

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, dated the 24th February 1876.*

[STATISTICS.]

READ—

THE Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India with Foreign Countries and of the Coasting Trade between the several Presidencies and Provinces in the year ending the 31st March 1875.

READ also—

A Review of the figures contained in the statement, compiled by Mr. J. E. O'Connor, Assistant Secretary in the Statistical Branch of this Department.

RESOLUTION.

The publication of these accounts has been somewhat delayed, but the delay was unavoidable, owing to the discovery of serious errors in the accounts of the coasting trade of Madras and Bombay for the year and for previous years. The nature of these errors is explained at page 75 of the review prepared by Mr. O'Connor. The errors in question in the Madras accounts represented the entire omission from all published statements of the value of the coasting trade between British ports in that province, amounting in 1874-75 to no less a sum than £4,974,716. In Bombay the errors consisted of a similar omission up to the year 1873-74 of the value of a trade which amounted in 1874-75 to £13,049,870, and of a discrepancy of over two millions sterling between the annual account of trade and navigation published in that presidency and the annual account (Part II) published by the Government of India compiled from figures furnished monthly by the local authorities, the trade with Cutch, Kattywar, and Foreign Konkan having been omitted from the local monthly returns. It does not appear that any blame is to be attributed to the officers who compiled the accounts in Madras and Bombay, the instructions given for the preparation of the forms prescribed by the Government of India in 1871 having been misunderstood.

2. On the discovery of these errors a complete revision of the figures for the year and for the previous four years became necessary, and much delay ensued in the issue of the volume, which was in the press as long ago as October 1875. The delay, however, has been more than compensated by the rectification of vital errors which had run through successive volumes of statistics published by the Government of India. It is believed that under the strict system of classification which has now been adopted, the recurrence of such mistakes is impossible.

3. The review of the Accounts is so full, that further comment on the results of the trade of the year is unnecessary. The Governor-General in Council wishes it to be understood that the opinions expressed in the review are those of the compiler individually, and that His Excellency in Council is not prepared to endorse them. But whether the facts justify in every case the conclusions drawn from them or not, the facts themselves are clearly set out and the details carefully arranged, and the paper is a useful résumé of the extent and direction of Indian trade in all important particulars for 1874-75 and for various periods preceding that year. Copies will therefore be circulated with copies of this Resolution and of the accounts on which the review is based, for general information.

(True Extract)

A. O. HUME,

*Secretary to the Government of India.*

1876.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,  
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

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STATISTICS.

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RESOLUTION.

No. 124.

*Dated Calcutta, the 24th February 1876.*

SUBJECT.

ANNUAL Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India for the year ending 31st March 1875, and Review thereof, compiled in the Statistical Branch of the Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

TRADE AND NAVIGATION OF BRITISH INDIA IN 1871-72.

No. 3958, dated 4th November 1872.

Read—

The Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India in the year 1871-72.

OBSERVATIONS.—The following is a *résumé* of the principal results of the Foreign Trade and Navigation of British India in the year 1871-72.

2. For the sake of condensation, the figures of 1871-72 will be compared with those of 1870-71, as the aggregate value of the trade in the latter year was, as regards merchandize, after allowing for the reduced import tariff valuations made in March 1869 on cotton goods and metals, higher than that of any of the three years immediately preceding.

3. The import of treasure in 1871-72 largely recovered from the depression in 1870-71, and nearly reached the average amount imported in each of the three years preceding 1870-71.

4. The aggregate value of the foreign trade in 1870-71 and 1871-72 respectively, with the differences between them, is shown in the following Statement:—

IMPORTS.

	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
	£	£	£
Merchandize ... ..	33,413,906	31,083,747	— 2,330,159
Treasure ... ..	5,444,823	11,573,813	+ 6,128,990
TOTAL ... ..	38,858,729	42,657,560	+ 3,798,831 (net).

EXPORTS.

	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
	£	£	£
Merchandize ... ..	55,331,825	63,185,847	+ 7,854,022
Treasure ... ..	2,220,765	1,476,093	— 744,672
TOTAL ... ..	57,552,590	64,661,940	+ 7,109,350 (net).

GRAND TOTAL OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
	£	£	£
Merchandize ... ..	88,745,731	94,269,594	+ 5,523,863
Treasure ... ..	7,665,588	13,049,906	+ 5,384,318
TOTAL ... ..	96,411,319	107,319,500	+ 10,908,181

5. The foregoing Table shows that the total value of the trade in 1871-72 amounted to £107,319,500, or nearly £1 $\frac{3}{4}$  million more than that of the highest preceding year (1868-69) since the close of the Civil War in America.

6. The following Statement shows the total value of *Imports*—merchandise and treasure collectively—from each principal country:—

COUNTRIES.	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom and Suez ... ..	23,349,903	32,730,458	+ 3,880,555
France ... ..	423,448	555,201	+ 131,753
Germany ... ..	36,296	33,501	- 2,795
Mediterranean Ports ... ..	148,227	285,378	+ 137,151
Other European Countries ... ..	19,220	22,113	+ 2,893
America ... ..	66,099	73,177	+ 7,078
West Indies ... ..	24	407	+ 383
Africa and adjacent Coasts ... ..	167,943	208,024	+ 40,081
Mauritius ... ..	414,604	562,604	+ 148,000
Bourbon ... ..	24,051	37,824	+ 13,773
Red Sea ... ..	372,518	394,337	+ 21,819
Aden ... ..	185,283	161,429	- 23,854
Persian Gulf ... ..	1,114,391	853,540	- 260,851
Sonmeanee and Mekran ... ..	38,780	42,281	+ 3,501
Laccadives and Maldives ... ..	48,614	68,222	+ 19,608
Ceylon ... ..	1,034,647	1,087,661	+ 53,014
Straits ... ..	956,828	884,111	- 72,717
China ... ..	4,290,335	4,014,500	- 275,835
Other Countries in Asia ... ..	196,290	69,214	- 127,076
Australia ... ..	471,228	573,578	+ 102,350
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>38,858,729</b>	<b>42,657,560</b>	<b>+ 3,798,831 (net).</b>

7. The preceding Statement shows that the increase in the trade with the United Kingdom and Suez in 1871-72 exceeded by £81,724 the net total increase for all the other countries; for, although there was an increase in thirteen out of the other nineteen countries specified, the total falling-off in six of them, chiefly the Persian Gulf and China, exceeded the aggregate increase under the thirteen by the above amount. The decrease shown against the Persian Gulf occurred principally in cotton raw to the extent of £70,266; in fruits and vegetables £55,484, and in treasure £127,714. The decrease appearing against China occurred chiefly in silk raw to the extent of £271,297.

8. The import trade with the Mediterranean Ports increased from £14,162 in 1867-68 to £285,378 in 1871-72. It remained almost stationary from 1867-68 to 1869-70, but in 1870-71 it increased *per saltum*, *i. e.*, from £12,292 in 1869-70 to £148,227 in 1870-71.

9. The next Statement shows the aggregate value of *Exports* of merchandise and treasure to each country:—

COUNTRIES.	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom and Suez ... ..	32,083,883	33,020,521	+ 936,638
France ... ..	2,012,818	4,175,233	+ 2,162,415
Germany ... ..	255,011	355,598	+ 100,577
Mediterranean Ports ... ..	1,429,818	2,230,125	+ 800,307
Other Countries in Europe ... ..	235,179	987,833	+ 702,654
America ... ..	2,479,240	2,310,491	- 168,749
West Indies ... ..	126,950	129,521	+ 2,571
Africa and adjacent Coasts ... ..	292,652	257,217	- 35,435
Mauritius ... ..	628,413	643,100	+ 14,687
Bourbon ... ..	187,466	94,849	- 92,617
Red Sea ... ..	263,665	260,005	- 3,660
Aden ... ..	263,558	389,071	+ 125,513
Persian Gulf ... ..	1,430,200	1,386,326	- 43,874
Sonmeanee and Mekran ... ..	39,579	30,614	- 8,965
Laccadives and Maldives ... ..	38,907	38,849	- 58
Ceylon ... ..	1,620,608	2,087,807	+ 467,199
Straits ... ..	1,602,901	2,154,630	+ 551,729
China ... ..	12,332,751	13,944,223	+ 1,611,472
Other Countries in Asia ... ..	99,464	61,528	- 37,936
Australia ... ..	79,527	104,409	+ 24,882
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>57,552,590</b>	<b>64,661,940</b>	<b>+ 7,109,350 (net).</b>

10. The above Table shows an increase in twelve countries in 1871-72 amounting in the aggregate to £7,500,644, and a decrease in eight countries amounting to £391,294, or a net total increase of £7,109,350. Of this amount, £2,162,415 occurs under France. These figures, therefore, show that the export trade to France, which was so seriously interrupted in 1870-71 by the Franco-German War, quite recovered itself last year; the value of India's exports to France in 1871-72 being £4,175,230 against £2,012,819 in 1870-71, £4,227,280 in 1869-70, £4,103,097 in 1868-69, and £2,473,586 in 1867-68.

11. The increase under China occurs principally in opium. In fact there was an increase in that article in 1871-72 of nearly £2¼ millions, but there was a net decrease on various other articles which reduced the net total increase to the sum shown in the Table.

12. The export trade with the Mediterranean Ports has increased largely within the last five years. In 1867-68 its value was £177,000; in 1871-72 it amounted to £2¼ millions. The increase occurs in the general trade, but chiefly in the following articles, *viz.* :—

	1867-68.	1871-72.
	£	£
Cotton, Raw	148,994	1,465,785
Indigo	10,410	473,303
Hides	<i>Nil</i>	143,921
Jute, Raw	<i>Nil</i>	13,292
Seeds	4,430	25,349
Silk, Raw	432	51,549

13. This considerable expansion has, of course, resulted from the opening of the Suez Canal, which, it may be said, has thus created a new, or rather has resuscitated an ancient and historical trade which for ages used to be carried on, *viâ* Egypt, between India and the Ports of the Mediterranean.

14. The Suez Canal has also introduced India to a direct trade, especially of export, with several European countries with some of whom she had previously had very slight direct commercial intercourse, and with the remainder apparently none whatever. Her import trade with these countries has always been insignificant, for in 1867-68 its value was £70,300, and in 1871-72 only £21,700, or a decrease of £48,600 in the latter year. In the intervening three years the value fluctuated, usually declining; while her exports, which amounted to only £57,400 in 1867-68, reached £987,800 in 1871-72, or an increase of about £930,400. This large increase occurs, principally, under Russia, Holland, and Belgium, and is almost wholly represented by cotton raw, which stands for upwards of £844,000 out of the total increase. It is probable that this increase in the direct trade between India and the several countries referred to represents so much diverted from the re-export trade of England, for it is likely that in former years these countries obtained their supplies of India cotton from English Ports.

22. The following Statement shows the quantities and values of the principal and other articles exported—excluding Treasure:—

EXPORTS.

ARTICLES.	QUANTITIES.			VALUES.		
	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
<b>INDIAN MERCHANDIZE.</b>						
Coffee ... ..	Lbs. 33,459,426	56,363,838	+ 22,904,412	£ 800,090	1,368,949	+ 568,859
Cotton, Raw ... ..	577,600,764	809,246,087	+ 231,645,323	19,460,899	21,272,430	+ 1,811,531
„ Manufactures ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	321,084	369,964	+ 48,880
Grains—Rice ... ..	Cwts. 15,792,022	16,990,890	+ 1,198,868	4,146,638	4,446,588	+ 299,950
„ Paddy ... ..	295,791	320,395	+ 24,604	57,213	52,573	- 4,640
„ Wheat ... ..	248,522	637,099	+ 388,577	103,833	295,644	+ 131,811
„ Other Sorts ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	161,274	130,942	- 30,332
Hides and Skins ... ..	No. 16,300,150	20,043,959	+ 3,743,809	2,020,819	2,525,860	+ 505,041
Indigo ... ..	Cwts. 103,184	115,414	+ 12,230	3,192,503	3,687,762	+ 495,259
Jute, Raw ... ..	3,754,083	6,133,813	+ 2,379,730	2,577,553	4,117,308	+ 1,539,755
„ Manufactures... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	342,425	182,459	- 159,966
Lac of all kinds ... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	190,825	278,945	+ 88,120
Oils ... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..	177,222	414,918	+ 237,696
Opium ... ..	Chests 85,518	93,364	+ 7,846	10,783,864	13,365,228	+ 2,581,364
Saltpetre ... ..	Cwts. 482,949	432,210	- 50,739	440,554	397,251	- 43,303
Seeds ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	3,522,305	2,728,127	- 794,178
Shawls ... ..	Pieces 10,578	17,391	+ 6,813	135,026	167,719	+ 32,693
Silk, Raw ... ..	Lbs. 2,131,399	1,893,322	- 238,077	1,258,527	1,081,097	- 177,430
„ Manufactures ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	150,318	152,662	+ 2,344
Spices ... ..	Cwts. 195,057	288,208	+ 93,151	201,082	284,660	+ 83,578
Sugar, &c. ... ..	307,144	372,897	+ 65,753	241,031	288,048	+ 44,017
Tea ... ..	Lbs. 13,232,232	17,187,328	+ 3,955,096	1,120,517	1,454,985	+ 334,468
Teak Timber ... ..	Tons. 32,632	42,459	+ 9,827	228,727	291,280	+ 62,553
Wool, Raw ... ..	Lbs. 19,185,039	24,122,562	+ 4,937,523	661,653	902,900	+ 241,247
All other Articles ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	1,252,699	1,498,926	+ 246,227
Total ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	53,551,681	61,697,225	+ 8,145,544 (net).
<b>FOREIGN MERCHANDIZE.</b>						
Total Value ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	1,780,144	1,488,622	- 291,522
GRAND TOTAL ... ..	£ ...	... ..	... ..	55,331,825	63,185,847	+ 7,854,022 (net).

23. The preceding figures for 1871-72 show a large general improvement both in quantities and in values; the principal items of increase being coffee, cotton raw, rice, hides and skins, indigo, jute raw, oils, opium, tea, and wool raw; those of decrease being jute manufactures, seeds, and silk raw; the grand total value showing a net increase of the considerable sum of £8,145,544.

24. Some of the heaviest items, *i. e.*, cotton raw, grains, and jute raw, show a higher ratio of increase in quantities than in values, owing to the average prices of these articles being lower in 1871-72. Thus:—

PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE IN 1871-72.			AVERAGE PRICES IN 1870-71 AND 1871-72.		
	In quantities.	In value.		1870-71.	1871-72.
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Cotton, Raw ...	40·10	9·31	Cotton, Raw ... per lb.	0 5 5 (=81d. This has been considered an excessive valuation.)	0 4 2 (=6½d.—a moderate price.)
Rice ...	7·53	7·21	Rice... .. per cwt.	2 10 0	2 9 10
Paddy ...	8·32	(-) 8·11	Paddy ... ..	1 14 11	1 10 3
Wheat ...	156·35	126·94	Wheat .. ..	4 2 10	3 11 2
Jute, Raw ...	63·39	59·74	Jute, Raw ... ..	6 13 10	6 11 5

25. On the other hand, indigo, opium (largely), coffee, hides, teak timber, and a few other articles show higher prices in 1871-72.

26. The rice trade was very prosperous in 1871-72. Excepting the year 1864-65 for quantities and values, and 1865-66 for value only (in both of these years large quantities of rice were sent to China in consequence of a famine in that country), the figures for 1871-72 are the highest yet recorded.\* Nearly the whole increase in 1871-72 over 1870-71 occurred in the British Burmah trade, which stands for 1,051,611 cwts. out of the total increase of 1,198,868 cwts.

27. The following Statement shows the total amount of customs duty collected on imports and exports:—

	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
	£	£	£
Imports ... ..	4,296,563	4,129,155	-167,408
Exports ... ..	640,322	687,768	+47,446
TOTAL ... ..	4,936,885	4,816,923	-119,962 (net).

28. The total amount of duty collected on principal and other articles of import and export is shown in the following Statement:—

IMPORTS.

ARTICLES.	1870-71.	1871-72.	Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.
	£	£	£
Apparel ... ..	32,200	37,309	+ 5,109
Cotton Goods ... ..	899,295	840,694	- 58,601
Fruits and Vegetables ... ..	30,826	26,520	- 4,306
Liquors ... ..	243,054	236,146	- 6,908
Metals ... ..	164,289	136,222	- 28,067
Provisions, &c. ... ..	22,450	21,869	- 581
Salt ... ..	2,535,189	2,479,276	- 55,913
Silk Goods ... ..	85,505	69,896	- 15,609
Sugar, &c. ... ..	41,360	52,638	+ 11,278
Woollen Goods ... ..	29,390	25,975	- 3,415
Other Articles ... ..	213,005	202,610	- 10,395
TOTAL ... ..	4,296,563	4,129,155	-167,408 (net).

## EXPORTS.

ARTICLES.	1870-71.		1871-72.		Increase or Decrease in 1871-72.	
	£		£		£	
Cotton Goods ... ..	11,342		11,830		+	488
Grain—Rice ... ..	413,966		446,025		+	32,059
" Paddy ... ..	9,585		11,021		+	1,436
" Other Sorts ... ..	23,812		37,172		+	13,360
Hides and Skins (Tanned) ... ..	11,773		15,398		+	3,625
Indigo ... ..	41,521		47,125		+	5,604
Lac of all kinds ... ..	7,693		11,192		+	3,499
Oils ... ..	5,604		13,588		+	7,984
Seeds ... ..	107,998		84,846		—	23,152
Other Articles ... ..	7,028		9,571		+	2,543
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>640,322</b>		<b>687,768</b>		<b>+</b>	<b>47,446 (net)</b>

29. The various differences shown under Imports in the above Table correspond, generally, for duty with the differences shown against dutiable articles in the Import Statement on page 1182; but the comparatively small increase in the total amount of export duty does not correspond with the very large increase in the total value of exports as shown on page 1184. This is accounted for by the circumstance that the principal increments occurred under Free Goods, *viz.*, cotton raw, coffee, jute raw, opium (*quoad* export duty in its ordinary signification), tea, and wool raw, which articles represent an aggregate increase of about £7 millions of value out of the grand total increase of £8,145,544.

30. The total export duty collected on rice in 1871-72 amounted to £446,025 against £413,966 in 1870-71 and £284,464 in 1869-70, or an increase in 1871-72 over 1869-70 of £161,561=56·80 per cent.; and of these totals, British Burmah yielded in 1871-72 £237,250; in 1870-71 £220,611; and in 1869-70 £141,014, or an increase in 1871-72 over 1869-70 of £96,236=68·25 per cent; an extraordinary advance in revenue in two years—yielded by a trade, too, which only a few years ago was generally supposed to be menaced with early extinction.

31. The subjoined Statement shows the total number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared with cargoes:—

	1870-71.		1871-72.		INCREASE OR DECREASE IN 1871-72.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Entered ... ..	3,563	1,553,011	3,668	1,762,364	+105	+209,353
Cleared ... ..	5,081	1,988,606	5,461	2,259,014	+380	+270,408
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>8,644</b>	<b>3,541,617</b>	<b>9,129</b>	<b>4,021,378</b>	<b>+485</b>	<b>+479,761</b>

32. The increase in tonnage cleared corresponds with the increase in value of exports shown on page 1184, but there is a seeming discrepancy between the increase in tonnage entered and the decrease in value of imports shown on page 1182. This is accounted for by the fact that there was a large increase in tonnage of cheap cargoes, such as salt and coal, while there was a decrease in the quantities, and consequently in the weight of cotton goods which are comparatively costly—salt being valued at about £3 per ton, coal at about £2, and cotton goods at about £170 per ton. Hence occurred at the same time a diminished value and an increased tonnage.

