a class by itself. The value of the imports for the last five years was—

1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,03,30,492	1,11,77,649	1,07,95,093	1,11,64,342	1,63,32,830

Most of the increased imports were brought to Calcutta where the value of the imports rose during the year from 40 to 80 lakhs. Much material was imported there for the new Rohilkand-Kumaon, Bengal, North-Western, Tarkessar, and Assam lines of railway. In Bombay the increase of trade was caused mainly by the renewal of rolling stock on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

127. *Stationery* has become a tolerably extensive trade. Five years ago the value was only 9 lakhs, last year it reached $16\frac{1}{2}$, having increased steadily each year.

128. Of *Umbrellas* 3,862,510 were imported, value upwards of $27\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The native must be very low in the social scale now who cannot sport his umbrella when'er he takes his walks abroad. Chinese umbrellas, or kettisals, of oiled paper are still imported in large numbers, though they are giving way before the British article.

129. It is only in mineral oil, kerosene, that the trade is large. It was pointed out in the review of the trade of 1882-83 how the country had been flooded with imports of low-class oil from the United States. Equally extensive imports were

CLASS V.
Oils.

made in China where this oil has been taken into as general use by the Chinese as by the natives of this country. The trade was somewhat overdone in 1882-83, and considerable stocks remained in hand unsold, with the result that there was a restriction of trade last year. Imports of kerosene oil in :—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
Gallons	- 19,904,082	- 13,107,267
Rs.	- 86,60,821	- 52,07,651

Of other material oil the imports are comparatively trifling; they reached only three-quarters of a million gallons last year.

During the first four months of the present year the imports of kerosene oil have been on as large a scale as in 1882-83.

130. The following table shows the principal articles imported during the year, their quantity and value being compared with the quantity and value of the same articles imported in 1882-83. The last two columns show for each article whether the increase or decrease of trade was due to increases or decreases in quantity or in prices :—

ARTICLES.	1883-84.		More or less than in 1882-83.		Difference of Value due to	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Prices.
<i>Goods fully Manufactured—</i>		£		£	£	£
Cotton piece goods, grey - yds.	1,079,938,865	11,979,091	- 8,346,807	- 671,306	73,912	597,394
Ditto ditto, white - "	342,376,839	4,530,308	+ 109,003,408	+ 1,223,109	1,544,717	- 321,608
Ditto ditto, coloured - "	299,536,491	4,656,065	- 21,899,427	- 343,178	833,341	9,837
Metals, copper, wrought - cwt.	366,791	1,520,443	+ 45,119	+ 121,235	196,258	- 75,023
" Iron, " - "	3,387,414	2,096,546	+ 421,791	+ 266,562	260,272	6,290
" other sorts, " - "	344,379	413,548	+ 54,697	+ 55,573	67,591	- 12,018
Silk piece goods (including mixed piece goods) - yds.	11,550,961	1,192,784	+ 1,879,700	+ 218,712	189,320	29,392
Woolen piece goods - "	9,316,192	957,047	+ 2,383,413	+ 181,842	266,506	- 84,664
<i>Goods partly Manufactured—</i>						
Cotton twist and yarn - lbs.	45,378,956	3,465,943	+ 519,781	+ 87,758	39,142	48,611
Metals, copper, unwrought - cwt.	163,435	687,397	+ 35,009	+ 148,229	146,977	1,252
" tin, " - "	38,877	234,621	- 3,745	- 41,758	24,284	17,469
" other kinds, " - "	342,683	216,727	+ 13,723	+ 6,269	8,779	- 2,510
Oils, mineral, kerosine - gals.	13,107,267	520,765	- 6,796,815	- 345,317	235,748	49,561
" " other kinds - "	776,571	40,951	- 379,015	- 22,279	20,738	1,541
Silk, raw - lbs.	2,210,893	969,575	- 175,257	- 104,581	78,895	25,681
<i>Raw materials—</i>						
Coal (including coke) - tons.	695,209	1,140,678	+ 63,072	+ 134,753	100,366	34,38
Ivory, unmanufactured - lbs.	462,403	223,721	+ 14,006	+ 17,773	6,432	11,34
<i>Drugs, Liquors, and Narcotics—</i>						
Liquors, malt - gals.	1,264,444	303,224	+ 90,890	+ 30,901	21,145	9,71
" spirits, brandy - "	403,100	328,669	- 18,048	- 16,459	14,790	1,669
" " whiskey - "	262,308	228,429	+ 41,926	+ 37,423	36,238	1,185
" " other sorts - "	228,412	125,000	- 78,627	- 13,835	35,553	- 21,718
" wines - "	422,140	401,138	+ 3,971	+ 16,568	3,651	12,917
" other sorts - "	7,198	2,917	+ 466	+ 166	190	- 24
Tobacco - lbs.	1,164,045	76,056	- 320,388	- 7,553	18,045	10,492
<i>Food Stuffs—</i>						
Provisions, salted fish - lbs.	11,660,485	104,931	+ 1,088,556	+ 5,870	9,685	- 3,815
" dates - cwt.	559,475	243,028	- 128,373	- 38,845	52,606	- 13,761
Salt - tons	383,089	623,011	+ 45,024	+ 107,827	68,612	39,215
Spices - lbs.	37,405,271	557,109	+ 3,941,302	+ 46,255	60,167	- 13,912
Sugar (refined and unrefined) - cwt.	786,909	1,148,370	+ 64,237	+ 61,409	103,799	- 42,890
Tea - lbs.	3,055,170	237,614	+ 304,085	+ 44,563	21,238	2 3,225

RE-EXPORT TRADE.

131. The exports of foreign (imported) merchandise have steadily increased, the aggregate value being in—

1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
2,22,23,250	2,55,72,139	2,64,67,165	2,80,27,095	3,02,63,997

Cotton goods and twist form the staple of this trade. Last year their value amounted to nearly 149 lakhs, being about half of the whole re-export trade. This business has increased year by year.

The only other articles of importance are apparel, ivory, metals, provisions, tea, sugar, and wool. the two last, with metals, representing comparatively large sums. In silk there used to be a tolerably large trade, but it has fallen off much in recent years.

The bulk of the trade is carried on from Bombay with the Asiatic and African countries lying to the west of that port.

There is no new feature to record in the trade during the year.

EXPORTS OF INDIAN MERCHANDISE.

132. These are classed as follows in the new form adopted in the returns. The figures attached are the values of the trade in each class during the last five years :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Animals - - - - -	11,87,676	7,08,887	7,78,037	8,99,826	12,78,636
II.—Articles of food and drink - - -	15,29,70,886	18,30,91,779	23,44,90,549	21,46,53,285	24,81,22,916
III.—Raw materials and unmanufactured articles.	25,56,01,550	28,85,17,342	31,00,69,985	34,55,70,319	34,94,41,750
IV.—Articles manufactured and partly manufactured.	23,40,53,687	24,16,11,276	24,25,31,586	24,06,95,356	24,62,84,324
V.—Oils - - - - -	56,94,532	58,11,394	46,82,274	41,62,768	49,59,768
Total - - - - -	64,95,08,331	71,97,40,678	79,25,52,431	80,59,81,554	85,00,87,394

The principal items which are included in these classes are those stated below, the figures of the trade in each being added as above :—

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Coffee - - - - -	1,62,67,465	1,59,96,688	1,44,74,650	1,39,22,040	1,43,88,634
Cotton, raw - - - - -	11,14,54,528	13,24,17,341	14,93,59,595	16,04,90,174	14,38,37,278
„ manufactured (including twist and yarn).	1,62,17,468	1,90,91,343	2,01,05,160	2,57,83,828	2,85,31,710
Grain and pulse - - - - -	9,86,08,984	12,70,70,896	17,24,07,506	14,86,22,667	17,60,48,281
Hides and skins - - - - -	3,73,80,059	3,73,35,653	3,94,87,924	4,44,37,703	4,66,37,363
Indigo - - - - -	2,94,72,265	3,57,15,814	4,50,90,802	3,91,29,970	4,64,09,906
Jute, raw - - - - -	4,37,00,325	3,93,40,296	5,03,03,023	5,84,69,259	4,59,26,353
„ manufactured - - - - -	1,19,53,619	1,13,06,716	1,09,75,886	1,48,78,314	1,33,41,447
Lac, except lac dye - - - - -	34,88,391	56,53,001	71,03,325	69,44,052	55,53,306
Oils - - - - -	56,94,532	58,11,394	46,82,274	41,62,768	49,59,768
Opium - - - - -	14,32,33,143	13,60,01,477	12,43,21,418	11,48,13,764	11,29,44,601
Saltpetre - - - - -	46,97,968	35,17,283	35,94,367	38,87,662	46,44,099
Seeds - - - - -	4,68,58,929	6,34,52,089	6,05,40,987	7,20,03,365	10,08,37,583
Silk, raw - - - - -	51,61,570	54,82,018	38,82,631	54,41,432	62,76,117
„ manufactured - - - - -	22,85,024	22,28,147	22,16,166	27,65,734	28,57,336
Spices - - - - -	29,55,317	30,38,813	24,58,900	37,69,109	36,54,367
Sugar, refined and unrefined - - -	20,58,713	31,17,508	59,82,317	80,37,759	94,32,185
Tea - - - - -	3,05,10,200	3,05,42,400	3,60,91,363	3,69,94,965	4,08,38,805
Wood - - - - -	33,39,347	54,33,761	56,57,025	67,11,165	57,99,376
Wool, raw - - - - -	1,09,59,723	1,01,41,371	81,45,513	79,94,058	75,58,409

133. The trade consists chiefly of cattle exported to the Straits and Ceylon and a few horses and ponies exported to the Straits. Total value a little over 12½ lakhs last year. CLASS I.
Animals,
living.

134. *Coffee*.—The quantity exported (about 340,000 cwt.) was smaller than in recent years. Value about 144 lakhs. About 24,000 cwt. were sent to Egypt, Arabia, Persia and Turkey in Asia, 85,000 to France, and England receiving the bulk of exports. Last year was not a better one for Indian coffee than the previous years in CLASS II.
Articles of
food and
drink.

which the unfavourable position of the trade was stated. Prices still kept low and production increasing in most of the countries with which India and Ceylon have to compete. The low prices of Brazil coffee a year or so ago, when they stood at half the price of Ceylon coffee, induced consumers to substitute them for these. Java coffee also took its place to some extent. The result was that stocks of Indian and Ceylon coffee accumulated largely and prices fell heavily.

135 *Grain and Pulse*.—The value of this trade was last year about 18·5 per cent. larger than in 1882–83, but was only 2 per cent. larger than 1881–82. The year was one of large exports of wheat, so was 1881–82, while in 1882–83 the wheat trade was a good deal smaller than in the year preceding or following it.