33. The foregoing Statements show that, on the whole, the foreign trade of India in 1871-72 was remarkably prosperous. Indeed, excepting the aggregates for the years 1863-64, 1864-65, and 1865-66, when the exports of raw cotton attained their highest figures, especially in value, the grand total value of last year's imports and exports combined is the highest yet recorded.

ORDERED, that a copy of the foregoing Observations be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.



Gazette of India  
17 Jan'y 1874

Trade & Navigation of  
British India 1872-73

33. In this I received every assistance from the Governor whose orders from the Sultan were most positive. The public crier by whom Government Orders are notified, proclaimed under my orders that no Indian can hold slaves or advance money on slaves, and that all transactions in slaves between natives and Indians are illegal, both parties concerned being liable to lose their property and to be otherwise punished.

34. As a result several Indians at once placed in my hands papers of mortgage securing debts due by Arabs on their slave property. Some of these were for large sums, but in no case can such or similar bonds be proceeded on in any Court and even should they be concealed, they become debts of honor, irrecoverable by law. Hereafter all such advances naturally cease and Indian capital becomes unavailable to any Arab whose chief property consists in slaves.

35. I was unable to spare the time to visit the town of Fazi or that of Siu, on the same island, peopled by Wagunia, even had I not been unwilling for political reasons to proceed amongst that tribe before the question of Lieutenant MacCausland's murder is cleared up. On my summons, however, the Indians of both places appeared at Lamo. They include only six Hindu houses and one Bohra house, and collectively gave up 21 slaves, none of whom would return to their masters.

36. Mzee Seif, Chief of the Wagunia, summoned at my request by the Governor of Lamo, also came to the town, but the steps taken with regard to the late murder at Kionga will form the subject of a separate letter.

37. On the return voyage Captain Malcolm anchored off Ras Gomsui to allow us to inspect the country there, only a year ago there were extensive Arab plantations of oil seed and sesame here, now the ruined houses alone remain; the Gallas and Walsania having annoyed and killed the slaves who in consequence fled, the Arabs abandoned this rich locality, better suited for the growth of cotton than any land I have here seen, but lacking in any security for either property or life and possessing no indigenous labor at hand.

38. The harbor of Wasin was also visited south of Mombassa, between the island of that name and the mainland. This has been suggested as a naval depôt. It is superior as a harbor to that of Mombassa, but there is no supply of water on the island and the healthiness of the place requires further enquiry before any steps involving outlay or of a permanent nature are undertaken.

39. Here two Bohras were found who gave up eight slaves in 479 slaves freed between Wasin and Lamo from the hands of Indians.

40. While engaged on the Coast I have been assisted everywhere by Mr. F. Holmwood, who accompanied me on duty and whose services I beg to acknowledge.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. XLIX of 1873.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS ON INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	FOR WEEK ENDING		TOTAL FROM 1ST JANUARY		Total increase in 1873.	Total decrease in 1873.
		16th December 1873.	14th December 1872.	to 13th December 1873.	to 14th December 1872.		
	<i>Guaranteed.</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
3rd Jan. 1874	East Indian, Main...	7,16,989	6,50,988	2,59,75,729	2,47,60,828	12,14,301	...
3rd ditto	Ditto/Jubbulpore...	39,583	40,186	18,18,216	19,87,608	...	1,69,392
27th Dec. 1873	Eastern Bengal ...	78,862	42,080	29,39,796	26,60,443	2,79,353	...
20th ditto	Oudh & Rohilkhand ...	30,702	12,903	10,47,434	3,83,501	6,63,933	...
27th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi ...	1,15,500	1,02,592	54,54,208	50,72,226	3,81,982	...
20th ditto	Mudras ...	1,09,738	1,16,993	63,51,002	57,10,744	6,40,258	...
13th ditto	G. S. of India ...	17,129	14,844	10,18,126	7,65,967	2,52,159	...
27th ditto	Carnatic ...	584	195	38,012	32,866	5,136	...
27th ditto	G. I. Peninsula* ...	3,66,591	3,83,763	1,76,98,589	1,74,82,339	2,16,250	...
3rd Jan. 1874	Bombay, Baroda & Central India ...	93,230	1,12,131	51,57,372	51,90,388	...	33,016
	TOTAL ...	15,68,908	14,76,675	6,74,98,484	6,40,46,910	34,51,574	...
	<i>State.</i>						
3rd ditto	Calcutta and S. E. ...	1,573	2,048	96,363	78,339	18,024	...
3rd ditto	Nulhatee ...	2,613	1,470	79,452	50,946a	28,506	...
27th Dec. 1873	Rajpootana, Delhi District ...	5,806	...	77,236b	...	77,236	...
13th ditto	Rajpootana, Agra District ...	1,827	...	13,630c	...	13,630	...
	TOTAL ...	11,819	3,518	2,66,681	1,29,285	1,37,396	...
	GRAND TOTAL...	15,80,727	14,80,193	6,77,65,165	6,41,76,195	35,88,970	...

\* Including Khamgaon and Oomraotee Branches.  
(a). From 1st April to 14th December 1872.  
(b). From 1st July to 13th December 1873.  
(c). From 20th October to 13th December 1873.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

TRADE AND NAVIGATION OF BRITISH INDIA IN 1872-73.

No. 435, dated 16th January 1874.

Read—

The Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of British India in the year 1872-73.

[NOTE.—It has been found necessary to exclude from the following review imports and exports of stores and treasure on account of Government, as the statistics of these transactions are not forthcoming in a completely authentic shape.

This is much to be regretted, and arrangements are being made to ensure complete statistics for the future. All that can be said meanwhile is that the proportion of the transactions on Government account to the whole trade of the country is not probably large enough materially to disturb the general statistics.]

OBSERVATIONS.—Excluding stores and treasure on Government account, the sea-borne imports and exports of British India amounted in value to £121,012,648 in 1872-73, against £135,376,632 in 1871-72; viz. :—

	1872-73.	1871-72.	Increase or decrease in 1872-73.
	£	£	£
Foreign trade ...	91,531,103	106,991,608	—15,460,505
Interportal trade ...	29,481,545	28,385,024	+ 1,096,521

FOREIGN TRADE.

2. The total value of the several classes of the foreign trade in each of the years 1871-72 and 1872-73, their average annual value during the five years, 1867-68 to 1871-72, and the differences between the separate periods, were—

		VALUE IN 1872-73, MORE OR LESS THAN—				
		1872-73.	1871-72.	Annual average of the five years, 1867-68 to 1871-72.		
		£	£	£	1871-72.	The annual average of the five years, 1867-68 to 1871-72.
		£	£	£	£	£
IMPORTS	... { Merchandize...	30,473,069	30,810,775	33,726,872	— 337,706	— 3,253,803
	... { Treasure ...	4,556,585	11,573,813	11,423,081	— 7,017,228	— 6,866,496
	... TOTAL ...	35,029,654	42,384,588	45,149,953	— 7,354,934	—10,120,299
EXPORTS	... { Merchandize...	55,227,495	63,185,847	54,985,054	— 7,958,352	+ 242,441
	... { Treasure ...	1,273,954	1,421,173	1,167,032	— 147,219	+ 106,922
	... TOTAL ...	56,501,449	64,607,020	56,152,086	— 8,105,571	+ 349,363
TOTAL OF FOREIGN TRADE	{ Merchandize...	85,700,564	93,996,622	88,711,926	— 8,296,058	— 3,011,362
	{ Treasure ...	5,830,539	12,994,986	12,590,113	— 7,164,447	— 6,759,574
	... TOTAL ...	91,531,103	106,991,608	101,302,039	—15,460,505	— 9,770,936 (net.)

3. The value of the exports of merchandize in 1872-73 was considerably below that in 1871-72, but it was slightly above the annual average of the five years 1867-68 to 1871-72, although that average includes the exceptionally large exports of 1871-72, which exceeded the average of the four years 1867-68 to 1870-71 by £10,250,992. The differences under the exports of treasure are not material.

4. The value of merchandize imported in 1872-73 shows a slight decrease below that in 1871-72. The large falling off in 1872-73, below the annual average of the five years 1867-68 to 1871-72, is principally due to the higher tariff values of cotton goods and of metals in the years 1867-68 and

1868-69, and to the greatly diminished imports of materials for the guaranteed railways during the last two years. If the value of those materials for the years 1867-68 to 1872-73 (noted on the margin) be deducted from the total annual values, and if the higher tariff values of the earlier period be allowed for, then the actual import trade of 1872-73 would be less than the quinquennial average by only £801,481, instead of £3,253,803 as shown in the above table.

5. The large decrease of £7,164,447 in the net imports of treasure in 1872-73 occurred almost entirely in the imports from the United Kingdom and from China. It corresponds with a large decrease in exports of merchandize, and also indicates that the balance of trade in 1872-73 was settled to a larger extent than in 1871-72 and in the five preceding years otherwise than by payments of the precious metals.

6. The total value of merchandize and treasure, combined, imported from each principal foreign country in the years 1871-72 and 1872-73, respectively, was—

COUNTRIES.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase or decrease in 1872-73.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom and Suez	32,458,577	27,493,867	—4,964,710
France	555,201	378,282	— 176,919
Germany	33,501	47,494	+ 13,993
Mediterranean Ports	285,223	298,821	+ 13,598
Other European Countries	22,113	27,566	+ 5,453
America	73,177	62,482	— 10,695
West Indies	407	136	— 271
Africa and adjacent Coasts	208,024	263,317	+ 55,293
Mauritius	562,604	300,225	— 262,379
Bourbon	37,824	71,244	+ 33,420
Red Sea	394,337	426,382	+ 32,045
Aden	161,429	143,624	— 17,805
Persian Gulf	853,540	875,082	+ 21,542
Sonmeecanee and Mekran	42,281	27,591	— 14,690
Laccadives and Maldives	68,222	50,711	— 17,511
Ceylon	1,086,819	902,465	— 184,354
Straits Settlements	884,021	766,630	— 117,391
China	4,014,497	2,370,116	—1,644,381
Other Countries in Asia	69,214	68,009	— 1,205
Australia	573,577	455,610	— 117,967
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42,384,588</b>	<b>35,029,654</b>	<b>—7,354,934 (net.)</b>

7. In 1872-73, seven countries show an aggregate increase of £175,344, and thirteen show an aggregate decrease of £7,530,278, the net result being a decrease of £7,354,934, of which £337,706 occurs in merchandize and £7,017,228 in treasure. The number of countries showing increase or decrease in 1872-73 as compared with 1871-72, is almost the reverse of that resulting from a comparison of the trade of 1871-72 with that of 1870-71, which showed an increase under fourteen countries and a decrease under six.

8. The principal fluctuations in the trade with each country are noted below; but in order to obviate a too frequent repetition of the same remarks which would result from explaining the causes of the fluctuations of trade in the same articles under each country, most of such fluctuations being due to the same cause, explanations thereof will be given, once for all, in a subsequent part of this review when the aggregate trade in the principal imports and exports is being exhibited. (Paras. 41-68.)

9. The falling-off under the United Kingdom and Suez\* is entirely due to a decrease of £5,042,365 in treasure, for there was a net increase of £77,655

\* Seven-eighths of the trade shown under "Suez" is British.

n merchandize. The chief items of increases and decreases are—

		INCREASE.		
		Total Value in		
		1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase in
		£	£	1872-73.
				£
Apparel	...	442,451	529,992	87,541
Candles	...	35,251	77,206	41,955
Cotton Twist and Yarn	...	2,380,209	2,647,581	267,372
Drugs and Medicines	...	139,983	179,997	40,014
Dyeing and Coloring Materials	...	88,525	112,706	24,181
Liquors	...	1,045,032	1,143,762	98,730
Machinery	...	392,635	500,541	107,906
Silk Piece Goods	...	197,294	266,131	68,837
Woollen Piece Goods	...	429,022	640,609	211,587

		DECREASE.		
		Total Value in		
		1871-72.	1872-73.	Decrease in
		£	£	1872-73.
				£
Coal	...	480,992	456,315	24,677
Cotton Piece Goods	...	14,617,748	14,185,351	432,397
Metals, Iron	...	813,657	731,171	82,486
„ Copper	...	747,973	470,647	277,326
Railway Materials	...	514,996	327,022	187,974
Salt	...	790,226	711,561	78,665
Treasure	...	6,901,511	1,859,146	5,042,365

10. The decrease shown against France is from a falling-off in treasure worth £194,847, less an increase in merchandize of £17,928. In spirits and in wines and liqueurs there were decreases of £29,393 and £16,891, respectively; counterbalanced by increases of £29,297 in silk piece goods, of £8,668 in apparel, and of £11,569 in salt. The general trade in merchandize does not show any other noteworthy variations.

11. Mauritius shows the large decrease of £262,379, or 46·6 per cent., almost entirely, of course, under sugar, the diminution in that article being £251,723, owing doubtless to the large quantities imported in 1871-72, which year exhibited an increase of 119,599 cwts., or 37·70 per cent over 1870-71. Sugar is the only important staple imported from Mauritius, the value of the few remaining articles amounting to only a few thousand pounds a year. In 1872-73 the total value of merchandize imported was £288,867, and of this sum sugar stands for £283,545, and in the next preceding year it bore the same proportion to the total trade.

12. The Red Sea trade shows a small increase of £32,045. Salt decreased by £49,088; but this was more than compensated for by an increase of £77,597 in treasure.

13. The Persian Gulf exhibits a net increase of £21,542. Treasure decreased by £107,726, but merchandize increased by £129,268. The articles exhibiting the largest increase were cotton, raw, £32,502; fruits and vegetables £21,208; salt £21,213, and silk, raw, £10,996. The rest of the increase occurs in the general trade.

14. Ceylon shows a decrease of £184,354; but here again treasure fell off by £194,541, while merchandize increased by £10,187.

15. The Straits exhibit a decrease of £117,391, of which treasure stands for £28,421, and merchandize for £88,970. The articles showing the largest decrease are, cocoanuts by £9,938; cotton twist £33,703; gums £9,757; copper £11,500; tin £32,756; and silk, raw, £11,478. On the other hand, spices increased by £28,026.

16. China shows a decrease of the large sum of £1,644,381, of which treasure stands for £1,633,646, and merchandize for the small sum of £10,735. The latter amount is the net result of several fluctuations, the principal of which are as follows: Drugs and medicines increased by £20,500; glass-ware by £22,612; and tea by £38,053; while copper decreased by £62,267, and silk piece goods by £43,734.

17. Australia exhibits a net decrease of £117,967. Treasure increased by £58,347, while merchandize decreased by the large sum of £176,314, or 63·8

per cent. The value of horses shows a decrease of £28,465; chiefly from the average prices having been lower by 30 per cent. in 1872-73, while the number was less by only 180, or 10·84 per cent. The value of copper, cast, fell off by the considerable sum of £112,286, or 87·4 per cent.; this decrease was owing to the high prices which ruled in Europe, and which diverted copper thither from India.

18. The differences in the trade with countries other than those above referred to, being unimportant, do not call for special notice.

19. The value of exports of merchandize and treasure to each principal foreign country was:—

COUNTRIES.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase or Decrease in 1872-73.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom and Suez ...	33,020,521	28,666,818	—4,353,703
France ...	4,175,233	2,673,000	—1,502,233
Germany ...	355,588	196,453	— 159,135
Mediterranean Ports ...	2,230,125	2,153,122	— 77,003
Other Countries in Europe ...	987,833	393,658	— 594,175
America ...	2,310,491	2,045,928	— 264,563
West Indies ...	129,521	198,585	+ 69,064
Africa and adjacent Coasts ...	257,217	329,931	+ 72,714
Mauritius ...	643,100	942,063	+ 298,963
Bourbon ...	94,849	63,594	— 31,255
Red Sea ...	260,005	253,911	— 6,094
Aden ...	362,651	345,805	— 16,846
Persian Gulf ...	1,363,326	1,326,741	— 36,585
Somnecanco and Mekran ...	30,614	36,470	+ 5,856
Laccadives and Maldives ...	38,849	31,567	— 7,282
Ceylon ...	2,082,307	2,313,906	+ 231,599
Straits Settlements ...	2,154,630	2,039,270	— 115,360
China ...	13,944,223	12,259,135	—1,685,088
Other Countries in Asia ...	61,528	124,764	+ 63,236
Australia ...	104,409	106,728	+ 2,319
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>64,607,020</b>	<b>56,501,449</b>	<b>—8,105,571 (net)</b>

20. There was an increase in 1872-73 under seven countries aggregating £743,751, and a decrease under thirteen countries aggregating £8,849,322, the result being a net decrease of £8,105,571, or 12·55 per cent., of which £7,958,352 occurred in merchandize, and £147,219 in treasure.

21. The United Kingdom and Suez show a net decrease of £4,353,703, the falling-off in raw cotton alone being £4,509,494, while the general trade increased by £155,791. The principal increases and decreases in 1872-73 are as follow:—

INCREASE.

	Total Value in		Increase in 1872-73.
	1871-72.	1872-73.	
	£	£	£
Cutch and Gambier ...	73,632	142,152	68,520
Grain, Rice ...	1,322,067	2,599,595	777,528
Hides and Skins ...	1,743,668	1,912,125	168,457
India Rubber ...	74,765	119,458	44,693
Saltpetre ...	274,574	301,520	26,946
Shawls ...	50,369	90,861	40,492
Silk, Manufactures of ...	91,230	125,413	34,183
Sugar ...	237,297	426,998	189,701
Tea ...	1,451,033	1,560,569	109,536
Teak Timber ...	246,390	322,452	76,062

DECREASE.

	Total Value in		Decrease in 1872-73.
	1871-72.	1872-73.	
	£	£	£
Coffee ...	1,012,277	740,581	271,696
Cotton, Raw ...	15,080,444	10,570,950	4,509,494
Indigo ...	2,404,937	2,235,827	169,110
Jute, Raw ...	3,524,039	3,492,452	31,587
Oils ...	324,577	218,191	106,386
Seeds ...	1,294,028	608,628	685,400
Silk, Raw ...	902,271	829,562	72,709
Spices ...	147,094	66,718	80,376
Wool, Raw ...	899,453	855,638	43,815
Treasure ...	156,397	1,900	157,494

22. Jute shows a decrease of £31,557 in value; but this was owing to lower prices in 1872-73, as the quantity increased by cwts. 474,916.

23. France shows a net decline of £1,502,233. Coffee increased by £42,737; indigo £92,459; hides and skins £34,268; jute, raw, £44,578; silk, raw, £155,808; and shawls £98,661: while cotton, raw, decreased by £1,676,945; rice £29,122; seeds £249,545; (rape-seed being *nil* in 1872-73 against £153,206 in 1871-72), and spices by £48,647.

24. Germany exhibits a net decrease of £159,135. Cotton, raw, decreased by £158,309; rice £28,564; and jute, raw, £13,996: while coffee increased by £44,968, and oils by £15,346.

25. The Mediterranean Ports show a net decrease of £77,003; but after deducting from the exports of 1872-73 the sum of £19,180, the value of articles intended for the Vienna Exhibition, the decrease on the actual trade amounts to £96,183. Cotton, raw, fell off by £237,708; coffee £16,484; indigo £153,263, and seeds £22,352; rice shows an increase of £72,444; hides of £181,826, and silk, raw, of £88,093.

26. European countries other than those already mentioned show a net decrease of £594,175; cotton, raw, decreased by £675,180, and seeds by £19,920; while dyeing and coloring materials increased by £58,891, and rice by £49,715.