The extent of the trade in grain will be judged from the following figures :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	25,089,375	35,804,985	49,925,981	46,556,755	49,217,863
Rs. -	9,86,08,984	12,70,70,896	17,24,07,506	14,86,22,667	17,60,48,281

In round figures the quantity exported last year was nearly two and a half million tons, worth over 1,760 lakhs of rupees. This represented more than 20 per cent. of the whole export trade; in 1882–83 the proportion was 18½ per cent. and in 1881–82 nearly 22 per cent.

Of the 2½ million tons, 1,352,000 were rice and 1,047,800 were wheat, all other grains put together amounting to only about one hundred thousand tons.

The principal grains exported, other than wheat and rice, are gram, oats, pulse, and the two millets jowári and bájra. In the comparatively small trade done in these grains there has been no change of importance requiring notice.

The whole value of the trade in these and “other sorts” of grains was Rs. 36,40,000, being about five lakhs more than in 1882–83. The exports of jowári and bájra fell off a good deal while those of pulse proportionately increased.

136. *Rice*.—The exports of unhusked rice are so small that it is unnecessary to refer to them particularly. Unhusked rice is sent almost exclusively from the South Indian ports of Ceylon. The following figures refer to husked rice: Exports in—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	21,908,045	26,769,344	28,519,422	31,029,721	26,832,186
Rs. -	8,34,16,852	8,97,16,609	8,24,95,769	8,44,00,909	8,33,00,794

So that there was a reduction of about 4,200,000 cwt. in the quantity exported, and of eleven lakhs in the value, or of 13½ per cent. in the former and less than 1½ in the latter.

137. The destination of the exports for the last two years may be thus summarised :—

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.
1. To England and the European Continent.	19 millions.	16¾ millions.
2. To Asiatic countries - - -	8½ ”	6½ ”
3. To the East African coast and British colonies in Africa.	2 ”	2¼ ”
4. To South America and the West Indies.	1,200,000	1,288,000
5. To Australia.	70,000	48,000

It has been observed in former reviews that rice is put to three uses, (1) for food, (2) for conversion into starch, (3) for conversion into spirit. It is not easy to say in the absence of any trustworthy data what is the proportion used for each of these purposes. It is certain that all the rice which is not sent to Europe is used for food, that is, at least 10 million out of the 26¾ million cwt. exported last year. Of that portion which was sent to Europe it is not possible to say how much was intended for distillation, though it is known that there has been an enormous increase in the employment of rice for this purpose in recent years. Thus, the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in their report for the year 1883–84 observe, with reference to the

production of spirit, that the most noteworthy circumstance of the year was the large increase in the use of rice and corresponding displacement of grain. The consumption for this purpose in 1880 was only 13,352 cwt., in 1882 it was 142,101 cwt., and in 1883 it was as much as 229,292 cwt. In France, Germany and Italy its use for the same purpose has become equally common. The British Consul at Genoa, writing this year, says that the distilleries at Genoa, Milan, and Naples worked double tides last year in anticipation of an increase in the spirit duty—which came into effect from July 1883—and that there were great importations of rice in consequence. There were 445,600 bags imported at Genoa. But the demand has now fallen off as there is an estimated stock of spirit for one year in hand now, and the Naples distillery has had no occasion to buy its usual supply of Burma rice this year.

138. The Collector of Customs at Rangoon has endeavoured at my suggestion to obtain some trustworthy information from merchants in the rice business of the proportions employed for each of the three purposes specified and states the results thus:—

	Burma Rice.	Bengal Rice.	Madras Rice.	Rice from other Countries
Used for food - -	71·71%	25%	—	80·95%
" starch - -	12·81%	14·29%	95·24%	4·76%
" distilling - -	3·01%	57·14%	4·76%	4·76%
" cattle food - -	9·59%	2·86%	—	9·53%
Loss in cleaning - -	2·88%	0·71%	—	—

These per-centages refer to the quantity exported in the calendar year 1883 which was taken at 912,000 tons. The figures however are given "under all reserves," and it is tolerably sure that the estimated consumption of Burma rice in distillation is much understated. So far as rice is used for this purpose it competes with grains (such as barley, rye, maize), with potatoes, with the *mowa* (*Bassia latifolia*) flower, which has recently been put to the same purpose, and with sugar, this last being now from its cheapness largely used for distillation. Many qualities of sugar are now selling in the English market as cheaply as rice, and in some cases more cheaply. The abundant harvests of Europe and America, which have reduced the price of wheat to a point lower than has been known for the last hundred years, have also affected the price of other grains, and rice has struggled ineffectually to hold its ground. The extracts on the next page from Messrs. Fraser and Company's review of the trade for 1883 show (1) that the cultivators in Burma were able to maintain prices at a high level by holding back supplies; (2) that the condition of the trade was such in Europe that prices there did not correspond with the range of prices in Burma; (3) that as a consequence heavy losses attended the trade, especially to speculators. It may be added that so far during the current year much the same conclusions may be formulated of the trade.

139. The price of rice in Burma and Bengal has been as follows:—
In Burma per 100 baskets:—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ngasaing - -	84 to 115	60 to 86	57 to 84	88 to 104
Ngayouk - -	80 to 112	58-8 to 82	57 to 82-8	83 to 101

The prices given are the minimum and maximum of the average prices taken in each month. The high range for 1883-84 was not so much the result of a short crop,—for the crop, though not abundant, could hardly be said to be materially deficient,—as of the determination of cultivators to hold back their grain if they did not get high prices for it. The engagements made by speculators compelled them to buy at high prices, and with the low range of prices in Europe heavy losses ensued.

Prices in Bengal were, per bazaar maund of 82 $\frac{2}{3}$ lbs.:

	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
1878 - - -	4 3 8	1881 - - -	2 1 9
1879 - - -	3 13 6	1882 - - -	2 1 10
1880 - - -	2 13 7	1883 - - -	2 7 4

Here also the average of 1883 was much higher than that of the two previous years.

EXTRACTS FROM FRASER AND CO'S REVIEW.

The proverbial uncertainty characterising the course of the rice trade has been exemplified in a very special manner during the season just closed, and with exception perhaps of the "famine year" of 1874 we have never had to chronicle events affording more anxiety or causing more disappointment to importers generally.

Accustomed as the trade has been to increasing shipments coupled with declining prices it was naturally sceptical in regard to the reports of a probable short crop, although some millers, and not a few speculators, bought readily at the low quotations which ruled early in the season, thus, as it turned out, ensuring for themselves very profitable results with a minimum amount of risk.

It was not till the end of February that rumours of a scarcity of supplies at the rice ports first begun to be circulated and telegrams from Burma were daily being received advising advances in the prices for f.o.b. rice, and a relative falling-off in the stocks available for export. In Akyab especially the deficiency was said to be most marked, and although later on this was proved to be totally fallacious, yet at that time such a brisk demand for Nécrausie sprang up that the f.o.b. rice was quoted at 5s. against 4s. 9d. per cwt. for Rangoon, and cargoes were saleable on this side at a reduction of only 3d. per cwt. compared with Rangoon. * * * Early in April shippers began to foresee that, owing to the tactics pursued by the natives, it would be absolutely impossible for them to load the whole amount of tonnage previously chartered, and the only course left open to them was to attempt to cancel their charters with the least possible loss, or to get their vessels diverted to other channels. The latter alternative was scarcely feasible, and even the former was difficult to accomplish as shipowners, perceiving the straits to which importers were reduced, exacted the utmost compensation for cancellation, several ships being in this manner directed to Calcutta to take up new engagements. Even when they had annulled as much tonnage as was practicable shippers feared they had oversold, and thought it advisable to still further reduce their prospective liabilities by buying back their earlier contracts at current rates. There is no doubt, as future events showed, that the various reports about the crop so persistently spread were in accordance with previous experience much exaggerated, and that statistics in no way warranted the rise that took place in the value of open charter sailers and steamers at the end of April and commencement of May, when the highest price of the season was paid, namely, 9s. 9d., open charter for a Rangoon sailer. The very next week quotations give way about 6d. per cwt., only to be followed later, when at the end of June cargoes began to arrive off coast, by a sudden and complete collapse. Most of these early sailing vessels, and some of the later steamers, were in speculative hands, and remembering that no good had been gained in former times by storing but that on the contrary further loss had been incurred in rent, charges, and depreciation, some owners deemed it preferable to accept the situation and sell to the highest bidder. Others, however, more courageous, believing the season to be a bright exception to the general rule, ordered on their ships to the United Kingdom, or even some foreign port, determining to try the storing process once again rather than take whatever millers were disposed to offer. * * *

In exact position to the previous year millers who adopted the policy of buying in advance at the beginning of the season found themselves, as time went on, much better placed than even the most sanguine among them had ever hoped, while those who delayed their purchases until the arrival of cargoes off coast, although managing to bring down quotations to a very low basis, had still to pay considerably more than their neighbours who had anticipated the course of the market. The unsatisfactory operations of importers indicated in the foregoing were, as in previous seasons, intensified by freight engagements on too extensive a scale, and the advisability of entering upon such heavy settlements so long in advance, in these days of electric telegraphs, increased steam tonnage, and the curtailed route *via* the Suez Canal to the loading ports, may be fairly open to question. That the natives invariably embarrass shippers who are hampered by large arrivals of tonnage with smaller supplies of paddy scarcely needs remark. The speculators who are fortunate enough to contract at the commencement and were not too extravagant in their ideas must have made large profits and thereby undoubtedly recouped themselves for losses incurred in former seasons, whilst those who relied upon the much-talked-of strength of the "statistical position," and bought at extreme prices, found once more how delusive appearances often are even when everything points to an almost inevitable improvement. Owing to the cheapness of maize as compared with rice, the purchases by distillers, principally for France, were on a much smaller scale for the Burma descriptions, but for the Bengal kinds were much larger. At the same a noticeable feature was the very great increase in the importations into the Mediterranean and southern ports, which amounted to 185,428 tons against 122,667 tons in the previous year.

The exports by steamers from Burma to Europe amounted to 313,500 tons against 332,800 tons last year. The highest rate paid was 61s. 3d., the lowest 35s., while the bulk was chartered at about 55s. per ton. Freights for sailers averaged 50s., touching 60s. at one time, and descending to 32s. 6d. for the usual near port range. * * *

Burma Rice.—The past season's crop has been generally disappointing in respect of quality as, with the exception of a few early cargoes, both the colour and size of grain left much to be desired. More than three-fourths of the Nécrausie imported turned out to be seriously heated, and the average was considerably worse than that of the former year, some of the consumers absolutely refusing to treat for a cargo of this description when off coast, unless they had previously seen a sample especially drawn from the ship at port of call. The total exports from the four ports show a decrease of 48,700 tons, the quantity being 732,300 tons in 1883, as compared with 781,000 tons in 1882 and 738,200 tons in 1881.