27. America shows a decline of £264,563. Indigo decreased by £134,035; gunny cloths and gunny bags by £52,243; and linseed by £203,497; while rice increased by £19,174; India rubber by £20,679; jute, raw, £34,923; and saltpetre by £50,108. The falling-off under gunny cloths and bags is owing to the Americans now largely manufacturing these articles for their own consumption; but this falling-off is partly compensated for by the increase in the trade in jute, raw.

28. The West Indies show an increase of £69,064, of which sum rice stands for £58,049.

29. Africa shows an increase of £72,714, of which rice accounts for £30,516, and cotton piece goods (foreign) for £17,191. The rest of the increase occurs in the general trade.

30. Mauritius exhibits a net increase of £298,963. Treasure decreased by £93,300. Rice increased by the large sum of £334,555, or 107·2 per cent., gram by £24,086, and provisions, &c., by £46,918. There was a falling-off of £14,429 in teak timber. The exports of rice last year were apparently the highest ever attained, the quantities being cwts. 2,435,035, worth £646,511, against cwts. 1,119,719, worth £311,956, in 1871-72. The above-mentioned large exports of food-grains and provisions to Mauritius were doubtless intended chiefly for the consumption of the Indian labourers in that almost exclusively sugar-producing colony. The rice was sent almost entirely from Bengal.

31. Bourbon shows a falling-off of £31,255, of which rice represents £28,213.

32. The Red Sea trade shows a slight net decrease of £6,094. There was a decrease of £13,303 in merchandise, chiefly in coffee. Treasure increased by £7,209. The general trade was steady.

33. Aden shows a net decrease of £16,846, for which treasure is answerable; for while merchandise increased by £32,542, of which £24,069 occurred in country cotton manufactures, treasure decreased by £49,388.

34. The Persian Gulf shows a net diminution of £36,585. Treasure increased by £38,214, but merchandise decreased by £74,799. Coffee fell off by £14,766, rice by £183,666, and wheat by £87,564. The falling-off in the two last-named articles is only what might have been expected, considering that the trade in them during 1871-72 had been exceptionally large owing to the famine in Persia. On the other hand, indigo increased by £44,428, and cotton goods (foreign) by £160,078.

35. The trade with Sonmeanee and Mekran and with the Laccadive and Maldivé Islands does not call for any remark.

36. Ceylon shows an increase of £231,599, of which sum treasure stands for £44,976 and merchandise for £186,623. Rice increased by the large sum of £164,495. Seeds fell off by £31,459. The general trade shows increase.

37. The Straits show a net diminution of £115,360. Treasure increased by £65,204, but merchandise decreased by £180,564. Gunny-bags increased by £21,515, and cotton goods (foreign) by £41,897; while jade stones decreased by £30,514, and in opium there was the large decrease of £204,459.

38. China exhibits a decrease of £1,685,088, of which sum treasure accounts for £12,596 and merchandise for £1,672,492. Opium decreased by the large sum of £1,743,806. Although the exports of opium in 1872-73 show such a large falling-off as compared with those of 1871-72, yet the trade was not much below the average of the five years 1867-68 to 1871-72 (although this average includes the exceptionally large exports of 1871-72), the annual average value of these five years being £10,841,167, against £10,529,674 in 1872-73, the latter year being less by £311,493. This is not a serious difference on such a large and fluctuating trade. The general trade in 1872-73 shows improvement, the principal increases being in cotton, raw, by £26,470, and in saltpetre by £34,806. Rice shows an increase of £8,165; but the rice trade is subject to sudden and considerable fluctuations, as it depends almost entirely upon the out-turn of the crops in China.

39. The trade with other Asiatic countries increased by £63,236. Merchandise increased by £56,455, and treasure by £6,781. Various minor articles show decrease, but rice increased by the large sum of £77,862 net. This increase is accounted for thus: Siam and a few other countries show a small aggregate net decrease of £3,623, while an increase of £81,485 occurred in the trade with Java and Junk-Ceylon, the former country showing £65,304 in 1872-73, against *nil* in 1871-72, and the latter an increase of £16,181, the total value being £33,571 in 1872-73, against £17,390 in 1871-72. The exports to Junk-Ceylon represent a new and annually increasing trade, the figures for the four years, 1869-70 to 1872-73, being as follow:—1869-70, £399; 1870-71, £1,730; 1871-72, £19,020; and 1872-73, £35,169. The trade consists almost entirely of rice exported from British Burma for the consumption of the Chinese tin-miners inhabiting the island.

40. Australia shows a slight increase of £2,319, which sum is the net result of some fluctuations. Rice and gunny-bags are the only articles\* of any importance. In 1872-73 rice decreased by £13,323, while gunny-bags increased by £19,244, the total value of rice being £45,120 in 1872-73, against £58,443 in 1871-72, and that of gunny-bags being £38,057 in 1872-73, against £18,813 in 1871-72. From these figures it will be seen that these two articles represent about four-fifths of the total exports to Australia.



41. The following table exhibits the quantities and value of the principal articles of import, excluding treasure and Government stores :—

ARTICLES.	QUANTITIES.			VALUE.		
	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase or Decrease in 1872-73.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase or Decrease in 1872-73.
				£	£	£
Apparel ... £	...	...	...	499,571	601,258	+ 101,687
Books and Paper ...	...	...	...	365,501	370,840	+ 5,249
Coal ... Tons	361,960	310,260	- 51,700	499,520	476,202	- 23,318
Cotton Piece Goods ... Yds.	1,011,143,747	928,064,476	- 83,079,271	15,009,460	14,545,772	- 463,688
Prs. Doz. & Pcs.	11,609,274	15,434,612	+ 3,825,338			
„ Twist & Yarn ... Lbs.	28,853,890	32,192,843	+ 3,338,953	2,475,428	2,688,476	+ 213,048
Gross Reels	62,944	89,657	+ 26,713			
Drugs and Medicines ... £	...	...	...	236,424	315,254	+ 78,830
Dyeing and Coloring Materials ...	...	...	...	124,330	187,419	+ 63,089
Fruits and Vegetables ...	...	...	...	312,931	283,152	- 29,779
Liquors—Malt ... Gallons	1,323,927	1,536,496	+ 212,569	305,319	363,496	+ 58,177
„ Wines, &c. ...	567,737	592,831	+ 25,094	495,783	511,864	+ 16,081
„ Spirits ...	671,626	723,609	+ 51,983	560,485	553,884	- 6,601
Machinery ... £	...	...	...	405,835	517,316	+ 111,481
Metals, Iron, Cast ... Cwts.	33,418	9,749	- 23,669	2,430	6,685	+ 4,255
„ Wrought ..	984,853	682,487	- 302,366	503,906	362,324	- 141,582
„ Other sorts ... £	...	...	...	307,015	382,389	+ 75,374
„ Copper, Cast ... Cwts.	78,361	32,391	- 45,970	318,891	132,103	- 186,788
„ Wrought ..	66,383	39,962	- 26,421	284,355	171,127	- 113,228
„ Other sorts ... £	...	...	...	433,428	275,559	- 157,869
„ Tin, Cast ... Cwts.	22,385	16,246	- 6,139	100,969	73,172	- 27,797
„ Wrought { Boxes & Cwts. }	20,009	7,780	- 12,229	26,945	9,925	- 17,020
„ Other sorts ... £	...	...	...	7,383	2,400	- 4,983
„ All other sorts ...	...	...	...	401,197	391,192	- 10,005
Provisions and Oilman's Stores ...	...	...	...	302,118	328,867	+ 26,749
Railway Materials ...	...	...	...	513,246	327,466	- 185,780
Salt ... Tons	306,839	276,747	- 30,092	913,915	828,703	- 85,212
Silk, raw ... lbs.	1,799,591	1,930,910	+ 131,319	651,595	659,480	+ 7,885
„ Yds.	4,722,537	4,965,615	+ 243,078	480,948	560,646	+ 79,698
Silk, Manufactures of { Dozs. & Pieces }	7,077	6,845	- 232			
Spices ... £	...	...	...	201,744	216,381	+ 14,637
Sugar, &c. ... Cwts.	562,559	342,450	- 220,109	709,779	440,146	- 269,633
Tea ... lbs.	2,025,129	2,465,761	+ 440,632	202,513	246,576	+ 44,063
„ Yds.	4,456,140	6,872,570	+ 2,416,430	449,064	654,357	+ 205,293
Woollen Manufactures: { Piece Goods }	29,468	29,396	- 72			
„ Other sorts ... £	...	...	...	65,130	65,173	+ 43
All other Articles ...	...	...	...	2,639,272	2,927,720	+ 288,448
TOTAL ... £	...	...	...	30,810,775	30,473,069	- 337,706 (net)

42. Of the above total values, free goods amounted to £2,248,494 in 1872-73 against £2,107,157 in 1871-72, being an increase in 1872-73 of £141,337 or 6.29 per cent.; and dutiable goods, including salt, amounted to £28,224,575 in 1872-73 against £28,703,618 in 1871-72, being a decrease in 1872-73 of £479,043 or 1.67 per cent. Thus the total value of both free and dutiable articles shows a net decrease in 1872-73 of £337,706 or 1.09 per cent.

43. The articles showing the largest increase are apparel, cotton twist and yarn, drugs and medicines, dyeing and coloring materials, malt liquors, wines and liqueurs, machinery, and woollen goods; those of decrease are cotton piece-goods, metals, railway materials, salt and sugar. The value of cotton goods shows a net decrease of £250,640 as compared with the value in 1871-72, although the trade of the latter year, as compared with that of 1870-71, decreased by the large sum of £1,559,981. It is, however, to be borne in mind that the high figures of 1870-71 were due to excessive importations. But notwithstanding that 1872-73 shows a decrease as compared with the two immediately preceding years, it exceeds the annual average of the five years from 1867-68 to 1871-72; for allowing for the reduction in the tariff values from March 1869, the average of these five years would then be £16,773,822 against £17,234,248

in 1872-73, being an increase in the latter year of £460,426 or 2·75 per cent. Comparing the figures of 1872-73 with those of 1871-72, piece-goods show a falling-off of £463,688, while thread, twist, &c., increased by £213,048 in the former year.

44. In connection with these figures it is interesting to notice the fact that there are now in Bombay and in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, as well as elsewhere in India, a considerable number of mills employed in the weaving and spinning of cotton. These mills produce large quantities of piece-goods and twist, &c. The Commissioner of Customs at Bombay in his trade report for 1871-72 observes :—“The number of spinning mills in Bombay is gradually increasing, and the country twist manufacture is competing with Europe twist.” \* \* \* \* “The decrease” (in cotton piece-goods) “is chiefly in the importation of T cloth and domestics, which are now manufactured in large quantities at the Bombay mills, and being cheaper meet with a ready sale.” And in his report for 1872-73, he refers to “the rapidly increasing production of local mills almost annihilating the trade in low numbers of English yarn and low class English goods.” He also reports that “new mills are rapidly springing up. Their production finds at once a ready sale at paying prices, while the value of English goods persistently shows a loss on English quotations with charges added.”

45. As regards jute manufactures, the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, in his Resolution upon the Annual Administration Report of the Presidency Division for 1872-73, observes—“There are large jute factories at Baranagore and Gowripore, both in the 24-Pargannahs, and also at Fort Gloucester, 15 miles down the Hooghly, and several new factories are rising round Calcutta. There can be no doubt that in this district these manufactories are a great success; the people show much aptitude for the work, and it seems that the neighbourhood of Calcutta will become before long a great seat of manufacturing industry.”

46. The observations above quoted are very suggestive in regard to the industrial prospects of India.

47. Drugs and medicines and dyeing and coloring materials, respectively, show increase, the former by £78,830, and the latter by £63,089. The trade in these articles was much larger in 1872-73 than in any previous year since 1868-69.

48. The imports of malt liquor show an increase of 212,569 gallons worth £58,177. The trade in wines and spirits does not differ materially from that of 1871-72.

49. The value of machinery shows an increase of £111,481. This is satisfactory, as it may be regarded as an illustration of the spirit of industrial enterprise that is now at work in this country.

50. Metals again show a serious diminution, the total value being less in 1872-73 by the sum of £588,154. As was stated in the review of the trade of 1871-72, the general trade in metals has been declining year by year since 1869-70, but more especially in the years 1871-72 and 1872-73. Of the total falling-off, £457,886 occur in copper. Iron shows a decrease of £75,170, and tin a decrease of £49,800. As has been already mentioned (paras. 9, 16 and 17) the falling-off in copper occurred principally in the trade with the United Kingdom, China and Australia. The large decrease in the copper trade, as well as in the metal trade generally, is no doubt due to the high prices which, owing to the dearness of coal and of labor, have ruled in the English markets during the last two or three years; the prices of the various kinds of metals in England during the above-mentioned period having risen by from 30 to 50 per cent. over those previously realized.

51. Salt shows a decrease of tons 30,092 in quantity and of £85,212 in value. This is no doubt chiefly owing to the large importations in 1871-72, when tons 306,839, valued at £913,915, were imported, against tons 227,610 of the value of £715,892 in 1870-71. The imports of last year were, however, much above that of the annual average of the five years from 1867-68 to 1871-72, that average being in quantity tons 263,824 and in value £757,329.

52. Sugar decreased in quantity by cwts. 220,109 and in value by £269,633. This result is doubtless due to the very large importation from Mauritius in 1871-72, which has been already noticed (paragraph 11).

53. Woollen goods show an increase in value of the large sum of £205,336, or 40 per cent. This increase merely represents a recovery from the depression which this trade had exhibited during the preceding three years, and which, it is said, was owing to high prices in England having restricted exportation to India.

54. The fluctuations under Articles other than those already referred to do not call for special notice.

55. The result of the various differences shown in the above tabular statement is a net decrease of £337,706 on the total value; but after deducting therefrom the decrease of £185,780 in railway materials (which decrease is no doubt due to the approaching completion of the guaranteed railways), the net decrease in the actual import trade amounts to the small sum of £151,926, or 0.50 per cent.

56. The following table shows the quantities and value of the principal and other articles exported, excluding treasure:—

ARTICLES.	QUANTITIES.			VALUE.		
	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase or decrease in 1872-73.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase or decrease in 1872-73.
<b>INDIAN MERCHANDISE.</b>						
Coffee ... Lbs.	56,363,838	41,462,705	- 14,901,133	£ 1,368,949	£ 1,128,549	- 240,400
Cotton, Raw ... "	809,246,987	494,214,447	- 315,031,640	21,272,430	14,022,108	- 7,250,322
" Manufactures ... £	...	...	...	369,964	412,952	+ 42,988
Grain { Rice ... Cwts.	16,990,890	22,973,797	+ 5,982,907	4,446,588	5,701,439	+ 1,254,851
{ Faddy ... "	320,395	320,159	- 236	52,573	59,591	+ 7,018
{ Wheat ... "	637,099	394,010	- 243,089	235,644	167,690	- 67,954
{ Other sorts ... £	...	...	...	130,942	144,915	+ 13,973
Hides and Skins ... No.	20,043,959	22,989,615	+ 2,945,656	2,525,860	2,921,416	+ 395,556
Indigo ... Cwts.	115,414	115,312	- 102	3,687,762	3,426,824	- 260,938
Jute, Raw ... "	6,133,813	7,080,912	+ 947,099	4,117,308	4,142,548	+ 25,240
" Manufactures ... £	...	...	...	182,459	189,541	+ 7,082
Lac of all kinds ... "	...	...	...	278,945	203,680	- 75,265
Oils ... "	...	...	...	414,918	335,021	- 79,897
Opium ... Chests	93,364	82,908	- 10,456	13,365,228	11,426,280	- 1,938,948
Saltpetre ... Cwts.	432,210	518,982	+ 86,772	397,251	536,314	+ 139,063
Seeds ... £	...	...	...	2,728,127	1,508,241	- 1,219,886
Shawls ... Pieces	17,391	33,115	+ 15,724	167,719	312,545	+ 144,826
Silk, Raw ... Lbs.	1,893,322	2,231,578	+ 338,256	1,081,097	1,256,356	+ 175,259
" Manufactures ... £	...	...	...	152,662	186,025	+ 33,363
Spices ... Cwts.	288,208	135,275	- 152,933	284,660	154,360	- 130,300
Sugar, &c. ... "	372,897	630,938	+ 258,041	288,048	492,743	+ 204,695
Tea ... Lbs.	17,187,328	17,789,911	+ 602,583	1,454,985	1,577,691	+ 122,706
Teak Timber ... Tons	42,459	50,413	+ 7,954	291,280	356,386	+ 65,106
Wool, Raw ... Lbs.	24,122,562	20,394,718	- 3,727,844	902,900	838,042	- 64,858
All other Articles ... £	...	...	...	1,498,926	1,939,126	+ 440,200
<b>TOTAL ... £</b>	...	...	...	61,697,225	53,440,383	- 8,256,842 (net)
<b>FOREIGN MERCHANDISE.</b>						
Cotton Manufactures ... £	...	...	...	821,719	1,004,610	+ 182,891
Other Articles ... "	...	...	...	666,903	782,502	+ 115,599
<b>TOTAL ... £</b>	...	...	...	1,488,622	1,787,112	+ 298,490
<b>GRAND TOTAL ... £</b>	...	...	...	63,185,847	55,227,495	- 7,958,352 (net)

57. Of the foregoing total values, free goods represent £42,457,403 in 1872-73, against £50,040,956 in 1871-72, being a decrease in the former year of the considerable sum of £7,583,553, or 15.15 per cent., and dutiable goods represent £12,770,092 in 1872-73, against £13,144,891 in 1871-72, being a decrease of £374,799, or 2.94 per cent.; the total value of exports of merchandise showing a decrease in 1872-73 of £7,958,352, or 12.60 per cent.

58. It will be seen that the largest decreases occurred in raw cotton, opium and seeds, these three great staples taken together representing a decrease in value of the very large sum of £10,409,156; this falling-off being partly met by a net increase of £2,450,804 on the general trade, which reduced the net total decrease to the amount above mentioned, viz., £7,958,352.

59. The falling-off under cotton raw was due no doubt to the competition of American cotton. The diminution in the value of this important staple in 1872-73 amounted to £7,250,322, or 34 per cent. This decrease, it will be observed, nearly corresponds with the falling-off in the value of net treasure imported, viz., £7,164,447.

60. The decrease in opium is mainly due to a deficiency in the poppy crop, and consequently in the quantity sold by Government in Calcutta; prices, too, were lower in 1872-73; the decrease in seeds is due to deficiency of crop, that of rape-seed being almost a total failure last year.

61. The decreases under coffee, lac, oils, spices, and wool, raw, may be, to some extent, owing to the unusually large exportations in 1871-72 which lessened the demand in 1872-73. Nevertheless the trade in most of these articles during last year was much above the average of the preceding five years. The falling-off in indigo was in value only owing to lower prices, the quantities being nearly the same as in 1871-72.

62. The leading articles showing increase are hides and skins, india-rubber, jute, raw, rice, tea, teak-timber, tobacco, saltpetre, silk, raw, sugar, cotton goods (both country and foreign), and shawls. The trade in the first seven of these articles has steadily and, in most cases, very largely increased, annually, for several years past. Their percentage increase in quantities and value in 1872-73 over 1868-69 was as follows:—

			In Quantities.	In Value.
Hides and skins	...	...	107·04	133·17
India-rubber	...	...	198·81	355·02
Jute, raw	...	...	110·51	118·96
Rice	...	...	52·63	35·39
Tea	...	...	54·96	65·83
Teak-timber	...	...	25·38	37·10
Tobacco	...	...	...	199·26

63. It will be seen that under all these articles (except rice) the ratios of increase are, generally, much higher in values than in quantities, still the improvement in quantities is considerable.

64. Saltpetre is fast recovering its former rank as an important article of export. The trade in saltpetre was much greater last year than in any previous year since the close of the American war; and the value in 1872-73 exceeded by £8,217 the value in 1858-59, the year before that in which it was subjected to an export duty of Rs. 2 a maund. (The exportation has been free since 1867.) But it is to be noted that the high value in 1872-73 is largely attributable to enhanced prices, which exceeded by 40·12 per cent. those of 1858-59, the quantities in 1872-73 being less by 27 per cent. than those of 1858-59. From these figures the trade would appear to have been very profitable last year. This trade is, however, specially subject to sudden and violent vicissitudes resulting from political events; and, as might have been expected, its greatest prosperity is found to have occurred in times of war. During the course of the civil war in America, it reached its highest annual value, *viz.*, £896,808 (in 1862-63).

65. The teak-timber trade of British Burma, which continued, generally, in a depressed condition from 1862-63 to 1871-72, has also improved rapidly, its value last year being £353,554 against £224,794, the average annual value of the ten years 1862-63 to 1871-72, or an increase of 57 per cent. in 1872-73. The Chief Commissioner of British Burma, in his Trade Report for 1872-73, observes:—"There would have been a larger export had it not been that the supply of water in the rivers last year was insufficient to float all the timber which had been felled."

66. The revival of trade in the two last mentioned important staples is satisfactory.

67. The rice trade continued to prosper greatly last year, when both quantity and value were the largest on record. The trade in 1871-72 was considered remarkably successful, but that of 1872-73 exceeded it by 35·21 per cent. in quantity and 28·22 per cent. in value. Of the total increase (5,982,907 cwts.) in quantity in 1872-73, British Burma represents 4,397,604 cwts. or 73·5 per cent. Of the total quantity (22,973,797 cwts.) exported in 1872-73, 12,675,005 cwts. were sent to Europe; 2,435,035 cwts. to Mauritius; 2,978,551 cwts. to Ceylon; 1,752,288 cwts. to the Straits; 904,048 cwts. to the Persian Gulf; and the remaining 2,228,870 cwts. to various other countries.

68. Since 1869-70 the rice exports of British Burma have, year by year, strikingly progressed with the normal and healthy growth of a sound and firmly established trade. The value of this trade in 1872-73 exceeded by 202·08 per cent. that of the average of the four years, 1855-56 to 1858-59, during which period the duty was only  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna per maund or  $\frac{1}{3}$ th of its present rate.

69. The share of each presidency and province in the aggregate value of the foreign trade in 1871-72 and 1872-73, respectively, is exhibited in the subjoined table,—the Bengal Presidency engrossing one-half of the total imports of merchandize and providing more than two-fifths of the total exports of British India:—

	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		TOTAL OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.	
	1871-72.	1872-73.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1871-72.	1872-73.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
BENGAL ... { Merchandize ...	15,698,907	15,318,230	27,627,731	24,618,538	43,326,638	39,936,768
... { Treasure ...	4,001,605	1,096,552	216,098	75,981	4,217,703	1,172,533
BOMBAY ... { Merchandize ...	10,427,982	10,225,684	24,954,791	19,929,315	35,382,773	30,154,999
... { Treasure ...	6,843,019	2,780,474	895,028	959,536	7,738,077	3,740,010
SINDH ... { Merchandize ...	391,079	316,757	806,346	657,994	1,197,425	974,751
... { Treasure ...	18,066	8,982	2,566	3,859	20,632	12,841
MADRAS ... { Merchandize ...	2,910,392	2,932,196	7,006,227	6,244,668	9,916,619	9,176,864
... { Treasure ...	662,654	597,657	291,097	215,978	953,751	813,635
B. BURMA ... { Merchandize ...	1,382,415	1,680,202	2,790,752	3,776,980	4,173,167	5,457,182
... { Treasure ...	48,439	72,920	16,384	18,600	64,823	91,520
TOTAL OF IN-DIA ... { Merchandize ...	30,810,775	30,473,069	63,185,847	55,227,495	93,996,622	85,700,564
... { Treasure ...	11,573,813	4,556,585	1,421,173	1,273,954	12,994,986	5,830,539
TOTAL ...	42,384,588	35,029,654	64,607,020	56,501,449	106,991,608	91,531,103

70. The gross amount of customs duty collected on imports and exports was:—

	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase in 1872-73.
	£	£	£
On Imports ...	4,129,155	4,177,102	47,947
.. Exports ...	687,768	798,975	111,207
TOTAL ...	4,816,923	4,976,077	159,154

71. The gross amount of duty collected on the principal and other dutiable articles of import and export is shown in the following statements. Excluding the duty on salt, one-half of the import duties was derived from cotton goods, which are subject to less than the general rate of import duty, and the other half from all other dutiable imports.

## IMPORTS.

ARTICLES.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase or Decrease in 1872-73.
	£	£	£
Apparel ...	37,309	44,704	+ 7,395
Cotton Goods ...	840,694	816,334	— 24,360
Fruits and Vegetables ...	26,520	25,627	— 893
Liquors ...	236,146	261,068	+ 24,922
Metals ...	136,222	99,035	— 37,187
Provisions, &c. ...	21,869	23,463	+ 1,594
Salt ...	2,479,276	2,530,325	+ 51,049
Silk Goods ...	69,896	72,903	+ 3,007
Sugar, &c. ...	52,638	32,693	— 19,945
Woollen Goods ...	25,975	35,876	+ 9,901
Other Articles ...	202,610	235,074	+ 32,464
TOTAL ...	4,129,155	4,177,102	+ 47,947(net)

## EXPORTS.

	1871-72.	1872-73.	
Cotton Goods ...	11,830	13,166	+ 1,336
GRAIN ... { Rice ...	446,025	606,677	+160,652
... { Paddy ...	11,021	10,820	— 201
... { Other Sorts ...	37,172	28,977	— 8,195
Hides and Skins (Tanned) ...	15,398	20,858	+ 5,460
Indigo ...	47,125	47,210	+ 85
Lac of all kinds ...	11,192	8,177	— 3,015
Oils ...	13,588	10,709	— 2,879
Seeds ...	84,846	47,172	— 37,674
Other Articles ...	9,571	5,209	— 4,362
TOTAL ...	687,768	798,975	+111,207(net)

72. Notwithstanding the large falling off in the total trade last year, there was an increase of £159,154 in the amount of duty collected, viz., £47,947 on imports and £111,207 on exports.

73. The differences shown against the various items (except salt) do not call for remark, inasmuch as they correspond for duty with those shown against dutiable imports in para. 41, but with respect to salt it will be observed that while the imports in 1872-73 were much less than those in 1871-72, the duty collected in the former year was more by £51,049. This discrepancy is doubtless to be explained by bonding transactions.

74. The net total increase in export duty is almost entirely due to the augmentation under rice, which largely exceeds the decreases under seeds and the various other articles. Of the total amount collected in 1872-73, British Burma yielded £358,647 against £238,964 in 1871-72.

75. The export duty on wheat was abolished on the 4th January 1873. It is perhaps too soon, as yet, to expect any marked results from the remission.

76. The following statement shows the total number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared with cargoes :—

	1871-72.		1872-73.		INCREASE OR DECREASE IN 1872-73.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Entered ... ..	3,668	1,762,364	3,509	1,708,339	— 159	— 54,025
Cleared ... ..	5,461	2,259,014	5,628	2,287,763	+ 107	+ 28,749
TOTAL ... ..	9,129	4,021,378	9,237	3,996,102	+ 8	— 25,276 (not)

77. The value of the trade *via* the Suez Canal in 1872-73 shows improvement over that of the preceding year, but the progress is not nearly so marked as that shown by 1871-72 over 1870-71. This result is doubtless chiefly owing to the large diminution in the exports of raw cotton and oil seeds to the United Kingdom and to Continental Europe during 1872-73, as already noticed. Of the total value of the trade of India with Europe and America, about £40 millions or 60 per cent. now passes annually through the canal.

78. The foregoing statements show that, as regards the foreign trade, the diminution in the aggregates for 1872-73 as compared with those for 1871-72 was chiefly due to exceptional circumstances. The falling off in merchandize occurred almost entirely in exports, which in the preceding year were, as respects several of the chief staples, cotton especially, unprecedentedly large. Nevertheless, the exports of merchandize in 1872-73, upon the whole, exceeded by £2,292,640 the annual average of the four years 1867-68 to 1870-71, and, in several of the principal staples, they exhibit large improvement even over those of 1871-72.

INTERPORTAL TRADE.

79. The aggregate value of the interportal trade, as has already been shown (para. 1), amounted to £29,481,545 in 1872-73 against £28,385,024 in 1871-72. The share of each presidency and province in these figures, distinguishing imports and exports, was as follows :—

	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		TOTAL OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.	
	1871-72.	1872-73.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1871-72.	1872-73.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
BENGAL { Merchandize ...	1,387,941	1,636,430	4,687,989	5,156,293	6,075,930	6,792,723
{ Treasure ...	608,480	462,607	1,137,911	886,182	1,744,391	1,348,789
BOMBAY { Merchandize ...	4,943,864	4,556,011	3,235,514	3,457,190	8,179,378	8,013,141
{ Treasure ...	47,600	89,020	541,982	708,474	589,582	797,494
SINDH { Merchandize ...	1,385,538	1,430,583	1,559,711	1,446,005	2,945,249	2,876,588
{ Treasure ...	18,969	18,079	6,634	2,935	25,603	21,014
MADRAS { Merchandize ...	1,930,422	2,028,624	2,048,224	2,006,081	3,978,646	4,034,705
{ Treasure ...	358,430	564,419	339,809	131,109	698,239	695,528
BRITISH BUR- { Merchandize ...	1,751,720	1,951,878	973,545	1,240,756	2,725,265	3,192,634
MAH. { Treasure ...	1,012,445	1,511,471	410,296	197,458	1,422,741	1,708,929
TOTAL OF INDIA { Merchandize ...	11,399,485	11,603,526	12,504,983	13,306,265	23,904,468	24,909,791
{ Treasure ...	2,043,924	2,645,596	2,436,632	1,926,158	4,480,556	4,571,754
TOTAL ... ..	13,443,409	14,249,122	14,941,615	15,232,423	28,385,024	29,481,545

NOTE.—The figures in this Table include the trade from Port to Port of each Province, as shown in Part IV of the Annual Statement.

82. The principal articles concerned in this trade are apparel, coconuts, cotton raw, cotton piece-goods, cotton twist and yarn, dyeing and coloring materials, grain and pulse (chiefly rice), jute raw, jute manufactures, metals, oils, provisions, &c., salt, seeds, silk raw, silk manufactures, spices, sugar, &c., teak timber, tobacco, wool raw, woollen manufactures, and treasure.

83. The total shipping employed in carrying on this commerce numbered 36,099 ships conveying 4,066,033 tons in 1872-73 against 34,689 ships conveying 3,689,664 tons in 1871-72.

84. This trade, although it sometimes fluctuates largely under some articles, is, upon the whole, fairly steady. The figures for 1872-73 are slightly above the average of those for the five preceding years.

ORDERED, that a copy of the foregoing Observations be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.  
[ RAILWAY. ]

EARNINGS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS DURING THE HALF-YEAR ENDING  
30TH JUNE 1873.

No. I.  
GENERAL RESULTS.

RAILWAYS.	Open Milege.	Train Mileage.	Earnings.	Expenses.	Net Earnings.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras ... ..	835½	1,069,986	37,65,308	18,14,165	19,51,143
Great Southern of India ... ..	168	182,161	6,39,667	2,67,606	3,72,061
Carnatic ... ..	19	7,866	22,042	12,461	9,581
Great Indian Peninsula ... ..	1,278	2,013,051	1,16,54,097	65,56,173	50,97,924
Bombay, Baroda, and Central India ... ..	411½ <sup>a</sup>	529,223	34,17,787	18,36,813	15,80,974
East Indian, Main Line ... ..	1,280	2,842,886	1,44,44,018	53,45,266	90,98,752
"    "    Jubbulpore Line ... ..	223½	258,854	11,06,255	5,54,213	5,52,042
Eastern Bengal ... ..	156½	266,622	16,26,648	8,50,661	7,75,987
Oudh and Rohilkhand ... ..	395	134,115	5,18,161	3,34,836	1,83,325
Punjab and Delhi ... ..	554	490,304	28,25,534	22,74,754 <sup>b</sup>	5,50,780
Sindh ... ..	105½	68,963			
Calcutta and South-Eastern [State] ... ..	28	22,196	57,920	62,729	-4,809 <sup>c</sup>
Nulhattee [State] ... ..	27½	13,598	46,120	25,514	20,606
Khamgaon " <i>d</i> ... ..	7½				
Oomraotee " <i>d</i> ... ..	5½				
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>5,482</b>	<b>7,894,340</b>	<b>4,01,23,557</b>	<b>1,99,35,221</b>	<b>2,01,88,336</b>

a.—This is inclusive of the Patree State Branch Railway, 22 miles.

b.—This is exclusive of the cost of rain damage repairs which amounts to Rs. 10,73,207 for the half-year.

c.—This loss was owing to certain extraordinary charges having been debited in the accounts of the half-year, especially cost of 4 new cylindrical wagons, Rs. 7,494.

d.—These two Branches are worked by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Co. Pending the settlement of the question of charges relating to the working of the lines, the accounts have not been submitted.

No. II.  
SUMMARY OF EARNINGS.

RAILWAYS.	Coaching.	Goods.	Electric Telegraph.	Steam Boat.	Sundries.	TOTAL.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras ... ..	12,99,243	23,73,339	9,392	...	83,334	37,65,308
Great Southern of India ... ..	2,83,764	3,40,647	2,910	...	12,346	6,39,667
Carnatic ... ..	19,063	2,539	100	...	340	22,042
Great Indian Peninsula ... ..	27,56,811	87,16,657	21,525	...	1,59,104	1,16,54,097
Bombay, Baroda, and Central India ... ..	11,13,579	22,07,106	18,053	...	78,019	34,17,787
East Indian, Main Line ... ..	41,49,770	97,55,623	25,873	59,935	4,52,817 <sup>a</sup>	1,44,44,018
"    "    Jubbulpore Line ... ..	3,79,822	5,76,726	1,996	...	1,47,711 <sup>b</sup>	11,06,255
Eastern Bengal ... ..	6,45,658	7,06,710	2,358	1,59,540	1,12,382 <sup>c</sup>	16,26,648
Oudh and Rohilkhand ... ..	2,87,895	2,22,010	1,773	...	6,483	5,18,161
Punjab and Delhi ... ..	11,17,080	10,55,220	7,891	2,60,104	64,891	28,41,950 <sup>d</sup>
Sindh ... ..	56,812	2,70,031				
Calcutta and South-Eastern [State] ... ..	30,512	21,966	121	...	5,321	57,920
Nulhattee [State] ... ..	31,058	14,342	673	...	47	46,120
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>1,21,71,067</b>	<b>2,62,62,916</b>	<b>92,665</b>	<b>4,79,579</b>	<b>11,33,746</b>	<b>4,01,39,973</b>

a.—Of this amount Rs. 93,357 are for interest on Revenue balances deposited with Government, Rs. 86,830 for mileage of vehicles over foreign lines, Rs. 1,15,428 for rents of dwelling houses, and Rs. 70,184 from sale of Revenue stores.

b.—Of this amount Rs. 50,860 are for mileage of vehicles over foreign lines, and Rs. 39,086 for rents of dwelling houses.

c.—Of this amount Rs. 72,165 are for ballast trains for the Goalundo Spur. This credit is subject to future adjustment.

d.—Of this amount Rs. 16,416 are irrecoverable outstandings, and consequently Rs. 28,25,534 only are taken in the account as gross earnings.

REVIEW

OF THE

ACCOUNTS OF THE TRADE AND NAVIGATION OF INDIA

FOR

1874-75,

AS COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

BY

J. E. O'CONNOR,

*Assistant Secretary, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce (Statistical Branch).*

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**REVIEW**  
**OF THE**  
**ACCOUNTS OF THE TRADE AND NAVIGATION OF INDIA**  
**FOR 1874-75,**  
**AS COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.**

By **J. E. O'CONNOR,**  
*Assistant Secretary, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce (Statistical Branch).*

**INTRODUCTORY.**

1. The total trade of India during the year 1874-75, exclusive of stores and treasure on account of Government, amounted to, *viz.* :—

		£		£	
FOREIGN TRADE ...	Imports {	Merchandise ...	34,645,236	... 42,786,283	
		Treasure ...	8,141,047		
	Exports {	Merchandise ...	56,812,246	... 57,904,968	
		Treasure ...	1,592,722		
<b>Total ...</b>			<b>100,691,251</b>		
<hr/>					
INTERPORTAL TRADE	Imports {	Merchandise ...	21,319,328	... 23,781,899	
		Treasure ...	2,462,571		
	Exports {	Merchandise ...	23,221,434	... 26,544,759	
		Treasure ...	3,323,325		
<b>Total ...</b>			<b>50,326,658</b>		
<b>Grand Total ...</b>			<b>151,017,909</b>		

The value of the foreign trade in 1873-74, and the average value for the five years which ended on 31st March 1872-73, are as follow :—

		1873-74.		Average of five years ending 1872-73.	
		£		£	
FOREIGN TRADE ...	Imports {	Merchandise ...	31,644,697	{ 32,688,621 }	42,825,817
		Treasure ...	5,792,534		
	Exports {	Merchandise ...	54,960,778	{ 55,855,742 }	57,072,487
		Treasure ...	1,379,071		
<b>Total ...</b>		<b>94,277,080</b>	.....	<b>59,898,304</b>	

The proportion borne by the foreign trade to the total trade was 66.68 per cent. last year. The figures of the coasting trade previous to 1872-73 and, for Bombay, even for 1873-74, are defective. It is undesirable therefore to attempt to make here any precise comparison of the trade of the year with that of previous years. It may be said generally that it is steadily increasing.

## SECTION I.

## FOREIGN OR INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

Government transactions kept separate from the general trade.

2. In this as in previous reviews of the foreign trade, the transactions of Government will be kept separate from those of private trade. The results of the former will therefore be reviewed in this paragraph, and will not be referred to, except where necessary for special reasons in any particular case, in subsequent remarks on the general trade. Their amount is comparatively so small that their exclusion or otherwise from the total sum of Indian trade will make no appreciable difference in the broad conclusions to be drawn. The figures for last year are £1,656,422 against £2,291,555 in the previous year, the figures in that year having been swelled by a large import of railway material. The average amount of these transactions for the last five years has been £1,701,269, and this average has been swelled by the extraordinary item of rice imported from Saigon and China for the relief of distress in Bengal. Deducting the amount of this item (£517,458 spread over the two years 1873-74 and 1874-75), the annual average for the last five years is reduced to a little more than a million and a half as compared with private trade representing a value of more than one hundred millions sterling.

Their value.

Nature of Government imports and exports.

3. The transactions of Government are mainly confined to the importation of arms, ammunition and other military requisites, malt liquor and spirits for the European troops, marine stores in comparatively small quantities, railway and telegraph material, and coal. The import of such articles accounts for £1,576,851 (of which about a million and a quarter represents the value of stores received from the United Kingdom) out of the total sum of £1,656,422. The small balance of £79,571 represents stores and money sent to Aden, the Persian Gulf, and the Mekran Coast, for the public establishments in those places.

Defective nature of accounts of Government transactions.