The shipments to Europe from the four ports for the past ten years were as follows :—

	Ak yab.	Rangoon.	Bassein.	Moulmien.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1883	165,600	376,200	154,200	42,300	732,300
1882	152,800	436,000	161,800	30,400	781,000
1881	117,200	412,500	162,400	45,100	738,200
1880	158,200	341,500	140,500	17,600	657,800
1879	73,700	340,000	130,600	50,200	594,500
1878	69,300	324,500	127,500	32,900	554,200
1877	73,300	289,000	97,300	32,900	492,500
1876	95,400	284,300	80,100	24,200	484,000
1875	118,674	334,385	100,616	41,450	595,125
1874	111,250	274,500	67,625	16,279	469,654

The following figures show the minimum and maximum quotations of usual open charter terms for the various descriptions of Burma rice during the past ten years :—

Year.	Necransie.		Rangoon.		Bassein.		Moulmein.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1874	8 3	to 11 9	8 6	to 12 3	8 3	to 12 0	8 6	to 12 3
1875	7 0	to 8 6	7 9	to 8 10½	7 4½	to 8 7½	7 9	to 8 9
1876	7 6	to 10 9	7 10½	to 11 3	7 9	to 11 0	8 0	to 11 3
1877	8 6	to 11 6	8 10½	to 12 3	8 9	to 12 0	9 3	to 12 0
1878	8 4½	to 10 3	8 10½	to 10 9	8 9	to 10 7½	8 9	to 10 7½
1879	8 1½	to 10 1½	8 6	to 10 7½	8 4½	to 10 4½	8 4½	to 10 3
1880	8 0	to 9 1½	8 3	to 9 10½	8 10	to 9 7½	8 0	to 9 3
1881	7 0	to 8 8½	7 1½	to 9 3	7 0	to 8 10½	6 11½	to 8 10½
1882	6 9	to 7 9	6 9	to 8 3	6 8½	to 8 0	6 11½	to 7 3
1883	6 9	to 8 10½	7 1½	to 9 8	6 10½	to 8 10½	7 1½	to 9 0

140. *Wheat.*—These are the figures of the trade for the last five years :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	2,195,550	7,444,375	19,863,520	14,144,407	20,956,495
Rs. -	1,12,10,148	3,27,79,416	8,60,40,815	6,06,89,341	8,87,75,610

In the review for 1882-83 it was observed that the exports for the first three months of the year 1883-84 were about half of the whole exports of the previous year out a doubt was expressed whether the trade would continue for the rest of the year on the same scale. The doubt was verified. If trade had continued on the same scale the exports would have been nearer 30 than 21 million hundredweight. Exports fell off sensibly after the first half of the year, and though by the end of the year they were 48 per cent. in excess of those of 1882-83 they exceeded those of 1881-82 by only 5½ per cent., an increase which would not have been much for one years' trade and which was a small one for two years' trade. During the current year there has been a further decrease in the quantity exported, which for the first four months of the year amounts to only 5,903,916 cwt., a quantity which would represent, at the end of the year, if trade continues on the same scale, not more than 17,700,000. But it is probable that before the end of the year there will be a further material decline in the trade. The decrease indeed would already have been more marked had it not been that merchants had made large forward contracts both for tonnage and for delivery of wheat in the European markets.

141. It has been more than once pointed out in these reviews that the trade in Indian wheat must be one of a very uncertain and fluctuating character. Its continuance on a very large scale depends on the concurrence of a number of circumstances: (1) abundant crops in India, (2) crops below the average in the United States and in Europe, (3) low rates of freight, (4) low rates of exchange. When all these exist together the supply of Indian wheat which will be put on the consuming markets will astonish—as they have astonished—those who are but imperfectly acquainted with the capacity of India for the production of this grain. When one or other of them fails the margin of profit, which is so slender at the best that exporters must work on a very extensive scale to obtain appreciable returns, shrinks in such a degree that the export will be carried on either to fulfil engagements already entered into, or as an unavoipable alternative to paying for imports in money. This year the second of the factors which must be present to make the wheat trade profitable has been absent. The harvests have been abundant in the United States and in Europe, stocks in hand are large, and the supplies in existence or in prospect are so considerable that the price of wheat in England has fallen to as low a point as has been known for a

hundred years. Prices have not similarly fallen in India, and though it has been stated in a very positive way that India can produce wheat at a much lower cost than the United States—an assertion to which I ventured for reasons given to demur altogether—the fact remains that India, in present circumstances, cannot afford to sell her wheat with profit for the price offering in London of 37s. a quarter and even less. The average price of wheat in England has been, in—

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

In the first week of 1884 the average was 39s. a quarter, and by the end of February it had gone steadily down to 36s. 11d. Then there was a rise to 38s. 1d. by the end of March, and the average for the three months was 37s. 9d. In April it was 37s. 2d., and in May 38s. 2d. The price fell to 37s. in June, and the average for the three months was only 37s. 6d. a quarter. Since then prices have actually fallen as low as 34s. a quarter. Now, to leave a profit at all Indian wheat must sell for 39s. or 40s. a quarter when prices in India and freights are both low. The *pro forma* invoice which I gave in the last review showed that with wheat at Rs. 21-2-0 a maund in Calcutta, freight at 40 s. a ton, and exchange at 20d. the rupee, cost was only just covered by a price in London of 40s. 8d. a quarter.

142. Below is given the average price of wheat (No. 1 soft white) at Bombay per candy of 756 lbs., for each month from 1878:—

—	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
January -	39 8 0	34 8 0	37 6 4	30 0 0	33 8 0	29 10 8	29 2 8
February	38 4 0	37 4 0	36 2 0	27 8 0	33 2 0	32 8 0	29 1 7
March -	38 3 2	38 9 7	35 0 0	27 9 7	30 13 4	30 8 0	28 0 0
April -	38 12 0	37 12 0	33 3 2	27 8 0	31 8 0	31 2 8	27 0 0
May -	39 4 0	38 6 4	31 4 0	28 0 0	32 11 2	31 0 0	26 8 0
June -	38 8 0	37 8 0	31 2 0	28 10 0	32 10 0	30 14 0	25 6 0
July -	37 4 0	37 6 4	29 9 7	30 8 0	33 2 0	32 14 0	26 1 7
August -	36 12 9	36 12 0	30 4 0	32 4 9	32 6 4	32 8 0	26 6 0
September	38 0 0	36 6 0	30 10 0	33 8 0	31 0 0	32 14 0	
October -	38 12 0	41 14 0	31 12 9	33 12 0	32 4 0	31 2 0	
November	37 3 2	40 12 9	31 6 0	33 0 0	31 11 0	30 6 0	
December	37 12 0	38 5 4	31 4 9	29 0 0	30 10 0	30 2 8	
Average -	38 2 11 or 24 3 11 per qr. of 480 lbs.	37 15 4 or 24 1 7 per qr. of 480 lbs.	32 6 9 or 20 9 4 per qr. of 480 lbs.	30 1 8 or 19 1 10 per qr. of 480 lbs.	32 1 10 or 20 6 3 per qr. of 480 lbs.	31 4 10 or 19 14 0 per qr. of 480 lbs.	27 3 3 or 17 4 4 per qr. of 480 lbs.

143. For Calcutta the average price of wheat (Doodiah, or No. 2 club), per bazaar maund of 82 $\frac{2}{5}$ lbs., is also given below:—

—	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
January -	3 6 0	3 6 6	3 7 0	2 11 0	2 14 6	2 12 6	2 8 3
February	3 6 0	3 8 6	3 4 0	2 9 0	2 14 0	2 15 0	2 8 3
March -	3 8 6	3 7 0	3 4 3	2 10 6	2 12 0	2 13 9	2 9 3
April -	3 10 6	3 7 0	3 0 6	2 8 6	2 11 0	2 13 3	2 7 9
May -	3 10 6	3 6 6	2 11 9	2 8 0	2 13 0	2 12 6	2 7 4
June -	3 6 0	3 6 6	2 11 10	2 8 6	2 14 0	2 12 7	2 8 0
July -	3 8 0	3 7 0	2 10 9	2 9 4	2 14 6	2 12 9	2 8 6
August -	3 7 0	3 6 9	2 9 6	2 12 6	2 14 6	2 13 0	2 7 0
September	3 4 0	3 8 6	2 10 0	2 11 0	2 12 3	2 12 9	
October -	3 5 0	3 13 0	2 10 0	2 13 6	2 13 0	2 9 6	
November	3 6 0	3 9 9	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 13 9	2 9 6	
December	3 6 0	3 6 8	2 15 0	2 13 6	2 12 6	2 10 0	
Average -	3 7 0 or 20 1 5 per qr. of 480 lbs.	3 7 10 or 20 6 4 per qr. of 480 lbs.	2 14 5 or 16 15 3 per qr. of 480 lbs.	2 10 9 or 15 9 10 per qr. of 480 lbs.	2 13 3 or 16 8 5 per qr. of 480 lbs.	2 12 3 or 16 2 7 per qr. of 480 lbs.	2 8 0 or 14 10 0 per qr. of 480 lbs.

It will be noticed that in 1883 the price in Calcutta ranged higher than Rs. 2-12-0 a maund and that at Bombay wheat cost even more in 1883. The price of wheat in India at the present moment is lower than it has been at any time during the last six years, but the effects of scarcity on prices were felt until 1880.

144. Those persons who have been clamouring for the immediate construction of railways all over the country for the accommodation of the wheat trade would probably have been less vociferous if they had analysed the facts connected with the wheat trade. No person probably would dream of contesting the value of the extension of railways in India on a judicious and well considered plan with due regard to the financial capacity of the country. But the construction of railways in the manner so recklessly proposed on view simply of one year's trade in wheat, the extent of which was the result of a combination of circumstances hardly likely again to occur, would have meant profit to the makers of rails and railway material but loss to everybody else.

145. Everything or present points to the continuance of low prices for another year at least. The crops of the United States are the largest they have ever had, exceeding the average crop of the last five years by 60 million bushels according to careful estimates. The English harvest has been abundant and the area under wheat was larger than in 1883. The production of all European countries, Russia, France, Italy, Southern Europe generally, and of the Australian Colonies, has been above the average. There is not therefore a bright prospect, as far as can be seen at present, for Indian wheat for the next twelvemonth, for it is not unlikely that prices may touch even a lower level than that already reached. To make the trade profitable, even possible, in these circumstances, it is essential that the charges which weigh on Indian wheat between the time when it leaves the cultivator's hand and its arrival in the stores of the European miller should be lessened. Lower cost of transport in India, lower rates of ocean-freight, reduction and elimination of unnecessary handling at railway stations and ports of shipment, the substitution of expeditious methods of loading and unloading for the clumsy and primitive methods now obtaining, more care in cleaning and classing the grain, are indispensable. All these matters however have already been commented on in some detail in the review written last year, and so much has been written and spoken on the subject during the last twelvemonth that it is perhaps not necessary to go over the ground again.

146. The exports of last year were thus distributed.

	Cwt.
United Kingdom - - - -	10,508,210
France - - - -	3,397,908
Egypt (nominally, but really for the Continent,) - - - -	3,305,999
Belgium - - - -	2,593,577
Italy - - - -	445,522
Holland - - - -	192,750
Malta - - - -	124,413
Other European countries . . - -	185,729
Total for Europe - -	20,754,108

Leaving 205,199 cwt for Mauritius, Réunion, the East African Coast and the Cape; 55,647 for Aden, Arabia, Ceylon, the Straits, and the Mekran coast; and 41,362 cwt. for South America, a total of only 202,387 cwt. for countries outside of Europe. In round figures a little more than half of all the exports was sent to England, and the remainder or half a million tons was taken direct to the European continent, only ten thousand tons being consumed elsewhere in Asia, Africa, and South America.

147. In regard to the trade with Italy the British Consul at Genoa writes that Indian wheat is now being imported for the manufacture of maccaroni and is found to give satisfaction. The two great centres of this manufacture have always been Genoa and Naples, but a new establishment on a very large scale has been set up at Turin and this may give rise to increased business in Indian wheat. The imports now, he says, are very large and increasing.

148. *Liquors.*—*Eum* is beginning to be exported in tolerably large quantities. The trade has risen from nothing five years ago (1878-79) to four gallons, then 50 gallons,

then 29,013 gallons, and last year 93,324 gallons (value 4½ lakhs) were exported almost all to the United Kingdom, and shipped from Madras. The trial shipments must have been satisfactory to produce such an extensive trade in such a short time.

149. *Provisions.*—The exports have risen steadily from 20·6 lakhs in 1878–79 to 30·3 lakhs last year. The items comprising this trade are mainly fish maws and shark fins sent to the Straits, flour for Aden and Ceylon, dried and preserved fruits and vegetables of which a considerable proportion is for Ceylon, ghee for Mauritius, the Straits, the Coolie Colonies generally, and the neighbouring coasts of Africa and Asia, lard for Mauritius and Réunion, salted fish for Ceylon. While ghee continues to be, as it is, an extensive export from India and an import on a smaller scale only from the pastoral regions adjoining Sindh, it seems unnecessary to consider the probabilities of establishing the manufacture of ghee in Queensland and importing it thence for the supply of India. Attention might with profit be diverted from this question to many more practical methods of increasing trade. For instance it might be considered why India as yet exports less than eight million pounds of flour and that chiefly for the use of the garrison at Aden and for the neighbouring island of Ceylon. Why cannot India compete with the United States in the export of flour to England as she is doing in the export of wheat? It is a very profitable industry, and one that can be carried on in India as cheaply as anywhere.

150. *Spices.*—A reduction in value from 37·7 lakhs to 36·5 lakhs, the result of a restriction in the trade in Pepper: exports of this article in 1882–83 were however unusually large. In Ginger and Cardamons there was an increased trade.

151. *Sugar.*—The trade in sugar, refined and unrefined, has increased in a very notable way of late.

The figures are—

		REFINED SUGAR.				
		1879–80.	1880–81.	1881–82.	1882–83.	1883–84.
Cwt. -		44,963	18,915	34,010	111,274	203,693
Rs. -		5,91,652	3,24,562	5,05,854	13,02,331	22,86,004
		UNREFINED SUGAR.				
		1879–80.	1880–81.	1881–82.	1882–83.	1883–84.
Cwt. -		279,616	515,259	883,483	1,207,424	1,426,827
Rs. -		14,67,061	27,92,946	54,76,463	67,86,428	71,46,181

The quantity of sugar exported last year exceeded that of 1881–82 by 77 per cent., the value of the trade being 58 per cent. larger. This year (1881–82) is taken for comparison with last year because the duty of 5 per cent. on imported sugar was taken off, with other import duties, at the end of that year (in March 1882) and the remission was vehemently opposed by the representative in the Legislative Council of the mercantile community of Calcutta on the ground that it would assuredly bring about the extinction of the sugar industry in Bengal. The prediction so far has been singularly falsified, and if the trade should collapse now, after having had for two full years since the abolition of the duty a far more flourishing existence than it had ever previously known, its decay must be attributed to other and wholly different causes than the removal of a protective duty. At present however there is no sign of decay, and this is all the more remarkable considering the condition of the sugar markets in England to which most of the Indian sugar is sent.

To quote the *Statist* (August 30, 1884): “It is known that sugar has been falling for a long time, but the extent of the fall is not generally appreciated, the fact has not been brought home to the public so clearly as to those engaged in the trade. Retailers of sugar, as well as bakers, maintain prices in many cases quite disproportionate to the wholesale figure, and secure much larger profit than is currently believed to be the case. This state of affairs, and the fact that prices have this month been quoted at the lowest ever recorded, merit inquiry as to what prices are, and what are the causes of the fall. First as to price. The lowest points touched a few days ago were as follows:—

Tate's, Martineau's, and Duncan's	-	-	-	-	23s. 6d. per cwt.
Austrian beef, 88 per cent.	-	-	-	-	12s. 0d. ”
Manilla, unclayed	-	-	-	-	8s. 6d. ”

“ In other words, the price of the best brands of refined ‘ lump ’ sugar is $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound in bulk, and low-grade ‘ moist ’ sugar has been sold wholesale at less than a penny a pound. These prices are from 30 to 50 per cent. below those of three years ago, and seven or eight years ago the lowest class quoted above at about $8s. 6d.$ per cwt. was as high as $22s.$ to $23s.$ per cwt. * * * The truth would appear to be that more has lately been produced than there is need of. The Continental make has been stimulated by bounties, while at the same time colonial planters, under pressure of meeting interest on mortgages and to cover advances made by bankers have been forcing produce on a glutted market. . * * * The production of beet sugar in Europe has grown enormously and rapidly, especially in Germany, where it is estimated the growth will shortly be equal to that of all the rest of Europe combined. Last year’s estimated production was 925,000 tons, and this year there is about 15 per cent, more ground than last year under beet. Thirty years ago the total amount of sugar produced in Europe from beet was about 160,000 tons. Now the yield has been estimated at just 2,240,000 tons.”

152. *Tea.*—Exports in—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Lbs. -	38,173,521	46,413,510	48,691,725	57,766,225	59,911,703
Rs. -	3,05,10,200	3,05,42,400	3,60,91,363	3,69,94,965	4,08,38,805

Of this quantity of close on 60 million pounds exported last year only 686,514 lbs. were sent elsewhere than to London, that market taking as nearly as possible 99 per cent. of the whole exports. Many efforts have been made to open out new markets in the United States, in Australia, and in Holland, with very poor results. The trade with Australia after promising well for a time has practically collapsed for the present. Only 379,204 lbs. were sent to the colonies last year, and this year the exports have been on a still more restricted scale. They are in fact as low as they were in the years previous to the Melbourne Exhibition of 1880-81 which first specially attracted the attention of the colonists to Indian tea. One cause of the decline in the trade was that the London market was very favourable for Indian tea, and prices on the whole were so well maintained that shippers of tea from Calcutta looked at other markets as being of quite secondary importance and not worth the trouble of considering. On the other hand stocks of both China and Indian teas in Australia were very large, importations from both countries in 1882 having been made on an extensive scale. Prices consequently fell to so low a point that in some cases shipments of Indian teas were actually bought in Melbourne to be re-shipped to London where they were sold at a profit to the colonial shipper. Transactions of this kind naturally irritated the shippers of these teas from India, for they had been shipped for the purpose of establishing a colonial outlet for Indian tea, and that colonial traders should in this manner make a profit, which would have gone to the Indian owner if he had not deliberately preferred Melbourne to London in order to found a trade, was displeasing to the exporters, who regarded the business as sharp practice of which they were the victims. The outcome of this feeling and of the good prices in London was that the Melbourne market lost favour, and some men declared that they would never ship tea to the colonies again. On the other hand some persons in the colonies who were interested in the introduction of Indian teas employed injudicious methods to extend consumption. By lectures, by pamphlets, by newspaper articles, by reports of chemical analyses, they sought to prove that the China tea imported for colonial consumption was adulterated rubbish unfit for human consumption. Importers of that tea and grocers who dealt in it saw their reputation and trade imperilled and defended themselves vehemently and certainly with some success, for the reckless and sweeping assertions of the advocates of Indian tea could not be satisfactorily proved. Strong feeling was aroused, and the controversy has been the reverse of advantageous to Indian tea. That there is a very wide field, with increasing capacity, for the consumption of Indian tea in the colonies is a fact of which there can be no question. But tact and discretion are required to work a new trade.

153. The exports to the United States only amounted to 198,612 lbs. Here also discreet energy is wanted for the gradual introduction of Indian tea. Eventually this may and should become a very important market, second only to the English market, but it will be a work of time and patience. At present Indian tea is still practically

unknown there, although the British Consul at New York says that Indian teas are growing in favour for mixing purposes and have obtained a footing which they will retain.

To Holland not more than 11,670 lbs. were sent.

154. The area of land under tea in 1883 compares thus with the area of 1882:—

	1882. Acres.	1883. Acres.
Bengal - - - -	48,128	49,753
Assam - - - -	178,851	189,453
Punjab - - - -	7,643	7,964
North-Western Provinces -	7,939	7,819
Madras (including Travancore) -	5,517	5,423
Burma - - - -	160	160
Total -	248,237	260,571

The total area for 1883 was 260,571 acres, say 261,000 acres, which is about 5 per cent. in excess of the area in 1882. That again was 12 per cent. in excess of the area of 1881.

The yield is stated to have been 2,171,207 pounds in Assam and Cachar, 10,703,000 pounds in Bengal, 1,300,000 pounds in the Punjab, 1,202,147 pounds in the North-Western Provinces, 529,490 pounds in Madras, and 706 pounds in Burma. This makes a total for all India of about 66 million pounds. With the exception of 315,600 pounds of green tea produced in Kangra, 1,059,128 pounds in Assam, 44,130 pounds in the Nilgiris, and 59,051 pounds in the North-Western Provinces (total of green tea 1,477,909 lbs.), the whole of the yield was black tea. This yield of 66 million pounds, if it is correct, would indicate that 6 million pounds were left in the country after the export of 60 million pounds. Of this a large quantity, about one million pounds, was taken by the Commissariat for the troops, and about three-quarters of a million were exported across the frontier to Afghanistan and Yarkand, leaving about $4\frac{1}{4}$ million pounds to be held in stock and for consumption by the population in India, European and native.

From Ceylon the exports of tea last year amounted to $1\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds, and it is expected that this year they will reach $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions. The colony is increasing its tea production at a rapid rate, and in time Ceylon tea may become a serious competitor in the London market with Indian and China tea.

CLASS III.
Raw materials and unmanufactured articles.