4. The figures for the year now given are the totals of the sums entered in the monthly returns of the year, and as they will require correction hereafter when local Governments finally revise their accounts before the publication of their annual volumes, they cannot be accepted as final. The figures for the years 1869-70 to 1873-74 entered in the account for the year of report differ considerably from those given in the volume for 1873-74. The values given in the account for that year were the sum of the monthly returns transmitted by the Provincial Governments to the Government of India, but these were incomplete and imperfect, and the sums now returned are the revised figures as given in the annual accounts of the local Governments. It is unfortunate that it has not as yet been found possible to record the transactions of the State in as complete and accurate a shape as the particulars of the general trade. In many cases detailed invoices are not received from England until after the stores have been received and cleared out of the custom houses, and the departments receiving the stores frequently will not in such cases, except after great delay and much correspondence, take the trouble to furnish the customs authorities with the particulars required for our trade statistics. The figures given therefore from month to month are subject to material correction subsequently, and this is one reason among others why it is desirable to keep Government transactions entirely separate from the general trade. Measures are now in progress with the object of securing more accurate and punctual returns from Government departments receiving stores, and it is hoped that a better system will gradually be introduced.

## GENERAL TRADE.

Value of general trade.

5. Exclusive of Government stores and treasure, the total value of the trade of India during the year amounted to £100,691,251, shewing an increase of £6,414,171, or 6.80 per cent. over the trade of 1873-74, which amounted to £94,277,080. This amount exceeds also by 0.79 per cent. the annual average

of the five years immediately preceding 1873-74 (1868-69 to 1872-73), which was £99,898,304. Trade has thus been steadily, though slowly, increasing in value. Imports and exports of merchandise and the import of treasure have increased, while the export of treasure has slightly fallen off. Merchandise was imported to the value of £34,645,236, being upwards of three millions sterling (£3,000,539) in excess of the imports of the previous year. The treasure imported amounted to £8,141,047, shewing an excess of £2,348,513 over the import of the previous year. Exports of goods were made to the value of £56,312,246, this sum being £1,351,468 in excess of the value of the exports of the previous year. Of these exports £54,501,080 represent the value of goods of Indian produce and manufacture, and £1,811,166 of foreign merchandise re-exported. The export of treasure fell off by £286,349, the figures being £1,592,722 against £1,879,071 in the previous year.

6. The main features of Indian trade which attract attention at the first view are— Main features of Indian trade:

(i) The constant and great preponderance of the value of exports over the value of imports. The following figures shew for the last ten years the value of the imports and exports, both of merchandise and treasure, and the excess in the value of exports:— Excess of exports over imports.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of exports over imports.
	£	£	£
1865-66 ... ..	56,156,529	67,656,475	11,499,946
1866-67 (11 months),	42,275,620	44,291,497	2,015,877
1867-68 ... ..	47,481,157	52,446,002	4,964,845
1868-69 ... ..	51,146,096	54,457,745	3,311,649
1869-70 ... ..	46,882,327	53,513,729	6,631,402
1870-71 ... ..	39,913,942	57,556,950	17,643,008
1871-72 ... ..	43,665,662	64,685,374	21,019,712
1872-73 ... ..	36,431,210	56,540,042	20,108,832
1873-74 ... ..	39,628,562	56,940,073	15,311,511
1874-75 ... ..	44,363,133	57,984,538	13,621,405

(NOTE.—Government stores and treasure have necessarily, as will be seen from the subsequent remarks, been included in this statement.)

7. The total excess of exports over imports thus amounted during the last ten years to no less than £116,128,187, *i. e.*, an average rate of £11,612,818 annually, the excess being much more marked in the last than in the first five years of the decade. India has apparently thus had what is commonly called the “balance of trade” against her to a serious extent, having in ten years exported from the country wealth to the value of upwards of one hundred and sixteen millions sterling for which she has received no direct return. This, however, as indeed is well known, is not actually the case. Ordinarily the exports and imports of a country will in a series of years nearly balance each other, but only in countries which are not indebted to other countries. If a country is obliged to make payments to another country either for borrowed capital, or for expenses of administration incurred elsewhere than in the country itself, or on other accounts, the balance of trade must tell against it. Payment is ultimately made in the produce of the country, and consequently the activity of exportation is stimulated, and the value of exports will exceed the value of the imports by the amount of payment annually due. This is the explanation of the preponderance of exports over imports in Indian trade. We have to pay the home charges, or charges of Government incurred in England on account of administration, and salaries and pensions of officers of the Government on leave and retired, as well as remittances to England by civil functionaries and by officers and soldiers in India. We have to pay the interest on capital borrowed in England by the State for India, and we have also to pay the interest on capital raised by subscription in England for the construction of railways and for other industrial enterprises in India. The nett result is no doubt a considerable drain of wealth from India without any apparent direct or immediate return. But this drain is in fact the return which India gives for

Explanation of the causes of the excess.



the foreign capital invested in this country and for the government which has by maintaining peace under a moderate and well-ordered rule enabled her so to develop her commerce as to raise the value of her foreign trade within forty years from not much more than fourteen millions (in 1834-35) to upwards of one hundred millions (in 1874-75). This subject of the balance of trade between India, and other countries opens out a series of interesting questions for investigation, but it seems unnecessary to discuss them in the present place.

Relatively small proportions of Indian foreign trade.

8. But although the trade of India has steadily increased as just shewn from a comparatively small amount, it is capable of still greater development and this brings us to the second great feature of our foreign trade, *viz.* :—

(ii) Its relatively small proportions when regarded in connection with the great area and population of the country.

Indian coasting trade really international trade.

9. Taking the population of India at two hundred millions, the whole foreign trade represents a sum of little more than ten shillings per head of the population. Compared with other great countries, this is an extremely small proportion. It is true that the extensive coasting trade of India, *i. e.*, the trade from province to province and from port to port within each province, has not been taken into account in the figures given above. Much of this trade is, in fact, though unavoidably treated as coasting trade, as much international trade as is the trade between Holland and Germany, Belgium and France, Italy and Spain or France, Germany and Austria, or Denmark and Sweden, almost as much international, indeed, as the trade between any two countries on the continent of Europe. For India is a continent of many peoples, and the peoples inhabiting the littoral provinces, Bengalis, Ooryas, Burmese, Telugus, Mahrattas, Sindis, &c., are as distinct from each other as most of the races inhabiting the European continent. Even taking this coasting trade into account, however, and adding the trade which crosses the land frontier of India, it is certain that there is still very great room for the further development of our commercial activity.

Bulk of Indian produce consumed in the country; only enough exported to provide for the simple wants of the people.

10. There can be no doubt that the exports to foreign countries of the productions of India represent only a very small part of the whole production, the great bulk being consumed in the country, though in the absence of trustworthy statistics of agriculture and industry it is impossible precisely to specify what is the proportion of the exports to local consumption. It may be said, however, that only sufficient is exported to pay for India's current debts and to provide for the purchase of the few and simple wants of the mass of the population, so far as these cannot be supplied by local production and industry more conveniently and cheaply than by the import of foreign merchandise. These wants resolve themselves, speaking broadly, into Manchester cotton goods to clothe the labourer, and metals, mainly copper and iron, for his implements and utensils. These items of cotton cloths and metals, together with machinery and millwork (a comparatively new and increasing feature in the Indian import trade) account for more than two-thirds of the total value of our imports, while the great bulk of our exports still consists of raw produce.

Small proportion of re-exports: India a consuming country, not an entrepot.

11. This brings us to the third feature in our trade, *viz.*, (iii) the small proportion to the total imports of re-exports of foreign merchandise. India is a consuming country. She is not, as has been just said, favourably situated geographically for an entrepôt, and the bulk of her imports is for home consumption. Of the total value of merchandise imported, *viz.*, £34,645,236, goods to the value of only £1,811,166 were re-exported during the past year. These re-exports are principally cotton manufactures and metals, distributed to ports on the African, Arabian, and Persian coasts from Bombay, which is practically the only entrepôt in India.

Share of each Presidency in the foreign trade.

12. The share taken by each of the littoral provinces in the foreign trade was as follows :—

Bengal—		£	Bombay—		£
Imports	...	20,257,175	Imports	...	16,209,518
Exports	...	22,772,218	Exports	...	24,213,307
Total	...	43,029,393	Total	...	40,422,825

( 5 )

Madras—		£		British Burma—		£
Imports ...	...	3,812,848		Imports ...	...	2,215,258
Exports ...	...	6,794,938		Exports ...	...	3,042,820
		<hr/>				<hr/>
Total	...	10,607,786		Total	...	5,258,078
		<hr/>				<hr/>
	Sind—		£			
	Imports ...	...	291,484			
	Exports ...	...	1,081,685			
			<hr/>			
	Total	...	1,373,169			
			<hr/>			

The proportion was, therefore, in the rate of about 42·73 per cent. for Bengal, 40·15 per cent. for Bombay, 10·53 per cent. for Madras, 5·22 per cent. for British Burma, and 1·37 per cent. for Sind. Compared with the figures of the trade for 1873-74, Bengal trade increased by £2,875,671, or about 7·16 per cent. The trade of Bombay increased by £4,034,287, or about 11·08 per cent. On the other hand, the trade of Madras fell off to the extent of £288,478, or about 2·64 per cent. The trade of British Burma also declined by £61,424, or about 1·15 per cent., and the trade of Sind fell off by £145,885, or about 9·60 per cent. The whole of the increase shewn in the total trade therefore was in the two provinces of Bengal and Bombay, the trade of the other provinces having diminished, though not, except in the case of Sind, to a material extent.

13. The figures attached shew the fluctuations in the value of the trade of each province for the last ten years :—

YEAR.	BENGAL.			BOMBAY.			SIND.			MADRAS.			BRITISH BURMA.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1865-66 ... ..	20,700,324	20,196,481	40,896,805	30,086,142	36,865,457	66,951,599	Included with <i>Bombay</i> .			4,494,265	7,769,015	12,263,280	875,798	2,825,522	3,701,320
1866-67 (11 months)...	19,589,368	17,700,956	37,290,324	18,012,045	21,009,633	39,021,678	691,736	974,312	1,665,478	3,216,122	3,343,949	6,560,070	766,949	1,262,617	2,029,566
1867-68 ... ..	21,821,424	20,206,464	42,027,888	20,153,317	25,543,246	45,696,563	724,277	789,320	1,513,597	3,688,249	4,311,610	7,999,859	1,003,891	1,595,362	2,600,253
1868-69 ... ..	21,325,600	21,266,324	42,591,924	23,638,634	23,736,329	47,374,963	693,759	882,674	1,576,434	4,104,634	6,114,041	10,218,675	1,383,468	2,458,377	3,841,845
1869-70 ... ..	19,496,082	20,971,121	40,467,203	21,614,163	23,744,539	45,358,702	618,212	946,281	1,564,493	4,086,478	6,072,376	10,158,854	1,067,392	1,779,412	2,846,804
1870-71 ... ..	18,588,706	23,240,610	41,829,316	14,677,838	25,102,584	39,780,422	431,100	372,426	1,403,526	3,982,834	5,150,726	9,133,560	1,112,590	2,452,600	3,565,250
1871-72 ... ..	19,700,512	27,843,828	47,544,340	17,271,030	25,849,819	43,120,849	409,145	808,912	1,218,057	3,573,046	7,297,324	10,870,370	1,430,855	2,807,136	4,237,991
1872-73 ... ..	16,414,781	24,694,519	41,109,300	13,006,159	20,888,876	33,895,035	325,739	661,854	987,593	3,520,853	6,400,645	9,920,498	1,753,121	3,795,580	5,548,701
1873-74 ... ..	16,951,902	23,201,820	40,153,722	14,724,966	21,663,572	36,388,538	283,150	1,235,904	1,519,054	3,638,117	7,258,147	10,896,264	1,839,095	3,480,407	5,319,502
1874-75 ... ..	20,257,175	22,772,218	43,029,393	16,209,518	24,213,307	40,422,825	291,484	1,081,685	1,373,169	3,812,848	6,794,933	10,607,786	2,215,258	3,042,820	5,258,078

(Note.—For the years 1865-66—1880-70 inclusive, these figures include Government stores and treasure, the figures for which cannot as yet be separated from those of the general trade. For the year 1870-71 and succeeding years Government stores and treasure have been excluded).

( 9 )

14. In imports Bengal shews the increases indicated by the following figures in the principal articles named: agricultural implements (£27,268), cements (£15,059), manufactures of jute (£7,338), paper (£18,195), apparel (£14,513), cotton goods (£2,069,308), drugs and medicines (£23,451), liquors (£93,470); metals (£384,322), spices (£53,586), while the articles named below fell off: coal by £21,983, machines and machinery (£14,912), provisions and oilman's stores (£17,022), railway materials (£71,566), salt (£97,752), tea (£14,410), and woollen goods (£71,605). Extent of fluctuation in chief articles of provincial import and export.  
Bengal: Imports.

15. In exports of Indian produce and manufacture Bengal exhibits increases in raw hides and skins (£274,136), manufactures of jute, mostly gunny bags (£32,530), opium (£28,775), saltpetre (£31,320), manufactures of silk (£5,845), tea (£193,236), tobacco (£86,228), oils (£49,130), horns (£7,753) and oilseeds (£542,994). The articles which fell off were, borax (£32,901), caoutchouc (£19,228), raw cotton (£253,080), lacdye (£6,910), indigo (£616,399), and other dyes (£12,557), wheat (£70,485), raw jute (£190,522), provisions and oilman's stores (£23,895), raw silk (£372,153), sugar (£31,381), woollen shawls (£59,486), cotton piece-goods (£7,598), rice, husked and unhusked (£315,895), other kinds of grain (£26,939), tanned hides and skins (£12,471), and spices (£31,748). Exports.

16. Among the imports into Bombay improvement is exhibited in: machines and machinery (£166,318), precious stones and pearls (£20,117), apparel (£38,985), dyeing and colouring materials (£11,652), liquors (£98,683), metals (£380,701), raw silk (£70,921), and silk manufactures (£44,291). On the other hand, there was a falling off in paper by £23,347, coal (£10,832), raw cotton (£1,456), coffee (£10,287), cotton manufactures (£461,417), fruits and vegetables (£39,813), ivory and ivoryware (£62,955), railway materials (£34,523), sugar (£38,053), and woollen goods (£30,213). Bombay: Imports.

17. Amongst exports from Bombay increases occurred in coffee (£18,195), raw cotton (£1,951,110), dyes (except indigo, which fell off by £10,455), improved by £15,098, horns (£6,426), wheat (£59,068), rice and paddy (£27,628) and other grain (£46,381), opium (£586,343), provisions and oilman's stores (£9,907), salt (£16,957), shawls (£26,939), cotton twist (£20,470), oils (£8,279), seeds (£195,075), and spices (£5,228). Decreases occurred in coir (£8,590), raw hides and skins (£40,239), raw silk (£5,296), tobacco (£25,304), raw wool (£36,441), cotton piece-goods (£16,365), indigo, as already said (£10,455), and tanned hides and skins (£31,744). Exports.

18. Amongst imports into Sind, metals improved by £24,509, while cotton goods fell off by £21,374. Sind: Imports.

19. The chief decreases in exports from Sind were in cotton (£3,464), wheat (£325,738), and indigo (£12,849), while the following articles improved: raw wool (£57,763), rice and paddy (£5,666), other grain (£10,293), seeds (£109,853). Exports.

20. Imports into Madras shew increases of £18,648 in wood, £29,543 in metals, £197,919 in railway material, £44,676 in machines and machinery; and decreases of £17,901 in apparel, £87,446 in cotton manufactures, £19,265 in liquors, and £30,210 in spices. Madras: Imports.

21. Madras exported more cotton by £331,245. Dyeing materials, other than indigo, improved by £42,592, while indigo fell off by £309,282. In other articles increases occurred in horns (£4,829), provisions (£7,577), sugar (£122,622), grain, other than rice (husked and unhusked) and wheat (£29,492), oils (£30,309), seeds (£26,640). Decreases occurred in coffee (£204,266), coir (£7,552), cotton piece-goods (£7,224), indigo (£309,282), rice and paddy (£91,723), tanned hides and skins (£84,946), and spices (£15,228). Exports.

22. Imports into Burma shew increases of £137,644 in cotton goods, £49,447 in metals, £18,342 in salt, £11,219 in raw silk, and £69,235 in goods of silk, and decreases of £9,414 in manufactures of jute (imports from foreign countries having been replaced by imports of Calcutta manufacture), £10,175 in machines and machinery, and £5,132 in woollen goods. British Burma: Imports.

23. In exports from British Burma the chief increases were in caoutchouc (£10,084), cotton (£19,290), cutch and gambier (£37,145), and the decreases in raw hides and skins (£48,628), teak timber (£52,487), and rice (husked and unhusked) (£410,139). The explanation of this very great decrease in the export of rice from Burma will be found in the section devoted to dutiable exports. Exports.

Bombay & Madras: re-exports.

24. In the re-export of foreign merchandise, Bombay holds much the largest place. The chief fluctuations were increases of £12,722 in cotton manufactures, of £9,772 in apparel, £20,638 in sugar, and £13,602 in tea, with decreases in ivory (£37,752), and in metals (£21,424). In Madras the export trade in foreign cotton manufactures increased by £34,290. In other respects the items which comprise this trade are not sufficiently important to merit separate enumeration.

Bulk of foreign trade confined to the five provincial chief ports: trade thereof

25. The great bulk of the foreign trade is centred, except in Madras and British Burma, at the chief port of each of the provinces, and is shared between them in the following proportions:—

Calcutta—			£	Madras—			£
Imports	...	...	20,112,227	Imports	...	...	2,717,959
Exports	...	...	22,507,262	Exports	...	...	2,289,548
Total			42,619,489	Total			5,007,507
Bombay—				Rangoon—			
Imports	...	...	16,205,281	Imports	...	...	2,082,680
Exports	...	...	23,971,675	Exports	...	...	1,926,214
Total			40,176,956	Total			4,008,894
Kurrachee—			£				
Imports	...	...	291,004				
Exports	...	...	1,081,589				
Total			1,372,593				

The total trade of these five ports thus amounted to £93,185,439 during the year out of a total for the Empire of £100,691,251, or 92.55 per cent.

Most of the rest of the foreign trade of India is carried on at Chittagong in Bengal, the Tanjore and Tinnevely ports in Madras, and Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein in British Burma. The foreign trade of the very numerous other ports of India is insignificant. The whole number of ports in British India amounts to 128, of which there are 5 ports in Bengal, 30 in Bombay, 3 in Sind, 83 in Madras, and 7 in British Burma. Besides these there are a large number of sub-ports in Bombay and Bengal, the trade of which is included in the trade of the ports mentioned in the returns.

Number of ports in India.

### TRADE WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Trade with principal foreign countries.

26. Of the total trade of £100,691,251, no less than £62,215,205, or nearly 62 per cent., represented the value of the merchandise and treasure interchanged by the United Kingdom and India. The principal countries with which business was done during the year are shown below arranged in order according to the importance of the trade with each country:—

With European countries.

27. In Europe:—

1. United Kingdom—			£	4. Russia—			£
Imports	...	...	34,246,716	Imports	...	...	<i>nil.</i>
Exports	...	...	27,968,489	Exports	...	...	300,782
Total			62,215,205	Total			300,782
2. France—				5. Germany—			
Imports	...	...	412,866	Imports	...	...	23,437
Exports	...	...	4,449,317	Exports	...	...	202,024
Total			4,862,183	Total			225,461
3. Mediterranean Ports—				6. Other countries in Europe—			
Imports	...	...	394,927	Imports	...	...	24,826
Exports	...	...	2,482,285	Exports	...	...	102,650
Total			2,877,212	Total			127,476

28. The total trade with countries in Europe amounted to £70,608,319, more than six-sevenths of which was with the United Kingdom, and more than half of the remainder with France. It must be noticed here that the figures set down in this review against the United Kingdom include the figures given by the custom houses as representing the trade with Suez. All but an inappreciable portion of this trade passes in transit through Suez, and mainly in British bottoms, on its way to or from the United Kingdom, and it should properly be classed as trade with that country.

29. The figures of the African trade are not classified as they will be in future returns, but they are not important, except for Mauritius, the total trade in the year having amounted to £2,201,593, thus divided:—

Mauritius—		£	Africa (Continent)—		£
Imports	...	596,899	Imports	...	130,134
Exports	...	1,036,892	Exports	...	352,211
Total	...	<u>1,633,791</u>	Total	...	<u>482,345</u>
Réunion—		£			
Imports	...	10,867			
Exports	...	74,590			
Total		...	Total		<u>85,457</u>

With the African coasts, Mauritius and Reunion.

30. With America also the trade is not classified in the returns, except as trade with "America" and the West Indies, but it is known that most of the trade recorded under the head of "America" is with the United States. The total trade amounted in the year to £2,370,924, thus divided:—

America—		£	West Indies—		£
Imports	...	193,490	Imports	...	16
Exports	...	2,096,947	Exports	...	80,471
Total	...	<u>2,290,437</u>	Total	...	<u>80,487</u>

With America.

31. The trade with countries in Asia amounted to £25,141,244, thus divided:—

China—		£	Red Sea—		£
Imports	...	2,957,000	Imports	...	396,397
Exports	...	11,750,803	Exports	...	358,898
Total	...	<u>14,707,803</u>	Total	...	<u>755,295</u>
Ceylon—			Aden—		
Imports	...	930,480	Imports	...	140,612
Exports	...	2,496,694	Exports	...	416,791
Total	...	<u>3,427,174</u>	Total	...	<u>557,403</u>
Straits Settlements—			Maldives—		
Imports	...	1,073,102	Imports	...	29,562
Exports	...	2,216,614	Exports	...	29,828
Total	...	<u>3,289,716</u>	Total	...	<u>59,390</u>
Persian Gulf—			Mekran and Sonmiáni—		
Imports	...	919,961	Imports	...	31,194
Exports	...	1,229,663	Exports	...	24,108
Total	...	<u>2,149,624</u>	Total	...	<u>55,302</u>
Other countries in Asia—		£			
Imports	...	40,161			
Exports	...	99,376			
Total		...	Total		<u>139,537</u>

With Asiatic countries.

With Australia.

32. The trade with Australia amounted to £369,171, viz. :—

	£
Imports ... ..	233,634
Exports ... ..	135,537

Comparative table of trade with each country.

33. The subjoined table shews the total trade for the year with each country, compared with the year 1873-74, and the average of the five years 1869-70—1873-74. It will be seen that our largest customers are (1) the United Kingdom, (2) China, (3) France, (4) Ceylon, and (5) the Straits Settlements. Our trade with these countries amounted during the year to eighty-eight and a half millions sterling out of the total one hundred millions. Our next most important customers are the countries on the coasts of the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf, America, and Mauritius.

COUNTRIES.	Trade in 1874-75.	Trade in 1873-74.	Average value of trade in five years, 1869-70 to 1873-74.	Increase in 1874-75 over 1873-74.	Increase in 1874-75 over average of five previous years.	Decrease in 1874-75 on 1873-74.	Decrease in 1874-75 on average of five previous years.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom and Suez ...	62,215,205	57,792,145	59,566,018	4,423,060	2,649,187	.....	.....
France ... ..	4,862,183	3,496,411	3,771,488	1,365,772	1,087,695	.....	.....
Mediterranean Ports ...	2,877,212	2,695,007	1,975,871	182,205	901,341	.....	.....
Germany ... ..	225,461	83,568	225,642	141,893	.....	.....	181
Russia ... ..	300,782	92,039	132,801	208,743	167,981	.....	.....
Holland ... ..	26,437	252,607	228,909	.....	.....	226,170	202,472
Belgium ... ..	30	13	46,103	23	.....	.....	40,067
Turkey ... ..	50,254	34,851	31,766	15,403	18,488	.....	.....
Spain (excluding Gibraltar) ...	114	30,409	45,170	.....	.....	30,295	45,056
Gibraltar ... ..	45,675	35,001	25,520	10,074	20,155	.....	.....
Austria (excluding Trieste, which is classed under Mediterranean Ports) ...	3,908	89,094	17,861	.....	.....	85,186	13,953
Other countries in Europe ...	1,052	283	12,967	769	.....	.....	11,915
Africa and adjacent coasts ...	482,345	481,138	488,215	1,207	.....	.....	5,870
Mauritius ... ..	1,633,791	1,391,221	1,185,412	242,570	448,379	.....	.....
Réunion ... ..	85,457	51,285	140,179	34,172	.....	.....	54,722
America ... ..	2,290,437	1,923,517	2,114,568	366,920	175,869	.....	.....
West Indies ... ..	80,487	299,972	175,618	.....	.....	219,485	95,131
Red Sea ... ..	755,295	681,602	637,880	73,793	117,415	.....	.....
Aden ... ..	557,403	549,841	476,881	7,562	80,522	.....	.....
Persian Gulf ... ..	2,149,624	2,092,304	2,381,300	57,320	.....	.....	231,676
Mekran and Somiani ...	55,302	55,891	68,689	.....	.....	1,589	13,387
Laccadives and Maldives ...	59,391	68,277	86,668	.....	.....	8,886	27,277
Ceylon ... ..	3,427,174	3,722,304	3,510,631	.....	.....	295,130	92,457
Straits Settlements ...	3,289,716	3,004,045	2,815,761	285,671	473,955	.....	.....
China ... ..	14,707,803	14,645,015	16,645,270	62,788	.....	.....	1,937,467
Other countries in Asia ...	139,536	147,304	314,092	.....	.....	7,708	174,556
Australia ... ..	369,171	561,036	635,340	.....	.....	191,865	266,169
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>100,691,251</b>	<b>94,277,080</b>	<b>97,768,620</b>	<b>7,480,545</b>	<b>6,140,987</b>	<b>1,066,374</b>	<b>3,218,356</b>
<b>Nett</b> ... ..	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>6,414,171</b>	<b>2,922,691</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>

## UNITED KINGDOM.

Details of fluctuations in trade with principal countries. United Kingdom (including transit trade via Suez).

34. The trade with the United Kingdom shews a considerable increase, amounting to upwards of four millions sterling over the trade of the previous year, and nearly three millions in excess of the average of the five years preceding 1874-75. The increase is in merchandise and treasure imported, the exports of merchandise and treasure having fallen off.

IMPORTS. Increases and decreases.

35. The imports of treasure increased by £2,408,725 and of merchandise by £2,931,603. In merchandise the following principal articles shew the most noticeable advance:— The figures noted against each article are the sum of the increase over the value of the imports of 1873-74 :—

	£		£
Agricultural implements	29,295	Cotton goods ... ..	1,620,999
Apparel ... ..	48,039	Drugs and medicines ...	33,766
Building and engineering materials : (most of the increase was in cement)	28,764	Dyeing and colouring materials ... ..	14,055
		Flax manufactures ... ..	21,997

£			£		
Glassware ... ..		18,462	Tin ... ..		7,005
Jute manufactures ... ..		13,431	Quicksilver ... ..		2,050
Liquors ... ..		90,925	Other sorts ... ..		23,620
Matches ... ..		23,982			
Machinery and mill-work ... ..		185,069	Total increase in metals		<u>£787,524</u>
Metals :			Paints, colours and painters' materials ... ..		19,336
Copper ... ..		259,071	Railway materials ... ..		99,889
Iron ... ..		444,231	Silk piece-goods ... ..		65,439
Lead ... ..		13,703	Soap ... ..		8,688
Steel ... ..		37,844	Umbrellas ... ..		16,414

On the other hand there were decreases in—

£			£		
Coal and coke ... ..		30,134	Provisions ... ..		5,582
Rosin ... ..		22,504	Salt ... ..		53,908
Paper and pasteboard ... ..		8,420	Woollen goods ... ..		102,377

and, to a small extent, in some other articles.

36. The importation of goods *via* Suez, recorded in the returns as imports from Suez, fell off from £1,129,162 to £435,089, or by the large sum of £694,073, the bulk of which was in cotton manufactures. The reduction in the importation of merchandise by the overland route since the opening of the Suez Canal has been marked. The figures are as follow :—

£			£		
1869-70 ... ..		3,209,841	1872-73 ... ..		1,648,668
1870-71 ... ..		2,883,618	1873-74 ... ..		1,129,162
1871-72 ... ..		1,946,804	1874-75 ... ..		435,089

For exports, however, this route does not seem to have fallen very much out of favour as yet. The figures are as follow :—

£			£		
1869-70 ... ..		224,794	1872-73 ... ..		436,987
1870-71 ... ..		182,904	1873-74 ... ..		140,731
1871-72 ... ..		78,847	1874-75 ... ..		171,237

37. Exports to the United Kingdom fell off in value both in merchandise and treasure. The export of merchandise diminished from £28,357,679 in 1873-74 to £27,737,958, or by £619,721. Treasure fell from £528,077 to £230,530, a reduction of £297,547. The total diminution was thus £917,268, or under a million sterling.

Of articles of Indian produce and manufacture, the main decreases occurred in the articles and to the extent shewn below :—

£			£		
Borax ... ..		28,915	Hides and skins (dressed or tanned) ... ..		112,505
Coffee ... ..		16,623	Jute (raw) ... ..		257,632
Coir ... ..		20,399	Lac of all kinds... ..		10,336
Cotton goods ... ..		30,739	Silk (raw) ... ..		227,337
Indigo ... ..		777,073	Wax ... ..		8,258
Rice ... ..		595,695	Wood (teak) ... ..		53,719
Wheat ... ..		455,440			

Shawls ... .. £9,288

Increases occurred in the undermentioned articles :—

£			£		
Cotton (raw) ... ..		1,021,603	Oils ... ..		70,746
Dyes (other than indigo and lac dye) ... ..		41,961	Opium ... ..		9,868
Gums : catch and gambier ... ..		59,696	Saltpetre ... ..		48,196
Hemp (raw) ... ..		7,241	Seeds ... ..		382,805
Hides and skins (raw) ... ..		76,516	Silk goods ... ..		6,322
Horns ... ..		15,657	Sugar ... ..		94,299
Jewellery ... ..		9,902	Tea ... ..		197,080
Wool (raw) ... ..		£16,502	Tobacco ... ..		56,596



## Re-exports.

The only important fluctuations in articles of foreign merchandise exported to the United Kingdom occurred in the following articles, which fell off by the amounts mentioned :—

	£
Fruits and vegetables ... ..	15,647
Ivory ... ..	31,230
Silk (raw) ... ..	53,250

## FRANCE.

## France.

38. For the five years ending 1873-74 (1869-70 to 1873-74), the average value of our trade with France amounted to £3,774,488 annually, viz. :—

	£
Imports ... ..	530,006
Exports ... ..	3,244,482

In 1873-74 the value of the trade was £3,496,411 (imports £362,333 and exports £3,134,078). In 1874-75 the trade rose to £4,862,183 (imports £412,866 and exports £4,449,317), exceeding the value of the trade, of the previous year by over a million and a quarter sterling (£1,365,772), or 39·06 per cent., and the average of the five years preceding 1874-75 by £1,087,695, or 28·82 per cent.

Comparing the details of the trade with the details of the previous year, there was a decrease of £17,520 in merchandise imported from France, and an increase amounting to £68,053 in the import of treasure. Merchandise exported to France shews the very large increase of £1,305,005, and treasure exported increased by £10,234.

IMPORTS.  
Increases and decreases.

In imports of merchandise the principal increases were in cotton goods (£5,467), and liquors (£15,763). The bulk of the decreases was in apparel (£8,363), coal (£12,552), and silk goods (£14,108). Coal fell off by 100 per cent., none having been imported during the year.

EXPORTS.  
Increases and decreases.

In exports of Indian produce to France great variations are exhibited when the trade is compared with that of the previous year. Cotton (raw) shows an enormous increase, this article having advanced by no less than £1,179,208, or more than 126 per cent. The value of cotton exported to France in 1873-74 was only £930,523 against £2,109,731 in 1874-75. In other articles increases occurred in—

	£		£
Rice ... ..	15,867	Saltpetre ... ..	29,404
Wheat ... ..	107,056	Seeds (oil) ... ..	183,447
Hides and skins (raw) ... ..	11,768	Wool (raw) ... ..	5,662

Decreases are exhibited in the following articles :—

	£		£
Coffee ... ..	42,928	Jute (raw) ... ..	8,173
Indigo ... ..	50,036	Silk (raw) ... ..	80,185
Cutch and gambier ... ..	5,586	Spices ... ..	24,353
Shawls ... ..	£18,114		

## GERMANY.

## Germany.

39. The direct trade with German ports is comparatively insignificant, but the trade with Germany is more important than it seems in our returns, for a portion of the imports and exports from and to the United Kingdom, France, and some of the Mediterranean ports, either originally come from, or ultimately go to, Germany. According to our returns, for instance, there is no exchange of treasure between Germany and India, but it is well known that a considerable proportion of the increased imports of coin and specie from England during the year consisted of German silver bought up for export to the East since the introduction of a gold standard in Germany.

The average of the direct trade for the five years, 1869-70—1873-74, was :—

				£
Imports	...	...	...	36,782
Exports	...	...	...	188,860
Total average				225,642

all in merchandise. In 1873-74 there was a considerable reduction on the average of the trade during previous years. Imports fell off to £23,423, and exports to £60,145. During the year of report there was but slight improvement in imports, which amounted to £23,437 only, but there was a recovery to a material extent in exports, which advanced to £202,024.

The increases in imports occurred chiefly in liquors (£2,425), and in metals Imports. (£1,116). There were also small increases in other articles.

The decreases in imports took place in coal (£2,078) and woollen goods (£1,186). Of woollen goods there was no direct importation from Germany during the year.

In exports of Indian produce the principal fluctuations were as follow :— Exports.

Cotton (raw) increased by £143,704, and rice (husked and unhusked) by £4,235. Oils and teakwood fell off to nothing, no exports having been made of these articles, against £2,352 and £2,760, respectively, in the previous year.

#### MEDITERRANEAN PORTS.

40. This is a bad classification, for under this head are included the ports Mediterranean of the Levant, the Austrian port of Trieste, all the Italian ports, &c. In ports. future returns the trade will be separately shewn for each country.

The development of direct trade with ports in the Mediterranean since the opening of the Suez Maritime Canal merits particular attention. In 1868-1869 the total trade amounted to £421,163, of which imports represented £12,289, and exports £408,874. In 1869-70 the value of the trade was £639,011, the imports having remained at almost the same figure (£12,292), while exports increased to £626,719. In the following year (1870-71), the canal having been opened for traffic in 1870, imports rose at once to £148,227, and exports to £1,429,818, total £1,578,045. The increase in the trade during the four following years is shewn by the figures appended :—

				£					£
1871-72	{	Imports	...	285,223		{	Imports	...	462,715
		Exports	...	2,230,125			Exports	...	2,232,291
	Total	...	2,515,348	Total		...	2,695,006		
1872-73	{	Imports	...	298,821		{	Imports	...	394,927
		Exports	...	2,153,122			Exports	...	2,482,285
	Total	...	2,451,943	Total		...	2,877,212		

This last amount exceeds the average value of the trade for the five previous years by nearly a million sterling (£901,341), or upwards of 45 per cent., and is nearly seven-fold the value of the trade in 1868-69.

As compared with last year, there is a nett increase of £182,206, entirely in exports of merchandise, imports both of merchandise and treasure having somewhat fallen off, the former to the extent of £47,348 and the latter by £20,440. Merchandise was exported to the value of £249,858 in excess of the exports of the previous year, and an insignificant amount of treasure (£136) was exported, for the first time since 1869-70.

In principal articles of merchandise imported, the following articles fell Imports. off by the sum stated against each item :—

				£					£
Cotton piece-goods	...	...	...	9,262		Metals	...	...	2,830
Beads and false pearls	...	...	...	24,322		Mineral oil	...	...	2,304
Liquors	...	...	...	28,536		Silk goods	...	...	1,740
Woollen goods				...	...	£9,504			

Re-er

On the other hand, the following articles improved :—

				£					£
Apparel	...	...	...	3,114	Drugs and medicines	...	...	...	1,829
Corals	...	...	...	3,853	Dyes	...	...	...	1,147
Cotton twist	...	...	...	10,281	Paper	...	...	...	5,370
				Salt	...	...	...	£6,380	

Exports.

In exports of Indian produce and manufacture, the main improvements were in—

				£					£
Cotton (raw)	...	...	...	215,084	Hides and skins (raw)	...	...	...	76,796
Fruits and vegetables	...	...	...	6,679	Seeds	...	...	...	25,830
Wheat	...	...	...	64,983	Silk piece goods	...	...	...	1,978
				Tobacco	...	...	...	£17,090	

And the following articles decreased in value :—

				£					£
Coffee	...	...	...	41,332	Shell-lac	...	...	...	278
Indigo	...	...	...	49,231	Saltpetre	...	...	...	3,371
Rice	...	...	...	4,841	Silk (raw)	...	...	...	61,358

## HOLLAND.

Holland.

41. The trade with Holland amounted to £26,437 against £252,607 in 1873-74 and £228,909 in the five years ending with 1873-74. The diminution is exhibited in the imports and exports of merchandise. No treasure is exchanged directly between the two countries. The value of the imports from Holland is fairly steady from year to year, but exports fluctuate in a remarkable manner for which no sufficient reason can at present be given. The exports consist chiefly of raw cotton from Bombay, and the Commissioner of Customs in that Presidency is apparently unable to account for the fluctuations. The value of the exports of all articles is shown below for the last five years :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	137,583	1872-73	...	...	...	141,935
1871-72	...	...	...	341,098	1873-74	...	...	...	238,490
				1874-75	...	...	...	£14,400	

And the figures for raw cotton are :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	132,487	1872-73	...	...	...	17,256
1871-72	...	...	...	311,662	1873-74	...	...	...	226,090
				1874-75	...	...	...	Nil.	

The fluctuations in the indigo trade with Holland are also very remarkable. In 1870-71 none was sent to Holland; in 1871-72 the exports were worth £2-8s., and were probably only samples; in 1872-73 the value of the exports was £38,143, and in the two following years none at all was exported. Probably Holland takes Indian indigo only when none other is available, from America or elsewhere, at prices which can be afforded for the time in the Dutch market, or it may receive Indian indigo indirectly either through England or France. The diminution in the export of cotton is perhaps to be accounted for by the receipt of supplies from France, to which country the export of cotton from India during the two past years was very large.

## RUSSIA.

Russia.

42. The direct trade of Russia with India, like the direct trade of Holland, is of recent introduction. It arose out of the formation of a Russian Company started to establish direct steam communication between Odessa and Bombay. The enterprise does not seem to have been successful and has been abandoned in consequence of the difficulty of freighting the vessels at Odessa with articles wanted in the Indian market. In the last five years the imports have been as follows :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	2,003 (nearly all coal)	1872-73	...	...	...	135
1871-72	...	...	...	90	1873-74	...	...	...	83
				1874-75	...	...	...	Nil.	