155. The items comprised in this class are—

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Borax. | 15. Manures. |
| 2. Canes and rattans. | 16. Mowa flowers. |
| 3. Caoutchouc. | 17. Musk. |
| 4. Coir. | 18. Natural curiosities. |
| 5. Cotton. | 19. Precious stones and pearls. |
| 6. Feathers. | 20. Rags and other paper-making material. |
| 7. Gums and resins. | 21. Saltpetre. |
| 8. Hemp. | 22. Seeds. |
| 9. Hides and skins. | 23. Silk. |
| 10. Horns. | 24. Stone and marble. |
| 11. Ivory. | 25. Tallow. |
| 12. Jadestone. | 26. Wax. |
| 13. Jute. | 27. Wood and timber. |
| 14. Lac, stick. | 28. Wool. |

Of these the most important are, in the order in which they are here mentioned, (1) cotton, (2) seeds, (3) jute, (4) hides and skins, (5) wool, (6) wood and timber, teakwood forming the bulk of the exports, (7) silk, (8) saltpetre.

156. *Cotton*.—The value of the exports of cotton largely exceeds the value of any other article exported from India. Last year it came to nearly 17 per cent. of the value of the whole export trade. The trade for the last five years gives the following quantities and values:—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt. -	3,948,476	4,541,539	5,627,453	6,168,278	5,979,494
Rs. -	11,14,54,528	13,24,17,341	14,93,59,595	16,04,90,174	14,38,37,278

The exports of last year were about 3 per cent. smaller than those of 1882-83 in quantity and of 10 per cent. in value. Expressed in bales of 400 lbs. each the quantity exported was about 1,675,000 bales. In 1882-83 it was about 1,727,000 bales. The cause of the decrease lay in the reduction of price following on large supplies from most places, the crops of the United States being large, and the accumulation of stocks consequent on the continued depression of the cotton manufacturing industry in England. Messrs. Ellison & Co., of Liverpool, estimated that the stocks at the ports and reserves in the mills in September 1883 exceeded by 660,000 bales the stocks at the same period in 1882. The exports were thus distributed:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
United Kingdom - - - -	2,865,065	2,696,921
Italy - - - - -	937,934	881,860
France - - - - -	585,766	668,151
Austria - - - - -	764,550	600,163
Belgium - - - - -	333,708	458,472
China - - - - -	368,556	313,226
Germany - - - - -	114,412	132,535

and the remainder in smaller quantities to other countries. To the Continent of Europe the exports amounted to 2,897,420 cwt., which was about 6,000 cwt. in excess of the shipments of 1882-83. The direct exports to the Continent are materially larger than the exports to England, and as more than half the quantity of Indian cotton received in England is re-exported to the Continent it is evident that England as a market for Indian cotton is of secondary importance. With the development of the cotton manufacturing industry in Northern Italy the supply of Indian cotton sent to that country has augmented greatly of late.

157. *Seeds.*—The dimensions of this great trade have largely increased, more than doubled, since 1879:—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cwt.	7,091,469	10,229,109	10,466,098	13,139,206	17,355,588
Rs. -	4,68,58,929	6,34,52,089	6,05,40,987	7,20,03,365	10,08,37,583

The trade of the year was larger than that of the previous year by as much as 32 per cent. Linseed, rapeseed, till, earth-nuts, and castor-seed were all exported in largely increased quantities, and amongst the important kinds of oil seeds poppy alone decreased in quantity. Of linseed $8\frac{1}{2}$ millions (8,543,766) cwt. were exported, a quantity 27 per cent. in excess of the previous year's trade. Of rapeseed nearly 4 million hundred-weight (3,945,727) which was 40 per cent. more than in the previous year.

Til or jinjili, 2,853,382 cwt., an increase of 24 per cent. In earth-nuts the trade was little less than threefold that of 1882-83, the exports amounting to 712,954 cwt., a very satisfactory figure considering that this is a trade of but recent origin. The exports of castor-seed also were more than double those of the previous year. On the whole, last year's trade in oil-seeds was one of very remarkable activity and of unprecedented dimensions.

The exports were thus distributed:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
<i>Linseed</i> —		
United Kingdom - - - -	4,694,320	4,885,302
France - - - - -	653,230	1,416,430
United States - - - - -	318,531	1,086,199
Egypt - - - - -	485,508	378,915
Belgium - - - - -	187,849	356,028
Holland - - - - -	251,013	325,521
Other countries - - - -	146,663	95,371
<i>Rapeseed</i> —		
United Kingdom - - - -	1,392,628	1,970,395
France - - - - -	810,199	776,204
Belgium - - - - -	478,580	671,879
Germany - - - - -	1,932	304,754
Egypt - - - - -	128,783	178,792
Other countries - - - -	9,298	43,703

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.
<i>Til or Jinjili—</i>		
France - - - -	1,922,382	2,045,140
Italy - - - -	206,887	419,186
Belgium - - - -	147,998	336,455
Other countries - - - -	28,147	52,601
<i>Earthnuts—</i>		
France - - - -	91,553	332,602
Belgium - - - -	115,776	290,450
Other countries - - - -	58,414	89,902
<i>Poppy—</i>		
France - - - -	302,903	266,158
Belgium - - - -	67,122	155,773
United Kingdom - - - -	190,399	64,304
Other countries - - - -	11,118	27,993

158. *Jute.*—The exports of jute fluctuate much, and on the whole it is doubtful whether the trade can be said to be increasing. In 1879-80 there were 6,680,670 cwt. exported, last year 7,017,985 cwt. 1882-83, 10,348,909 cwt. were exported, but that was the surplus of a crop whose unprecedented abundance sent prices down to such a low point as to cause cultivators to restrict the area under jute in the following year. Restricted as was the area the crops were not good, and the result was a diminution in the exports by 32 per cent. The reduction in value was not more than 21½ per cent., so that prices were kept up, but the level of prices in England did not correspond with the level at which they were kept up in India, and the trade was not profitable. The Calcutta mills, which did not lay in sufficient stocks when prices were very low in 1882-83, were in a bad way last year in consequence of the high level of prices for the raw material.

The exports were thus distributed:—

	1882-83. Cwt.	1883-84. Cwt.
United Kingdom - - - -	7,834,136	5,534,950
United States - - - -	2,002,731	1,244,086
Austria - - - -	147,644	115,224
Italy - - - -	65,528	91,863
Other countries - - - -	298,870	31,862

The whole value of the trade of the year was 459½ lakhs.

159. *Hides and Skins.*—7,345,613 hides of horned cattle and 3,780,868 skins of smaller beasts,—sheep, goats, and others—were exported last year, the value of the trade amounting to Rs. 2,47,63,646. The trade increases but slowly in years of good harvests when food and water are plentiful for cattle. Seasons of drought are always followed by a great increase in the exports of hides. The trade in hides last year, though about 13 per cent. larger than that of 1882-83, was also nearly as much below the trade of 1879-80, five years ago. Probably it must be expected that the export of hides will increase gradually as cultivation and the number of cattle increase in the country. There is a large and increasing demand for them in Europe and the United States which will be met until the development of the leather industry in India diverts this material to local tanneries. The exports of the last two years were as follows:—

Hides—

	1882-83. No.	1883-84. No.
United Kingdom - - - -	4,393,040	4,895,239
United States - - - -	545,632	598,912
Italy - - - -	624,029	978,992
Austria - - - -	257,882	424,961
Straits - - - -	285,348	105,694
France - - - -	252,786	218,748
Other countries - - - -	126,091	123,067

The Continental demand is increasing, especially in Italy, where the tanning industry is becoming extensive. In that country it is said that the people who outside of the towns formerly never wore shoes now are almost all comfortably shod.

Skins.

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	No.	No.
United States - - - -	2,948,407	3,209,745
United Kingdom - - - -	313,419	285,245
France . - - - -	54,285	169,436
Italy - - - -	55,504	52,794
Other countries - - - -	24,655	63,648

160. *Wool.*—A reduced trade last year, the exports having fallen from 21½ million pounds to 20 million pounds, and the value from 79 lakhs to a little over 75½ lakhs. The woollen manufacturing industry in England was in a very depressed condition last year and still continues so. The fact accounts for the diminished trade. Most of the wool shipped from India is sent to England from Bombay and Karachi. A good deal of it is of foreign origin, the production of Southern Afghanistan and Biluchistan.

161. *Silk.*—There was unusual activity in this trade last year, when as much as 673,360 lbs. were exported, which was 34·25 per cent. larger than the trade of 1882-83. Value of trade 52½ lakhs. The silk harvest in Europe was very poor and the demand for Asiatic silk was lively, but unfortunately only for a time. There is slight prospect of this trade permanently improving.

The exports of waste silk again increased, amounting last year to 885,395 lbs. So did the exports of cocoons, and it may be said here that more attention should be given to this branch of the trade. The reeling of silk in India is so imperfect that cocoons are more likely to find a ready and profitable sale in the European markets than silk reeled in Bengal. No doubt reeling might be improved in Bengal, but so many things in that province remain in need of improvement which is not given that there seems little use in repeating suggestions which have been made from various quarters for the last 14 years at least.

The whole value of the silk trade—reeled silk, waste, and cocoons—was last year a little more than 62¾ lakhs.

162. *Wood and Timber.*—The only important item under this head is teakwood, of which the exports for the last five years have been—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cubic tons -	38,620	65,626	56,377	59,187	46,471
Rs. - -	28,19,590	50,00,466	50,67,917	61,12,597	52,54,475

The rise of prices and decrease in the quantity are an indication both of the increasing scarcity of this timber and of the larger demand for it which has been created in India by the progress of construction. The scarcity, it must be said, is as yet manifested only so far as regards large logs; inferior and small logs are abundant enough still. Moulmein has already been deprived by Bangkok of the monopoly of this trade which it possessed until recently.

There was a reduction in the export of sandalwood, but this is a small trade mainly confined to shipments to China where the wood is extensively used for burning in temples.

163. *Saltpetre.*—The trade was very active last year, exports amounting to 491,668 cwt., an increase of 23 per cent, on the trade of 1882-83. Value nearly 46½ lakhs. The trade is a fluctuating one however and Indian saltpetre in Europe has to struggle to make headway in competition with nitrate of soda. A good deal, however, of inferior quality is sent to China and the Straits.

164. Of the other minor articles included in this class there is not much to be said. In borax and caoutchouc the trade was restricted, as also in horns, jadestone, and precious stones and pearls. The export of rags and other paper-making material was slightly smaller in quantity but prices rose. These go most largely to the United States. There was a large increase in the trade in animal bones, of which 23,000 tons were sent to England, though they might more usefully have been applied to the fertilisation of Indian soil. The low rates of freight and lack of heavy cargo must have stimulated the trade. Of Mowra or Mowa flowers, used for distillation, more than 269,000 cwt., value close on 6¾ lakhs, were exported to France where, as stated in the last review, a process has been brought in operation by which good alcohol is distilled from them.

The low prices of all grain and of sugar have, however, affected this trade, which has fallen to a low point during the present year. In wax and tallow there was an increased trade.

CLASS IV.
Articles
manufactured
and
partly manu-
factured.
(a) Yarns
and textile
fabrics.

165. *Cotton Twist and Yarn*.—This important trade has almost doubled in five years, having risen from 25,862,474 lbs. to 49,876,606 lbs. The value of the exports last year was Rs. 1,92,61,625.

166. *Cotton Manufactures*.—The export of piece goods also has increased in the same period from 25,800,501 yards to 55,613,763 yards, the trade having more than doubled in the five years. Grey piece goods represented a little more than 42 million yards out of this total. The export of sewing thread and of undescribed manufactures also sensibly increased. The aggregate value of the cotton goods exported was Rs. 92,70,085; in 1882–83 it was Rs. 76,15,643, and five years ago 51½ lakhs.

167. The whole value of the outturn of the Indian cotton mills exported to foreign countries last year was Rs. 2,85,31,710; five years ago it was Rs. 1,62,17,468, so that it has risen by 76 per cent. in the interval.

For the twist and yarn, far and away the largest market is found in China and Japan. To China 41,040,629 lbs. were sent last year and to Japan close on 6½ million pounds. It is easy to understand therefore the concern caused to shareholders in the Bombay mills by the outbreak of hostilities between France and China. It may be hoped that the interruption to trade will not be serious or of long duration. For piece goods the largest outlets are found in Eastern Africa and Arabia, China and Japan taking comparatively but little. The millowners are again talking of sending a representative to work for the enlargement of present markets and the opening out of new ones. They will act wisely if they do this, but they have been talking of it for a long time. These markets take unbleached goods mainly, the principal consumers of coloured cottons being in Ceylon and the Straits. The preparation and export of bleached goods are yet in their infancy.

168. There were 74 mills at work at the end of last year in India, with about 16,300 looms and 1,870,284 spindles, and employing about 62,000 operatives. New mills are still in course of erection in Bombay and elsewhere in British territory and one is to be erected at Gulbarga in the dominions of the Nizám. Many additional spindles have also been set at work in the existing mills. Of these mills 39 are in the city of Bombay and 17 in the Bombay Presidency, or close on 80 per cent. of the whole number in India.

169. *Jute Goods*.—Although the number of gunny bags exported exceeded the number exported in 1882–83 by nearly 3 millions, the total number being 63,645,984, the value of the trade Rs. 1,25,62,589 was smaller by 17 lakhs. The whole value of the trade in jute goods of all kinds, bags, cloth, and other sorts, was Rs. 1,33,41,447. The vast expansion in the trade in seeds and grain of course created a corresponding increased demand for bags on the spot. The mills however have not been doing a profitable business lately, for with a reduction in the price for bags there has been an increase in the price of raw jute. The number of mills and of spindles at work has increased however as will be seen from the figures below :—

	1882–83.	1883–84.
Number of mills	20	21
Number of looms	5,633	6,139
Number of spindles	95,737	112,650

Of mill-made bags 15,685,070 were shipped to the United States, 14½ millions to Hong-Kong (largely for the United States too), 11,677,948 to Australia, nearly 9 millions to the Straits, 2,269,218 to the United Kingdom, and the rest in smaller numbers to Asiatic countries, to the Cape, Mauritius, East Africa, Egypt, and South America.

The trade in gunny cloth is small and the chief outlet for it lies in the United States to which it is shipped direct and *via* China.

170. *Silk Goods*.—Total value a little more than 28½ lakhs. Most of the exports are piece goods sent from Bengal to England and France. A small increase in trade last year.

171. *Woollen Goods*, on the other hand, exhibit a material decrease from Rs. 15,83,494 to Rs. 12,07,003. The number of shawls exported rose from 12,090 to

12,754, but the value fell from Rs. 7,71,718 to Rs. 5,42,675. An unsatisfactory trade at present, for shawls of any kind are not much in fashion and the use of Kashmir shawls especially is very limited everywhere except in India itself.

172. *Metals*.—This is a very small trade (4½ lakhs only) great part of which consists of ornamental ware in brass and copper sent to Europe, a trade not susceptible of large development, and pots and pans to Coolie Colonies.

173. *Opium*.—Exports in—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
Chest -	91,798	91,963
Rs. -	11,48,13,764	11,29,44,601

So far as it is necessary to mention in this review a trade which is of such a peculiar character, and which is dealt with in great detail in other special reports, it has been sufficiently referred to in the paragraphs noticing the trade of India with China, the Straits, and Cochin China to which countries all but 144 chests were shipped last year. From Bengal 53,719 chests were exported and from Bombay 38,244.

174. *Tobacco*.—Both leaf tobacco and cigars were exported in greatly increased quantities and the aggregate value of the trade rose from 11½ lakhs to 16¼ lakhs. The exports of leaf tobacco were thus distributed:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
United Kingdom -	4,370,020	9,117,632
France -	88,148	2,703,484
Aden -	3,335,256	2,672,041
Mauritius -	663,141	1,022,926
Gibraltar -	461,000	784,260
Belgium -	87,500	760,000
Straits -	468,655	679,712
Arabia -	572,475	203,878
Other countries -	607,354	633,343

and of cigars—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Straits -	122,117	144,140
United Kingdom -	51,547	53,316
Ceylon -	16,451	24,135
Other countries -	29,904	30,335

Most of the leaf was Rangpur tobacco exported from Calcutta, only 4 million pounds being shipped from Bombay and Madras. This last province however produced about half the cigars exported. As the quality of manufacture keeps improving it is to be hoped that an increasing external demand will be found for Indian cigars.

175. *Dyeing and Tanning Materials*.—The trade in *Indigo* which is much the most important item under this head, indeed the only really important item, was very active during the year. The quantity exported, 168,590 cwt., was 19·5 per cent. in excess of the quantity in 1882-83 and also largely in excess of the trade of previous years. The value of the shipments is recorded as Rs. 4,64,09,906, which also was 18·6 per cent. in excess of the value in 1882-83. The indigo crop was again a good one and prices were on the whole well maintained, which is not always, nor even often, the case when the quantity of indigo available for the European market is large. Considerably more than half of the whole crop in Upper India and Bengal was produced by native cultivators, who have so very largely extended their cultivation in the North-Western Provinces that there only a very small proportion of the whole crop (15,300 maunds out of 73,000 maunds) was produced in 1883 by Europeans. In Bengal and Behar on the other hand the industry is still mainly in the hands of Europeans. A considerable quantity was shipped from Madras (51,724 cwt.), but the quality of Madras indigo is

much inferior on the whole to that shipped from Calcutta (110,015 cwt. last year). In Madras the dye may be said to be exclusively produced by natives.

The shipments were thus distributed :—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	Cwt.	Cwt.
United Kingdom - - - -	60,645	93,386
United States - - - -	27,285	21,194
France - - - -	15,513	17,396
Egypt - - - -	16,076	12,869
Austria - - - -	8,394	12,403
Persia - - - -	6,077	4,593
Asiatic Turkey - - - -	4,033	3,477
Italy - - - -	1,607	1,678
Other Countries - - - -	1,411	1,594

176. *Cutch and Gambier*.—There were 302,302 cwt. exported, value Rs. 35½ lakhs, a considerable increase on the trade of the previous year. More than two-thirds were shipped from Burma direct: in former years this substance was sent from Burma to Calcutta, thence to be shipped to England and the United States, which between them receive two-thirds of the quantity shipped.

177. In *Myrabolams* there was a small decline in trade on that of 1882-83, but its dimensions still materially exceeded those of previous years. Quantity exported 447,719 cwt., value 18½ lakhs. Of this quantity 431,053 cwt. were exported to the United Kingdom. To Australia only 4,825 cwt., value Rs. 22,525 were shipped. This trade should have attained much larger dimensions since 1880 when the qualities of this useful tan were made known to colonial tanners at the Melbourne Exhibition.

F.—Other articles manufactured.

The chief items under this head are hides and skins, dressed or tanned, and shell-lac and button lac.

178. The trade in the former again shows an increase, though not a large one on this occasion.

HIDES.					
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
No. -	801,750	1,095,453	1,197,819	1,367,843	1,331,468
Rs. -	20,24,571	35,21,015	45,29,429	54,36,591	51,43,279

SKINS.					
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
No. -	11,487,764	12,387,460	14,427,908	15,285,143	15,695,114
Rs. -	1,15,63,118	1,26,18,615	1,46,60,302	1,67,67,613	1,67,30,438

This tanning industry is mostly practised in the Madras Presidency and the resulting product finds its chief market in England. The United States and a few European countries take small quantities, but the bulk of the shipments is to England.

179. In manufactured lac there was a somewhat heavy decline, exports amounting to only 111,647 cwt., which was nearly 17 per cent, less than the exports of 1882-83. Prices in the English market kept generally low owing to the accumulation of stocks in excess of demands. The value of the trade was 55½ lakhs.

Of other articles in this sub-class it is not necessary to write, none of them being of any particular importance. The only items which represent any substantial value are coir goods, cordage and rope, and oilcake (Rs. 13·7 lakhs, 4·9 lakhs, and 3·7 lakhs respectively). In cordage and rope there was a considerable increase, while the other two items show a diminished trade.

V.—Oils.

180. Total trade :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Gallons -	4,205,815	4,999,184	4,305,176	3,644,632	4,337,151
Rs. -	56,94,532	58,11,394	46,82,274	41,62,768	49,59,768

Castor oil represents three-fourths of this trade, and the shipments of this oil have been thus distributed :—

	Gallons. 1882-83.	Gallons. 1883-84.
United Kingdom - - -	1,569,112	1,578,670
Australia - - -	454,684	823,851
Straits - - -	169,301	206,606
Mauritius - - -	84,460	126,441
Hong-Kong - - -	82,278	109,529
Ceylon - - -	90,855	109,429
Other Countries - - -	120,898	147,537

Cocoon oil, the only other kind of importance, was shipped mainly to the United Kingdom and France. Total trade 988,514 gallons, value Rs. 11,82,896.

Elsewhere in this review attention has been drawn to the fact, to which attention has repeatedly been drawn before, that oil seeds are exported in enormous quantities while the country possesses the capacity of resolving them into oil and might export the manufactured article on a large scale. Oil mills at Calcutta or Bombay for the expression of oil for export would be a remunerative industry, as they have in fact already proved to be as far as the business has been carried.