The exports have been :—

£				£			
1870-71 ...	...	...	15,529	1872-73 ...	...	...	159,129
1871-72 ...	...	...	377,207	1873-74 ...	...	...	92,005
1874-75			...	...	...	...	£300,782

The exports have been almost entirely confined to cotton and indigo, and the value of both has fluctuated considerably from year to year. For cotton the figures are :—

£				£			
1870-71 ...	...	...	15,330	1872-73 ...	...	...	148,854
1871-72 ...	...	...	340,377	1873-74 ...	...	...	56,559
1874-75			...	...	...	...	£229,432

The figures for indigo are much smaller, but the trade seems to have a tendency to increase, the exports in 1874-75 having amounted to £70,246 against £35,409 in 1873-74, this latter sum having also exceeded the exports of previous years.

43. The trade with other countries in Europe offers no particular occasion for remark either in respect of value or peculiarity. Other Countries  
in Europe.

#### AMERICA.

44. The trade with America, *i. e.*, practically the United States, amounted during the year to £2,290,437 against £1,923,517, shewing an increase of £366,920. The value of the imports of merchandise (£190,490) was £92,195 in excess of the imports (£98,295) of the previous year, which were thus nearly doubled. The imports of treasure amounted to £3,000 against nothing in the last or four previous years. There has been no export of treasure to America for some years. The export of merchandise (£2,096,947) exceeded the export of the previous year (£1,825,222) by £271,725. The average imports of the five years previous to 1874-75 amounted to £81,005 annually, and the average exports to £2,033,563. The trade of the year, therefore, shews a satisfactory increase both in imports and exports, especially in the former. America.

In imports the chief increases were in—

£				£			
Cotton goods ...	...	...	16,259	Rosin ...	...	...	26,013
Drugs and medicines ...	...	...	2,816	Iron ...	...	...	1,773
Glassware ...	...	...	1,676	Mineral oil ...	...	...	52,031
Tobacco			...	...	...	...	£3,078

The only articles in which there was a noticeable decrease were ice (£6,256) and wood (£3,169).

In the exports of Indian produce and manufactures increases occurred in :— Exports.

£				£			
Dyes (other than indigo) ...	...	...	2,463	Lac ...	...	...	5,317
Rice ...	...	...	62,106	Rags ...	...	...	1,698
Hides and skins (raw) ...	...	...	32,682	Seeds ...	...	...	261,419
Jute (raw) ...	...	...	78,906	Spices ...	...	...	3,309

and decreases in—

£				£			
Caoutchouc ...	...	...	8,543	Hides and skins (dressed or tanned) ...	...	...	14,328
Indigo ...	...	...	86,514	Jute manufactures ...	...	...	17,360
Cutch and gambier ...	...	...	6,796	Saltpetre ... .. £47,971			

In articles of foreign merchandise exported to America, the only notable variation occurred in spices, which increased by £8,702.

## WEST INDIA ISLANDS.

West Indies.

45. The trade with the West Indies shews a very considerable diminution on the trade of previous years. For the five years 1869-70 to 1873-74 the average trade amounted to £175,618, *viz.*, imports £169 and exports £175,449. In the year 1873-74 imports were valued at £38 and exports at £299,934, total £299,972. In 1874-75 the trade amounted to no more than £80,487, showing a reduction of upwards of 73 per cent. All the exports fell off in value, but the bulk of the reduction was in rice, which forms the staple export from India to the West Indies, where it is chiefly used for the food of the coolie immigrants. This article fell off from £281,653 to £77,543, or by £204,110. Other sorts of grain also fell off by £4,309, provisions by £5,047, and gunny bags by £1,112.

Exports.

## AFRICA.

African Coast.

46. The trade with Africa amounted to £482,345 against £481,138 in the previous year, shewing a very small increase. The average of the total annual trade for the five years previous to 1874-75 was slightly in excess of the trade of this year, having amounted to £488,215. Imports of merchandise represented £99,404, shewing a very large decrease of £60,777 on the previous year's imports of merchandise, and a decrease of 45 per cent. on the average importations for the five years, which were £182,023. Treasure imported (£30,730) improved somewhat on last year, and was slightly above the five years' average (£30,116).

Exports of merchandise amounted to £341,718, shewing an increase of £58,034 on the exports of last year and of £71,392 on the average exports of the past five years, which amounted to £270,326. The treasure exported was worth £10,493, shewing a decrease of £1,607 on the exports of the previous year.

Imports.

The increases and decreases in the principal articles of merchandise imported from the African coasts are shewn below :—

<i>Increases.</i>			£	<i>Decreases.</i>			£
Cocoanuts ...	...	...	2,532	Gums ...	...	...	2,027
Shells ...	...	...	541	Ivory ...	...	...	54,505
Wood ...	...	...	3,146	Metals (iron and copper)			3,322
				Spices ...	...	...	7,835

The decrease in ivory, which accounts for a very great part of the total falling off, is the result of the abolition of the slave trade by the Sultan of Zanzibar.

Exports.

In exports of Indian produce and manufacture the chief increases occurred in—

			£				£
Cotton piece-goods ...	...	...	2,436	Opium ...	...	...	2,365
Rice ...	...	...	7,881	Teakwood ...	...	...	5,527

With the exception of Manchester cotton goods, the re-exports of foreign produce from India to Africa are unimportant. During the year piece-goods valued at £200,157 were sent to Africa, exceeding the export of the previous year by £26,595.

## MAURITIUS.

Mauritius.

47. The trade with this island amounted during the year to £1,633,791, being £242,570 in excess of the trade of the previous year and £448,379 in excess of the average of the five years preceding 1874-75. Imports amounted to £596,899, which sum was considerably in excess of the imports of last year and the quinquennial average, but this was owing to a very largely increased import of treasure, which advanced to £196,163 from an import in the previous year of £4,197. The import of merchandise fell off from £438,292 to £400,736. Exports of treasure fell off from £281,000 in 1873-74 to £95,000 in the year of report, but exports of merchandise shew the considerable increase of £274,161, having advanced from £667,731 to £941,892.

The diminution in the imports of merchandise is of course almost entirely comprised in the smaller trade during the year in sugar, which is the main staple of the colony. The reduction in this article amounted to £43,297. The import of liquors shews the large increase (on a relatively small trade) of £4,705.

Of articles of Indian produce exported to Mauritius, much the largest proportion consists of grain and pulse sent thither for the subsistence of the very numerous Indian population (amounting to 228,000) of the colony. In these articles there was a considerable increase, amounting to £271,776, divided thus:—

	£
Gram ... ..	18,417
Rice ... ..	211,949
Other kinds (except wheat) ... ..	41,410

The export of wheat fell off by £14,545.

There were increases in certain other articles to the amounts stated:—

	£		£
Coffee ... ..	1,424	Soap ... ..	1,753
Oils (Vegetable) ... ..	6,094	Teakwood ... ..	8,480
Saltpetre ... ..	5,740	Woollen goods ... ..	1,779

The export of cotton goods of Indian manufacture fell off by £1,328, while Manchester cotton improved by £1,707. Provisions (of Indian produce) fell off by £12,115, while fruits and vegetables (of foreign origin) improved by £2,564. Indian tobacco also fell off by £3,098.

#### RÉUNION.

48. *Quoad* trade with India, Réunion is in much the same position as her sister island Mauritius, with this difference, that whereas Mauritius pays for most of her imports with sugar, Réunion pays to a certain extent in cash, and not (to any appreciable extent) in merchandise. Thus, for the five years ending 1873-74, the imports of merchandise averaged no more than £628 while the average amount of treasure imported was £41,773. The exports of merchandise during the same period were worth on an average £97,778 per annum. The balance of payment due by Réunion was settled by exchange operations. In 1874-75 the import of merchandise was valued at £667, shewing a slight increase on the quinquennial average, but a great decrease on the imports of 1873-74, which amounted to £1,172. In that year, however, no treasure was imported, but the treasure imported in 1874-75 amounted to £10,200. The exports of merchandise in 1873-74 amounted to £74,590 against £50,113 in the previous year, but they were below the average of five years. The figures at one view stand thus:—

#### Imports.

Annual average of 5 years (1869-70 to 1873-74)—		£
Merchandise ... ..		628
Treasure ... ..		41,773
Total... ..		42,401
1873-74—		£
Merchandise ... ..	1,172	
Treasure ... ..	<i>Nil.</i>	
Total ... ..		1,172
1874-75—		£
Merchandise ... ..		667
Treasure ... ..		10,200
Total ... ..		10,867

#### Exports.

Annual average of 5 years (1869-70 to 1873-74) ...	£	97,778
1873-74 ... ..		50,113
1874-75 Merchandise ... ..		74,590

The chief increase in the exports was, as in the case of Mauritius, in rice, which advanced in value from £18,386 to £48,408, or by £30,022. Wheat fell off by £7,682, and other sorts of grain increased by £3,745. Provisions

fell off by £2,181. The fluctuations in other articles are unimportant. The articles above mentioned, intended mainly for the sustenance of Indian coolies, form the bulk of the exports from India to Réunion.

#### ASIATIC CONTINENT.

Countries in  
Asia.

49. Our total trade with countries on the Asiatic Continent amounted to £25,141,244 in 1874-75, viz. :—

			£
Imports	...	...	6,518,469
Exports	...	...	18,622,775

These figures do not include the amount of the trade which crosses the land frontier of India, but only the sea-borne trade. It is hoped that it will be possible to take the figures of the trade by land into account next year, measures for the registration of that trade being now in progress. At present we have figures for only a portion of this trade, and even these are defective and wanting in accuracy. However, the trade is not of great dimensions, though it seems to be growing, especially with Central Asia *viâ* Ladakh.

50. In our returns the trade with the Asiatic Continent is recorded under the following heads :—

- |                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Aden.         | 5. China.               |
| 2. Red Sea.      | 6. Maldive Islands.     |
| 3. Persian Gulf. | 7. Mckran and Sonmiáni. |
| 4. Ceylon.       | 8. Straits Settlements. |

#### 9. Other Countries in Asia.

This is an imperfect classification, for a portion of the trade with the coasts of the Red Sea is carried on with African ports, though the whole is recorded as trade with Asia. The trade recorded under the head of the Persian Gulf, too, ought to be divided between Persia and Arabia, and the trade with each country separately shewn for the ports of each country. It is to be regretted that the classification of "Red Sea" and "Persian Gulf" was ever adopted for our trade returns. The Asiatic Continent is credited with some trade which properly should fall to the account of Africa, and while Arabia gets this excess on the one hand, on the other it is not credited with that portion of the trade recorded under the head of the Persian Gulf which is transacted with Maskat and other ports on the Arabian shores. A correct classification has been adopted since the commencement of the present official year, but in this review of the trade of the past year the old classification must necessarily be retained.

51. The comparative figures under the head of the Maldives include the Laccadives as well as the Maldives, for the years previous to 1874-75, but only the Maldives for the year of report. The Laccadives were erroneously classed until May last year as Foreign ports, whereas they are really British Indian territory, and the trade with them ought to have been treated as coasting or inter-portal trade. Indeed, even one of the Maldives, the island of Minicoy, is British Indian territory, though it is still classed among Foreign ports. The consequence is that it is not possible to make a true comparison between the trade of the Maldives for the present and for the previous years, a separation of the figures for the Laccadives not being practicable. However, the whole trade is quite insignificant in dimensions.

In the following paragraphs is shewn the trade with each of the countries above mentioned.

#### ADEN.

Aden.

52. The total trade amounted to £557,403, viz. :—

			£
Imports	...	...	140,612
Exports	...	...	416,791

against £549,841 in the previous year, shewing an excess of £7,562. It was in excess of the average trade for the five years ending 1873-74 by £80,522. The increase in the trade as compared with 1873-74 occurred in the exports

to Aden of merchandise and treasure. The former increased by £17,368, the latter by £18,017. Imports of merchandise and treasure fell off, in the former to the extent of £27,335, in the latter to the small amount of £487.

Increases occurred in—				£	Imports.
Gums and resins	...	...	...	1,803	
Spices	...	...	...	3,729	
Decreases in—					
Coffee	...	...	...	3,170	
Beads and false pearls	...	...	...	3,666	
Ivory	...	...	...	20,610	
Precious stones and pearls	...	...	...	3,665	

Increases occurred in exports of Indian produce and manufacture in the following articles:—

				£					£
Apparel	...	...	...	1,637	Wheat	...	...	...	3,056
Raw cotton	...	...	...	2,090	Oils	...	...	...	2,446
Cotton twist	...	...	...	12,237	Provisions	...	...	...	2,372
Rice	...	...	...	29,903	Silk goods	...	...	...	4,795

Decreases occurred in—				£
Cotton piece-goods	...	...	...	32,921
Raw silk	...	...	...	5,147
Tobacco	...	...	...	20,288

In re-exports of foreign goods increases are exhibited in—

				£
Cotton twist and piece-goods	...	...	...	13,965
Silk goods	...	...	...	1,141

And decreases in—

Dyeing and colouring materials	...	...	...	957
Raw silk	...	...	...	1,428
Sugar	...	...	...	3,334

Aden is to a great extent an entrepôt for trade between India and Zanzibar and the neighbouring African Coast.

#### RED SEA.

53. The trade with ports in the Red Sea amounted to £755,295, viz.:—

				£	Red Sea.
Imports	...	...	...	396,397	
Exports	...	...	...	358,898	

The trade in 1873-74 was less than this by £73,793, and the average of five years was exceeded by the large sum (in a comparatively small trade) of £117,415. Imports of merchandise diminished from £126,198 to £80,977, or by £45,221. Imports of treasure increased from £290,248 to £315,420, or by £25,172. Exports of merchandise increased from £247,963 to £343,428, i. e., by £95,465. The export of treasure shews a small diminution of £1,622, having fallen from £17,092 to £15,470.

The only sensible increase occurred in—

Skins	...	...	...	£1,404	Imports.
-------	-----	-----	-----	--------	----------

The decrease in the imports results chiefly from—

				£					£
Coffee	...	...	...	3,730	Ivory	...	...	...	929
Fruits and vegetables	...	...	...	4,464	Salt	...	...	...	24,320
Gums and resins	...	...	...	13,490	Wool (raw)	...	...	...	830

The increase in exports of Indian produce is chiefly due to rice, which rose from £24,582 in 1873-74 to £156,461 in the year of report, or by £131,879. The quantity exported was 387,037 cwt. against 51,452 cwt.



in the previous year. The average export of rice to the Red Sea for the five years previous to 1874-75 was not more than 87,859 cwt., valued at £40,472.

There were increases in other articles to the extent noted :—

	£		£
Coffee ... ..	2,491	Metals ... ..	968
Coir ... ..	1,741	Oils ... ..	945
Cotton twist ... ..	1,564	Sugar ... ..	1,815
Teakwood ... ..	£1,280		

On the other hand, the following articles fell off :—

	£		£
Cotton piece-goods ... ..	5,078	Silk goods ... ..	3,703
Wheat ... ..	25,085	Spices ... ..	2,616
Tobacco ... ..	£5,225		

Among re-exports of foreign goods the only notable fluctuations occurred in cotton piece-goods and spices, which fell off by £6,507 and £1,852 respectively.

#### PERSIAN GULF.

Persian Gulf

54. The total trade recorded under this head amounted to £2,149,624, viz.,—

	£
Imports ... ..	919,961
Exports ... ..	1,229,663

In 1873-74 the trade amounted to £2,092,304, viz.,—

	£
Imports ... ..	847,786
Exports ... ..	1,244,518

There was thus a small improvement in the trade, amounting to £57,320, caused by an increase in the imports, which improved by £72,175, while exports fell off by £14,855. The trade, though better than that of 1873-74, was a good deal below the average of the five years ending 1873-74. This average was £2,381,300, viz., imports £1,019,312 and exports £1,361,988. Exports have steadily declined every year during this period, and imports have also shewn a strong downward tendency. As compared with last year, however, imports of merchandise improved by £31,283 and treasure by £40,892. Exports of merchandise shew a small increase of £914, while treasure fell off by £15,768.

These figures cannot be reconciled with those furnished to the Government of India in 1875 by Colonel Ross, Her Majesty's Resident in the Persian Gulf, and published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

His figures amounted to—

	£
Imports from India ... ..	638,352
Exports to India ... ..	548,109
Total trade with India ... ..	£1,186,461

But no proper comparison can be made between the figures, for (1) it is not certain to what period some of Colonel Ross' figures extend; (2) some of them are merely estimates and of doubtful accuracy; (3) they comprise the ports of Bushire, Bahrain, the Pirate Coast, Bandar Abbass, and Maskat, but omit Basrah and Koweit,\* which are recorded in our returns under the head of the Persian Gulf; and (4) it is very probable, considering the conditions of administration obtaining on the coasts of the Gulf, that our figures are far more trustworthy than those which the British authorities in the Gulf have been able to obtain. From these returns, however, we learn that while India possesses a monopoly

\* Colonel Ross rightly omits these. They are not within his jurisdiction, but within that of the Resident in Turkish Arabia.

of the supply of Manchester piece-goods (the depôt for which is in Bombay) to the people of those parts, she has to compete more or less actively with other countries in various important articles, amongst which are coffee, wheat, rice and other grains and pulses, indigo, tin and other metals, sugar, silk manufactures, and tea.

In imports of merchandise the following articles shew notable improve- Imports.  
ment:—

	£		£
Animals (horses) ...	9,099	Mineral oil ... ..	1,070
Grain : Wheat ... .	14,236	Paints, colours, and paint- ers' materials ... ..	4,771
Other sorts ...	7,307	Perfumery ... ..	2,397
Gums and resins ...	1,292	Shells and cowries ...	6,646
Ivory ... ..	3,636	Silk (raw) ... ..	16,565
Precious stones and pearls	26,483		
Wool (raw) ... ..			£2,484

And the following articles fell off:—

	£		£
Cotton (raw) ... ..	2,434	Fruits and vegetables ...	46,118
Cotton piece-goods ...	3,345	Jute manufactures ...	2,465
Dyeing and colouring ma- terials ... ..	5,003	Salt ... ..	8,371

In exports of Indian produce and manufacture the principal fluctuations Exports.  
were as follow. Increases occurred in—

	£		£
Cotton piece-goods ...	15,220	Metals ... ..	976
Rice ... ..	4,980	Oil (vegetable) ... ..	4,529
Gunny bags ... ..	1,125	Silk goods ... ..	2,835
Spices ... ..			£4,282

And decreases are exhibited in—

	£		£
Coffee ... ..	4,389	Raw silk ... ..	4,904
Coir ... ..	1,156	Sugar ... ..	1,606
Drugs and medicines ...	1,167	Wood ... ..	2,654
Indigo ... ..	58,843	Shawls ... ..	3,743

The trade in wheat with the Persian Gulf has been subject to violent fluctuations from time to time. The export fell from a value of £520 in 1868-69 to nothing in the next year, suddenly rising again in 1870-71 to £8,998. This was followed by a spring to more than ten times that amount, the trade in 1871-72 reaching £90,799. In 1872-73 the trade sank to £3,235, then to £148, and in the year of report to £137. Apparently a profitable trade in wheat cannot be carried on with the Persian Gulf except under abnormal circumstances: the great elevation of the trade in 1871-72 was caused by the Persian famine, and the sudden necessity which arose for the importation of large food supplies. The distress of the people did not cease with that year, but continued, in some parts until last year, to be more or less severely felt; but apparently a cheaper source of supply than India has been obtained, and the trade in wheat with the Gulf has sunk to the insignificant proportions which it possessed before the outbreak of famine.