181. The following table shows for the principal items whether the increase or decrease of value in each case was due to increase or decrease of quantity exported or of prices :—

Articles.	1883-84.		More or less than in 1882-83.		Difference in value due to	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Drugs and Narcotics—</i>						
Cinchona bark - - - lbs.	306,419	40,645	- 385,189	- 38,441	41,316	- 2,875
Opium - - - cwt.	126,585	11,294,460	- 204	- 186,916	18,473	168,443
Tobacco (including cigars) - lbs.	19,085,543	167,650	+ 7,983,747	+ 52,107	83,092	- 30,986
<i>Food Stuffs—</i>						
Coffee - - - cwt.	340,025	1,488,863	- 13,299	+ 46,659	- 52,402	99,061
Rice (not in the husk) - - "	26,832,186	8,330,079	- 4,197,535	- 110,012	1,141,730	- 1,031,718
Wheat - - - "	20,956,495	8,877,561	+ 6,812,088	+ 2,808,627	2,922,859	- 114,232
Spices - - - lbs.	17,227,202	365,437	- 2,388,425	- 11,474	45,893	- 34,419
Sugar (refined and unrefined) - cwt.	1,630,520	943,218	+ 311,822	+ 134,442	191,245	- 56,803
Tea - - - lbs.	59,911,703	4,083,880	+ 2,145,478	+ 384,384	137,402	246,982
<i>Goods fully Manufactured—</i>						
Cotton piece goods, grey - yds.	42,039,360	469,921	+ 11,082,975	+ 109,362	129,087	- 19,725
Cotton piece goods, coloured, &c. - "	13,419,183	381,947	+ 2,964,801	+ 67,562	89,158	- 21,596
Jute bags - - - No.	63,645,984	1,256,259	+ 2,908,333	- 175,325	- 68,549	243,874
Lac, shell and button - - cwt.	110,816	553,332	- 22,804	- 138,403	118,054	20,349
Silk piece goods - - - yds.	2,917,224	281,664	+ 125,160	+ 5,275	12,389	- 7,114
Woollen shawls - - - No.	12,754	54,267	+ 664	- 22,905	- 4,238	27,143
<i>Goods partly Manufactured—</i>						
Cotton twist and yarn - - lbs.	49,876,606	1,926,162	+ 4,498,566	+ 109,344	180,110	- 70,766
Indigo - - - cwt.	168,590	4,640,991	+ 27,549	+ 727,994	764,311	- 36,317
Hides and skins, dressed or tanned. - "	230,092	2,187,372	- 6,327	- 33,048	59,423	- 26,375
Oils, castor - - - gals.	3,102,063	312,970	+ 530,475	+ 58,734	52,444	6,290
" cocoonut - - - "	988,514	118,290	+ 131,987	+ 23,329	14,633	8,696
Saltpetre - - - cwt.	491,668	464,410	+ 92,103	+ 75,644	89,613	- 13,969
Silk, raw (including waste) - lbs.	1,558,755	623,489	+ 222,774	+ 82,011	90,291	- 8,280
<i>Raw Material—</i>						
Caoutchouc, raw - - - cwt.	9,173	113,359	- 1,385	- 12,557	16,518	- 3,961
Cotton, raw - - - "	5,979,494	14,383,728	- 188,784	- 1,665,289	491,190	1,174,099
Myrabolams - - - "	447,719	184,106	- 23,448	- 592	9,192	- 8,600
Cutch and gambier - - - "	302,302	353,200	+ 55,796	+ 47,957	69,091	- 21,134
Hides and skins, raw - - - "	685,358	2,476,365	+ 55,613	+ 253,015	196,345	56,670
Jute, raw - - - "	7,017,985	4,592,635	- 3,330,924	- 1,254,291	1,881,905	- 627,614
<i>Oilseeds—</i>						
Linseed - - - "	8,543,766	4,584,023	+ 1,806,652	+ 1,055,542	946,212	109,330
Rape - - - "	3,985,727	2,441,433	+ 1,124,307	+ 870,910	625,837	245,073
Til or jinjili - - - "	2,853,382	1,979,754	+ 547,968	+ 517,379	347,588	169,791
Other sorts - - - "	1,969,900	1,050,129	+ 738,718	+ 435,025	369,066	65,959
Stone—jade - - - "	3,845	81,296	- 314	- 8,794	6,802	1,992
Teak timber - - - cubic tons	46,471	525,447	- 12,716	- 85,813	131,326	- 45,513
Wool, raw - - - lbs.	20,036,196	755,841	- 1,525,107	- 34,565	55,908	- 21,343

COASTING TRADE.

182. The whole value of the coasting trade of India for each of the last five years has been as follows:—

		1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
IMPORTS—						
MERCHANDISE	{ Country	Rs. 18,52,68,780	Rs. 18,61,97,949	Rs. 19,30,40,889	Rs. 20,20,25,033	Rs. 21,91,18,219
	{ Foreign	5,15,43,509	5,73,73,477	5,12,62,086	5,21,73,285	5,96,22,832
TOTAL -		23,67,72,289	24,35,71,426	24,43,02,975	25,41,98,318	27,87,41,071
TREASURE	-	4,39,49,003	2,93,31,113	2,88,70,681	4,06,65,571	3,47,60,432
TOTAL IMPORTS -		28,01,21,292	27,29,02,539	27,31,73,656	29,48,63,889	31,35,01,503
EXPORTS—						
MERCHANDISE	{ Country	17,37,59,690	16,93,88,626	16,98,31,993	18,48,85,633	19,43,41,877
	{ Foreign	5,68,52,036	6,43,46,240	5,79,54,385	6,03,56,777	6,76,33,605
TOTAL -		23,06,11,726	23,37,34,866	22,77,86,378	24,52,42,409	26,19,75,482
TREASURE	-	3,59,35,350	3,64,49,816	2,96,25,355	3,31,61,251	3,69,26,062
TOTAL EXPORTS -		26,65,47,076	27,01,84,682	25,74,11,733	27,84,03,660	29,89,01,544
TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS		54,66,68,368	54,30,87,221	53,05,85,389	57,32,67,549	61,24,03,047

183. The increase of trade during the year was at the rate of 7 per cent., and on the trade of five years ago 12 per cent. The advance has really been much larger than these figures would indicate for the totals of 1879-80 were still influenced by the traffic in grain caused by the famine in Southern and Western India, and the diminution in the total of the two following years was the result simply of the cessation of that trade. With the return of good seasons the traces of famine were gradually obliterated and the coasting trade increased and extended in 1882-83 and 1883-84 at a rapid rate.

184. The trade of each province during the last year is given below:—

	Merchandise.	Treasure.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bengal	11,38,28,773	1,59,29,681	12,97,58,454
Bombay	25,11,00,747	2,06,28,878	27,17,29,625
Sindh	3,64,99,178	23,70,802	3,88,69,980
Madras	8,27,60,151	55,40,221	8,83,00,372
British Burma	5,65,27,704	2,72,16,912	8,37,44,616

The provincial proportions accordingly were:—

Bengal	21.2 per cent.
Bombay	44.4 "
Sindh	6.3 "
Madras	14.4 "
Burma	13.7 "

185. What strikes one at once is that Bombay and Sindh between them have more than half of the whole coasting trade. The reason is that Bombay has no navigable rivers, but the districts on the Bombay coast are productive and wealthy and carry on an active commerce which concentrates in the port of Bombay. Of the whole coasting trade of Bombay more than half is carried on with British Indian ports within the province and a large further proportion is with Native Indian ports also within the territorial limits of the province. Karáchi also finds in Bombay the outlet required for most of that portion of the produce of Sindh which is not required for export to foreign countries and similarly its demands for the produce of other parts of India are mostly supplied from Bombay. In Madras and Bengal circumstances are somewhat different. Bengal has a very large internal traffic carried on over the navigable rivers of the Gangetic delta, so that a considerable proportion of the trade from place to place within the province need never go through a sea customs office at all and can find no place in the returns. Much of the sea coast of Bengal, all of it in fact except that of Chittagong, is poor and unproductive while the ports are difficult of access. Much the same may be said of Madras where the coast to a large extent is poor and the ports are open roadsteads with fishing villages behind them. Thus both in Madras and Bengal much the largest part of their coasting trade is carried on with ports in other presidences and the trade from place to place within these provinces is to a material extent carried by land. In Burma also the largest part of the trade is with

other presidences, mainly with Bengal. This productive and prosperous province, it will be seen, has, with a population only a tenth of that of Madras, nearly as large a coasting trade.

186. Of the articles of foreign merchandise which are transferred by sea from Foreign centres of distribution to other parts of India it is perhaps not necessary to speak in any detail. They consist mainly of—

	Value last year.
Cotton twist - - - - -	90·57 lakhs.
Grey piece goods - - - - -	115·73 "
White " - - - - -	58·37 "
Coloured " - - - - -	57·13 "
Metals - - - - -	54·20 "
Provisions - - - - -	13·41 "
Silk, raw - - - - -	15·36 "
" goods - - - - -	16·06 "
Sugar - - - - -	20·62 "
Tea - - - - -	7·50 "
Woollen goods - - - - -	19·07 "
Kerosene oil - - - - -	9·28 "
Apparel - - - - -	15·81 "
Glass and glassware - - - - -	7·44 "
Hardware and cutlery - - - - -	7·85 "
Liquors - - - - -	7·77 "

Looking at the larger items, we find the Madras Presidency receiving much the largest proportion of cotton twist, Calcutta and Bombay being the sources of supply. Of grey piece goods also Bombay is much the largest centre of distribution, the largest part being sent to Karáchi and to the ports of the Bombay Presidency. The grey piece goods imported into Calcutta, which are much larger in quantity than those imported into Bombay, are mostly sent into the interior for distribution by road, rail, and river. Bombay is again the largest distributor of white and coloured piece goods to the same places and to Madras, while Burma receives a large quantity from Bengal. The distribution of copper is mainly confined to the supply of the Bombay ports from Bombay and of Bengal ports from Calcutta, while iron is sent rather largely from Bombay to the Madras ports and to Karáchi. It may be noted that it is chiefly the ports on the Malabar Coast of Madras which are supplied from Bombay. The trade in sugar (Mauritus and China sugar) is limited practically to the supply from Bombay of Karáchi and of other ports in the Bombay Presidency. China tea chiefly goes from the same port to Karáchi, thence to be sent, most of it, to Kandahar by rail and to the Punjab for Kabul. Burma gets from Bengal most of the woollen goods sent coastwise.

187. It is more important to note the distribution coastwise of the merchandise produced or manufactured in India. Amongst the most important of these are:— Indian goods.

- (1.) Coffee, value $17\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs; this, being a product of the Madras Presidency, is sent round to the chief port of the province and to Bombay for shipment to Europe and for local consumption.
- (2.) Coir, manufactured, value $14\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, is imported into Bengal and Bombay from Madras and Travancore, being a staple manufacture of Southern India.
- (3.) Cotton, raw, value 477 lakhs. The bulk of this large trade is carried into Bombay from Karwar, Surat, Kutch and Kattiawar for shipment to Europe and for the local mills. A smaller quantity (value $33\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs) was imported from Bombay into Bengal for the local mills.
- (4.) Cotton twist and yarn, value $93\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Of this important and rapidly-growing trade 6,730,700 lbs., valued at 36 lakhs, was Bombay-made twist sent to Calcutta, where Bombay and locally made twist of the coarser sorts (up to No. 24) have completely displaced English twist.
- (5.) Grey piece goods, value 47·63 lakhs. These also are largely imported into Calcutta from Bombay—12,688,042 yards, value $26\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs last year. Of the balance much is sent to Karáchi and a small quantity to Madras and Bombay ports. Most of the trade in piece goods is carried on however by rail which takes it into all parts of the interior of the country. The total quantity transferred by sea was 33,049,270 yards.

- (6.) In white piece goods the trade is smaller. The value last year was $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, representing 614,746 yards. This is mainly a Madras manufacture, in which muslins figure largely. Close on two-thirds of the trade are limited to transfers from one port to another in Madras, and Burma imports a small quantity.
- (7.) In coloured piece goods the trade is more extensive, 5,342,618 yards, value 17.68 lakhs. This trade is shared both by Madras and Bombay and it is mainly confined to the ports in those provinces with the addition of a certain quantity sent to Burma, chiefly for the Madras labourers so largely employed in that province.
- (8.) Indigo: 11,129 cwt., value $13\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Chiefly exported from Karáchi to Bombay. Inferior indigo is largely made in Sindh and the Punjab. The indigo of Bengal and Madras is not carried about the country by sea. It is produced in the interior of the country and what remains for local supply after exportation to foreign countries is distributed by road and rail.
- (9.) Turmeric: 148,377 cwt., value 14 lakhs. Carried about between Madras and Bombay ports to a large extent and a smaller portion imported from Madras into Bengal.
- (10.) Cocoanut and cocoanut kernel. A considerable trade, representing a value of 67 lakhs last year. The bulk of it consists of imports into Bombay from Madras ports, Goa, and Travancore.

(11.) *Food-grains:*

	Cwt.	Rs.
Gram - - -	301,730	9,23,921
Jowari and bajra - - -	291,531	8,58,726
Pulse - - -	339,508	11,90,024
Rice in the husk (paddy) -	1,762,659	35,39,078
Rice, husked - - -	5,466,964	1,94,13,133
Wheat - - -	358,575	15,00,758
Other grains - - -	389,378	9,78,691

The total value of the trade in food-grains was 284 lakhs, the quantity amounting to 8,910,345 cwt. In 1882-83 the figures were 8,680,788 cwt., value 262 lakhs. Last year this trade was nearly 62 per cent. smaller than in the famine time of 1877-78 and 20 per cent. smaller than in 1878-79.

Of the trade in gram two-thirds represent imports into Madras ports from other provinces and from ports within the presidency. To a large extent it is limited to interchange between ports within the presidency.

Jowari and bajra. Exclusively a Bombay trade, Karáchi sending the greater part of this grain to Bombay ports and the remainder being quite local.

Pulse. About half of the whole trade consisted of imports into Madras from other provinces and of local interchange. Burma also received a good deal from Bengal and the local traffic is tolerably large in Bombay.

Rice, unhusked. Nearly a million hundredweight represented local trade in Bombay, the grain coming mainly from the southern ports of the presidency. Madras imported most of the remainder, chiefly from Bengal and Bombay.

Rice, husked. Bombay imported more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ million hundredweight from other provinces, mainly from Bengal, and Madras also imported nearly 1,700,000 cwt., also chiefly from Bengal. Burma—the great rice producing province of India—also imported about 92,000 cwt. of rice from Bengal and Madras, but this is table rice of a kind not produced in Burma. The rice of that province is not used for consumption by Europeans in that province, and the Madras native troops and coolies prefer the rice of their own country. Apart from these transactions the trade is quite local, consisting to a great extent of rice sent from the Orissa ports to Calcutta.

Wheat. The bulk of the trade consists of importations from Karáchi and from Bombay ports into Bombay, and the same may be said of “other (undescribed) sorts” of grain.

- (12.) Cutch is exported almost exclusively from Burma, the greater part going to Calcutta for shipment to foreign ports. Some is also sent in small quantities to Madras and Bombay, chiefly for consumption with the pan leaf. Value of trade $13\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs.
- (13.) Hides, raw, value $23\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. Mainly a local trade, the hides being brought to the ports of Madras for shipment and for tanning from the

other ports of the Presidency. In the same way the outports of Bengal send hides to Calcutta. A similar trade exists in Madras in dressed or tanned hides and skins, value $14\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, and in raw skins, value $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The whole trade in hides and skins of all descriptions amounted to nearly 53 lakhs.

- (14.) Jute, raw—cwt. 1,172,541, value Rs. 78,42,706. Almost altogether a local Bengal trade, from Naraingunge and Chittagong to Calcutta for the mills and for export. Only a small quantity is sent to Bombay where there is a mill for working this fibre.
- (15.) Gunny bags, total number 47,701,393, value Rs. 1,12,19,579. These are mostly mill-made bags exported from Calcutta to all other Provinces in India as well as to the smaller ports of Bengal. Gunny cloth is also similarly exported in large quantity from Calcutta chiefly to Bombay for cotton bales; about $7\frac{1}{4}$ million yards were thus imported into Bombay last year.
- (16.) Liquors. Chiefly a trade in country liquor between the ports of the Bombay Presidency, total value of trade Rs. 25,47,445.
- (17.) Oils, mineral. Petroleum is imported into Bengal from Burma where it is produced, but the whole quantity exported from Burma is still small, only 429,037 gallons last year.

Castor oil is imported chiefly into Bombay from Madras ports and those of the Gaekwar's territory. Burma and Bengal also receive some from Madras. Total value of trade $8\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, representing a quantity of 704,574 gallons.

The trade in cocoanut oil is much larger, 1,819,684 gallons, value 25 lakhs last year. This is mainly a Madras industry, a large proportion of the oil being sent to Bombay from Madras ports and Cochin, the rest being sent chiefly to Bengal and Burma.

Earthnut oil is also a Madras industry. It is sent thence and from Pondicherry chiefly to Burma and in smaller quantity to Bengal.

(18.) Provisions:—

Ghee, 4 million pounds, value $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. This article is imported into Bombay from Karáchi and Kathiawar and into Burma from Bengal and Madras, chiefly the latter. There is a good deal of local trade within the limits of the Bombay Presidency.

Salted fish, 19,694,560 lbs., value Rs. 11,23,938. There is a considerable local trade in salted fish between the ports in the Bombay Presidency and a good deal is imported into the presidency from Diu, Goa, and Kathiawar. From Madras also some is sent to Burma and there is a local trade in it in that Province, much of it being what is known as *ngapee*.

Of other kinds of provisions Burma imports the largest proportion.

- (19.) Salt, 106,111 tons, value Rs. 42,58,804. Of this quantity 46,079 tons represented salt conveyed from one part to another within the limits of the Bombay Presidency; 29,344 tons were sent from Bombay to places on the west coast of Madras, and 2,070 tons were sent to the same places from Goa; Bengal received 19,691 tons from Bombay and 953 tons from Madras, and Bombay itself received 3,584 tons from Goa.

- (20.) *Seeds*.—Castor seed, 620,112 cwt., value 31 lakhs, of which 567,521 cwt. represented imports into Bengal from Madras. This is mostly a Madras trade, a small quantity only being sent from Cutch and Kathiawar to Bombay.

Rapeseed, 275,546 cwt., value Rs. 18.16 lakhs. This is almost all received in Bombay from Karáchi.

Til or jinjili, 247,410 cwt., value 17.32 lakhs. This seed is shipped mostly to Burma from Madras and Bengal, the former Province having most of the trade.

Of other sorts of seeds, undescribed (value 27.66 lakhs) Bombay has most of the trade, which is to a great extent local between British and Native ports in that Presidency.

- (21.) Silk, raw, 347,019 lbs., value $17\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. This is almost exclusively shipped from Calcutta to Madras.
- (22.) Silk piece goods, 1,005,902 yards, value 10.28 lakhs. Most of these are sent to Burma from Bengal and Bombay, the latter also sending some quantity to Karáchi.
- (23.) Spices.—The trade is large in Betelnuts, 46,604,608 pounds, value 62.84 lakhs. Close on half the imports are received in Burma which gets

them from Bengal. Of the remainder the greatest part consists of imports into Bombay from Bengal and Madras and local traffic between the ports of the Bombay Presidency and Goa.

Cardamoms, 604,138 lbs., value 17·29 lakhs, are mainly brought to Bombay from the ports on the Malabar coast.

Of Ginger there is a tolerably large import into Bombay from Madras.

In Pepper there is a large trade, 11,318,390 lbs., value 34 lakhs, of which more than two-thirds are imports into Bengal and Bombay from Madras and reshipments from Bombay to Karáchi. The rest is mainly local traffic.

(24.) Sugar refined, 161,125 cwt., value 24½ lakhs. About half the trade consists of sugar sent from Bengal and Madras to Bombay where it competes with Mauritius and China sugar. Madras also sent nearly 20,000 cwt. to Bengal and more than that to Burma.

(25.) Sugar, unrefined, 526,253 lbs., value 33½ lakhs. This is almost altogether local trade in jaggery in Bombay and Madras.

(26.) Tea, 1,155,219 lbs., value close on 7 lakhs. The greater part of this (851,382 lbs.) consists of tea brought from Chittagong to Calcutta for sale there and shipment to Europe. Of the rest 221,136 lbs. were shipped from Calcutta to Bombay.

(27.) Tobacco leaf, 30,010,920 lbs., value 47·84 lakhs. Of this trade about two-thirds consist of tobacco leaf exported from Bengal and Madras to Burma, and 1,151,677 lbs. imported from Cambay and other native ports in the Bombay Presidency into Bombay. The rest is quite local traffic.

Cigars, a small export, of which two-thirds from Madras to Bengal and other provinces.

(28.) Teakwood, 122,861 cubic tons, value 104·6 lakhs. This is nearly all sent from Burma to Bengal, Bombay, Madras and Sindh. The quantity thus consumed in the country is far larger than that exported to foreign countries.

(29.) Wool, raw, 12,316,968 lbs., value 36·21 lakhs. Exclusively exports from Karáchi, Cutch and Kathiawar to Bombay for shipment to Europe.

COASTING SHIPPING.

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

ENTERED.

	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Native Craft.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1879-80	4,718	4,425,807	3,800	695,819	148,335	2,485,451
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	5,512	5,924,439	4,634	487,460	169,090	2,669,128
CLEARED.						
1879-80	4,658	4,341,247	3,510	595,927	137,331	2,210,281
1880-81	4,665	4,614,583	3,607	549,113	137,583	2,267,074
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
ENTERED AND CLEARED.						
1879-80	9,376	8,767,054	7,310	1,291,746	285,666	4,695,732
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	11,054,170	9,310	1,069,955	307,923	4,922,969
1883-84	11,086	11,900,036	9,263	945,700	325,519	5,222,800

This statement shows that the substitution of steamers for sailing vessels in the coasting trade still proceeds, steam tonnage increasing every year, while sailing tonnage has declined. Native boats seem to be able to hold their ground and show a material increase in tonnage.