#### CEYLON.

55. The total trade with Ceylon during the year amounted to £3,427,174, Ceylon.  
viz.:—

	£
Imports ... ..	930,480
Exports ... ..	2,496,694

For the year 1873-74 the trade amounted to £3,722,304, and the average value of the trade amounted during the five years ending 1873-74 to £3,519,631. As compared with the year immediately preceding the year of report the trade shews a falling off of £295,130. As compared with the

average of the five years which preceded it the trade diminished by £95,608. During this period the trade reached its highest point in 1869-70, when it amounted to £4,854,581. In the following year it fell off by the very large sum of £2,018,807. In 1871-72 there was a sensible recovery, the value of the trade having been represented by £3,169,126. In 1872-73 there was a further small advance to £3,216,371 and a more material recovery in 1873-74, followed by a relapse in the year of report. Comparing the two years, it appears that imports of merchandise and treasure both increased—the former by £5,785, the latter by £25,185. The falling off in the trade occurred in the exports of merchandise, which diminished by £429,223. The export of treasure on the other hand increased by £103,123.

**Imports.** In the imports of merchandise the chief fluctuations occurred in the articles named below:—

<i>Increases.</i>			£	<i>Decreases.</i>			£
Coal	...	...	7,946	Animals	...	...	2,524
Cotton goods	...	...	5,894	Apparel	...	...	5,098
Metals	...	...	2,614	Coffee	...	...	3,653
Shells and cowries	...	...	2,136	Fruits and vegetables	...	...	
Raw silk	...	...	6,704	(chiefly coconuts)	...	...	5,340
Tobacco	...	...	3,816	Spices	...	...	7,591
Manufactures of wood	...	...	9,930	Sugar and other saccha-	...	...	
				rine produce	...	...	3,184
				Tea	...	...	2,234

**Exports.** In exports of Indian produce and manufacture there were increases in—

£			£				
Cotton (raw)	...	...	24,720	Oil (vegetable)	...	...	1,624
Fruits and vegetables	...	...	2,349	Opium	...	...	999
Gram ( <i>Cicer arietinum</i> )	...	...	3,137	Provisions	...	...	2,306
Gunny bags and cloths	...	...	6,629	Rice in the husk	...	...	1,177
Manure (animal bones)	...	...	5,801	Seeds	...	...	3,026
Soap	...	...	...		...	...	£3,439

While the following articles fell off:—

£			£				
Apparel	...	...	1,523	Wheat	...	...	10,972
Coffee	...	...	13,896	Other grains	...	...	3,339
Coir (no coir was export-	...	...	1,884	Gums: cutch and gambier	...	...	5,798
ed during the year)	...	...	1,884	Jute (raw)	...	...	11,038
Cotton manufactures	...	...	11,932	Metals	...	...	1,105
Drugs and medicines	...	...	3,105	Silk goods	...	...	1,964
Indigo	...	...	7,301	Spices	...	...	7,717
Rice not in the husk	...	...	388,798	Sugar	...	...	3,658
Teakwood	...	...	...		...	...	£6,581

The decrease in husked rice was, it will be remarked, extremely large, but the value of the total export of rice, husked and unhusked, amounting to £940,114, was only £28,144 below the average of the five years preceding 1874-75, this average having amounted to not more than £968,258, though swelled by an exceptional increase in 1872-73 and 1873-74. The value of the exports of rice during the year was considerably larger than in any of the three years which commenced the quinquennial period.

In the exports of foreign merchandise the most noticeable fluctuations are decreases in cotton manufactures (£9,612), fruits and vegetables (£1,016), and wood (manufactured) £1,809.

#### CHINA.

**China.** 56. The average value of the trade with China for the five years ending 1873-74 was £16,645,270, *viz.* :—

	£
Imports	4,136,436
Exports	12,508,834

For the year 1873-74 the trade was valued at £14,645,015, viz. :—

					£
Imports	...	...	...	...	3,138,383
Exports	...	...	...	...	11,506,632

And for the year of report the figures are £14,707,803 :—

					£
Imports	...	...	...	...	2,957,000
Exports	...	...	...	...	11,750,803

Thus, though the trade slightly increased during the year, it has not yet recovered from the depression of 1872-73, when it fell off by nearly three millions and a half sterling. Our imports from China have steadily diminished in value since 1869-70, the decrease being much more marked in treasure than in merchandise. Our exports have also fallen off, but not in the same proportion as the imports, and they manifest a tendency to recovery which is not shewn by the import trade. Compared with the year 1873-74 the trade of the last year shews an increase of £107,349 in merchandise imported, neutralized by a falling off of £288,732 in treasure imported. The export of merchandise increased by £154,018 and of treasure by £90,153.

In the principal articles of merchandise imported from China noticeable Imports. increases occurred in—

						£
Apparel	...	...	...	...	...	3,336
Cotton piece-goods	...	...	...	...	...	1,238
Dyeing and colouring materials	...	...	...	...	...	1,731
Fireworks	...	...	...	...	...	18,253
Metals (amongst which copper accounts for £44,497)	...	...	...	...	...	45,627
Raw silk	...	...	...	...	...	60,136
Silk piece-goods	...	...	...	...	...	41,590
Sugar and sugarcandy	...	...	...	...	...	10,127
Umbrellas	...	...	...	...	...	7,020

Decreases occurred in—

		£				£
Drugs and medicines	...	6,759	Provisions	...	...	2,949
Glass and glassware	...	7,865	Spices	...	...	4,145
Grain and pulse	...	16,183	Tea	...	...	30,076
Paper	...	4,788	Tobacco	...	...	5,380

The great decrease in grain and pulse, the import of which fell off from £16,207 in 1873-74 to £24 in 1874-75, merely indicates a return to the ordinary scale of imports of food-grains from China. These are generally insignificant, and the quantities imported in 1873-74 were abnormally great in consequence of the comparative dearness and scarcity of grain in India which ensued on the failure of the crops in parts of Bengal in 1873. The falling off in the import of tea from China is the natural result of the increased consumption of the leaf grown in India.

In the list of articles of Indian produce and manufacture exported to Exports. China, opium occupies the first place, and raw cotton comes next, *longo intervallo*. The value of the opium exported during the year amounted to £10,862,694 against £10,274,422 in the previous year, shewing an increase of £588,272. Raw cotton on the other hand fell off from £897,111 to £439,471, or by the large sum of £457,640. Cotton twist and yarn increased by £4,690. The export of Indian-made twist and yarn to China shows a steady and progressive increase since 1870-71, when it amounted to £25,310. In the year of report the value was £83,671. In other articles enumerated there were increases in—

		£			£
Drugs and medicines	...	5,912	Jute manufactures (gunnybags)	...	6,056
Feathers	...	1,123	Perfumery	...	2,122
Fruits and vegetables	...	1,716	Saltpetre	...	9,626
Jute (raw)	...	5,894	Wax	...	2,339
Wood (ornamental)	...	£8,004			

The principal decreases were in soap (£2,884) and spices (£20,829).

In articles of foreign merchandise sent to China the only important fluctuations occurred in cotton goods and ivory, which fell off by £4,247 and £6,265 respectively, while fruits and vegetables and gums and resins increased, the former by £3,353 and the latter by £2,147.

## MALDIVES.

Maldives.

57. The figures recorded under this head include, for the years previous to 1874-75, the figures for the Laccadives also, and it is impossible now to separate the figures. For 1874-75 the figures for the Laccadives are recorded under the head of Coasting Trade, in which properly they should have been included all along, the Laccadive Islands being part of British India. Indeed, even the figures for 1874-75 include the trade with Minicoy, which island, though one of the Maldivian group, is a part of British India and subject to the Government of Madras. In consequence of the confusion of figures which thus obtained before the year of report, it is useless to make any comparison between the trade of that year and of previous years. This is of little importance however, as the figures of the trade have always been small and the trade of an insignificant character. The wealth of these coral reefs consists in cocoanut trees and shells; and cocoanuts, coir (the husk enveloping the nuts), and shells and cowries have always formed the staple articles of import to the continent, which sends in exchange cotton piece-goods to clothe the islanders, rice and other grains to feed them, and a few other necessary articles. The imports for the year amounted to £29,562, all in merchandise, of which cocoanuts represented £20,330, coir £3,301, and shells and cowries £3,886. The exports were valued at £29,829, which was also all in merchandise, the primitive people of these islands possessing no money and wanting none. Of the exports, rice represents £17,233, manufactures of cotton £4,015, provisions £1,625, sugar £1,667, and tobacco £1,304.

## MEKRAN AND SONMIANI.

Mekran and Sonmiani.

58. Our trade with this coast is also insignificant. In 1874-75 it amounted to £55,302, viz.,—

	£
Imports ... ..	31,194
Exports ... ..	24,108

shewing a reduction of £1,589 on the trade of the previous year, and a much larger reduction of £13,387 on the average value (£68,689) of the trade of the five years commencing with 1869-70. Compared with last year imports of merchandise shew an increase of £6,080, while the treasure imported fell off by £3,463. Exports of merchandise fell off by £4,156 and treasure by £50.

Imports.

The principal article imported from this coast is raw wool, the value of which in 1874-75 was £12,708 against £10,124 in the previous year, shewing an increase of £2,584. Seeds increased by £3,295, grain and pulse by £645, mats by £295, and provisions and oilman's stores by £386. These exhaust the list of enumerated articles imported. Unenumerated merchandise was imported to the extent of £3,431, shewing a falling off of £1,125.

Exports.

Exports from India consist mainly of cotton goods, rice and other grain, silk (raw), and sugar. The only fluctuations in these which need notice occurred in cotton goods of Indian manufacture, which increased by £1,837, while Manchester cottons fell off by £1,408. Rice and other grain diminished by £4,981.

## STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Straits Settlements.

59. The average value of the trade with the Straits for the five years ending 1873-74 was £2,815,761, for 1873-74 £3,004,045, and for 1874-75 £3,289,716.

Compared with the trade of the previous year, there was in 1874-75 an increase of £68,589 in the import of merchandise, and of £4,174 in treasure. Exports of merchandise increased by £219,315, while treasure fell off by £6,407.

The commerce of Singapore is very extensive, both because it is a free port and because its geographical position eminently fits it for an emporium. A considerable portion of our trade with China is carried on *via* Singapore, and as the settlement possesses a very large number of Tamil labourers, as well as an extensive colony of prosperous and industrious Chinese, the imports and exports from and to India are numerous and important.

The principal fluctuations in imports from the Straits are shewn below. Imports. Increases to the amounts noted occurred in—

	£		£
Apparel ... ..	2,796	Pitch, tar, and dammer ...	2,010
Dyeing and colouring materials ... ..	3,544	Provisions and oilman's stores ... ..	11,927
Fireworks ... ..	2,163	Silk (raw) ... ..	1,447
Cocoanuts ... ..	3,250	Silk piece-goods ... ..	12,718
Hemp (raw) ... ..	1,951	Spices ... ..	65,934
Lac ... ..	14,602	Tea ... ..	7,140
Umbrellas ... ..	£5,740		

Decreases occurred in—

	£		£
Cotton twist ... ..	8,425	Matches ... ..	5,368
Cotton piece-goods... ..	1,590	Metals ... ..	13,771
Earthenware and porcelain	1,825	Paints, colours, and painters' materials ... ..	3,087
Gums and resins ... ..	1,166	Sugar and sugarcandy ... ..	3,580
Precious stones and pearls	3,553	Tobacco ... ..	2,761
Jute manufactures ... ..	9,418	Wood ... ..	3,678
Spirits ... ..	3,717		

Of the decrease in metals, tin accounts for £12,127, the import of this metal having fallen from £129,287 to £117,160.

The largest place amongst the exports of Indian produce and manufacture Exports. is occupied by opium, which represents upwards of half the total value of our exports to the Straits. This article increased during the year from £1,049,470 to £1,050,805, *i. e.*, by £1,335. Next after opium in importance is rice, the value of which was £259,054 against £255,150 in the previous year, shewing an increase of £3,904. The third place is occupied by manufactures of jute (gunny bags and cloths, &c.), which represented a value of £132,678 against £49,026, showing the considerable increase of £83,652. Jadestone and cotton piece-goods rank next among the exports in importance. The former was valued at £80,137 against £50,232 in 1873-74, showing an increase of £29,905. Cotton piece-goods increased from £36,568 to £69,541, an advance of £32,973. Amongst other enumerated articles increases occurred in—

	£		£
Apparel ... ..	3,810	Precious stones and pearls	27,133
Wheat ... ..	1,318	Salt ... ..	17,835
Ivory and ivory ware ... ..	1,151	Seeds ... ..	7,789
Vegetable oil ... ..	1,311	Spices ... ..	1,612
Provisions ... ..	6,181	Tea ... ..	1,555
Tobacco ... ..	£2,931		

Decreases occurred in—

	£		£
Borax ... ..	3,966	Skins (tanned) ... ..	2,469
Cutch and gambier ... ..	1,393	Saltpetre ... ..	1,573
Hides (raw) ... ..	7,907	Wax ... ..	£2,739

Of foreign merchandise exported from India to the Straits, much the largest place is taken by cotton piece-goods, which represented a value during the year of £186,813 out of a total value of £233,732 of this class of exports. These cotton goods shew an increase of £19,974 on the value of the trade in the

previous year. Corals increased from £2,484 to £7,490, or by £5,006. The fluctuations in other articles of foreign merchandise do not require special notice.

#### OTHER COUNTRIES IN ASIA.

Other countries  
in Asia.

60. This heading comprises the following countries, *viz.*:—Japan, Java, Siam (including Junk Salang), Bagdad, Saigon, Linga (Ladrone Islands), Macassar, Nicobars, Philippine Islands, Sumatra, Borneo, and one or two others unenumerated. The trade with the Nicobars is properly interportal trade and will be so classed in future returns. The greatest trade with any of these did not exceed £64,725 for merchandise and treasure in the year, and in consequence of the comparatively unimportant nature of the traffic interchanged between them and India, it has not been the practice hitherto to specify the countries separately. They are now being so specified, however.

The total trade under this head has fallen off a good deal since 1870-71, when it amounted to £295,754. In 1874-75 it was £139,536, showing a decrease on the trade of the previous year of £7,768. The import of merchandise fell off by £7,020, the import of treasure increasing by £2,157. Exports of merchandise fell off by £3,845 and exports of treasure increased by £940.

The only material fluctuations requiring notice in imports occurred in gums and resins, the imports of which from Sumatra increased from £1 to £1,865. Copper also increased by £10,614, the increase being mainly due to Japan, whence we took that metal to the extent of £10,738 more than in the previous year.

Spices fell off from £21,920 to £1,400, a remarkable diminution of £20,520, entirely on account of Sumatra, whence India took less spices to the value of £21,330 than in the previous year.

In exports of Indian produce there was an increase of £13,015 in dyeing and colouring materials. The increase was taken by—

	£
Japan ... ..	6
Java ... ..	159
Bagdad ... ..	12,850

Rice fell off by £27,676, the greatest decrease being in exports to Java (£37,158) and Siam (£4,446). Gunny bags also fell off by £5,562, Java having taken less of them by £6,165 than in the previous year. Opium, on the other hand, increased by £10,070, the total value of the quantity exported during the year under this head. None was exported in the two preceding years. It went to Saigon and Macassar in the proportion of £8,342 and £1,728 to each. Saltpetre fell off by £1,156, the result of a diminished export to Java. Wax increased by £2,429, the value of increased exports to the same country.

#### AUSTRALIA.

Australia.

61. For the five years ending 1873-74 the total average trade was represented by £635,340 annually, *viz.*:—

	£
Imports ... ..	523,574
Exports ... ..	111,766

In 1873-74 the trade was rather less, having amounted to £561,036, the imports having fallen to £345,537, while exports increased to £215,499.

In 1874-75 the trade again fell off materially, the total amount not having exceeded £369,171. Imports shewed a further reduction, having fallen to £233,634, and exports also manifest a very sensible diminution, having fallen off to £135,537. In imports the decrease was in treasure, which fell to £50,590 as compared with £174,520 in the previous year, this latter amount being also far below the average of preceding years. In merchandise imported there was a moderate increase, the figures being £183,044 as compared with £171,018 in 1873-74. In exports the decrease was in merchandise, which fell off by the large sum of £80,013. The only treasure sent to Australia during the whole period of review was £50 last year.

The chief places in our imports from Australia are occupied by (1) copper, <sup>Imports.</sup> and (2) horses—the “Walers” of Anglo-Indian society. In the year of report the value of the horses imported was £52,927, being an increase of £3,697 on the previous year, and of £6,007 on the import of 1872-73, but still much below the value of the horses imported in 1870-71 and 1871-72. Copper (cast) materially recovered from the depression of the two previous years. The value of the imports was as follows :—

				£
1872-73	...	...	...	16,244
1873-74	...	...	...	63,648
1874-75	...	...	...	104,321

But the import was still a good deal below the value of the copper imported in the first three years of the quinquennial period ending with 1873-74. The figures are as follow :—

				£
1869-70	...	...	...	211,125
1870-71	...	...	...	146,454
1871-72	...	...	...	128,530

The progressive decline in the trade in this article between Australia and India, as exhibited by these figures, was caused by the diversion of Australian copper to England, where prices for some years past and until recently ruled high enough to make the transmission of copper to England a much more profitable operation than its transmission to India. Prices in India rose proportionately under the influence of the prices ruling in the English market, but the rise in price was coincident with a period of depression and distress in some parts of Bengal. The demand consequently abated and the import of copper was sensibly reduced. With a fall in prices in England and better prospects for the agricultural classes in India, the trade has recovered animation.

The chief articles of Indian origin exported to Australia are rice, jute <sup>Exports.</sup> (raw), gunny-bags, vegetable oil, and tea. Coffee has also begun to appear in the list of exports since 1873-74. Rice shows a considerable diminution, the export having fallen from £79,327 to £22,779, a smaller amount than that recorded in 1870-71 (£24,047). Jute (raw) appears as a separate item in the exports to Australia in 1872-73. In that year the quantity exported was worth £192. In 1873-74 the value increased to £1,270, and in the year of report to £4,918, shewing a steady increase. The value of gunny bags exported on the other hand shews a large reduction, having fallen from £83,613 to £49,017. Vegetable oil increased from £35,431 to £41,722. Tea fell off from £7,619 to £4,013 (more than 47 per cent.), the Australian supply of tea being obtained direct from China. Coffee is shewn as a separate item first in 1873-74, when the value of what was exported amounted to £1,119. In 1874-75 the export amounted to £1,300.

The export of foreign merchandise to Australia is insignificant and calls for no remark.



## SECTION II.

## IMPORT TRADE.

Import trade.

62. Having in the first section of this review given a general view of the value of Indian trade as compared with the trade of previous years, and having shown the fluctuations of trade with each of the principal countries with which we have commercial intercourse, I proceed in this section to examine the details of our import and export trade, treating each of the principal articles separately and explaining the causes, as far as these can be ascertained, of all noticeable fluctuations therein.

Proportion of free and dutiable imports.

63. First I shall examine the various items which constitute the bulk of our import trade. These are divided into imports free of duty, and imports subject to duty. Dutiable imports represented during the year more than 90 per cent. of the total value of the goods imported, having amounted to £31,479,312, while goods imported duty free were valued at not more than £3,165,924. The great bulk of the imports into India has always been subject to duty.

As compared with last year the import of dutiable goods increased by £2,786,420, and of free goods by £214,119.

Free imports.

64. The principal articles imported free of duty are agricultural implements, animals (living), books and maps, building and engineering materials, coal and coke, cotton (raw),\* flax (raw), bottles (common), grain and pulse of all kinds, hemp (raw), hides and skins (raw), hops, horns, ice, instruments and apparatus (scientific and philosophical), jewellery, jute (raw and manufactured), machines and machinery, manures, iron anchors, cables, and kentledge, lead sheets for tea boxes, military uniforms and accoutrements, paper, plants (living), printing and lithographing material, provisions, railway material, parts of ships, stone and marble, tallow and grease, timber and wood, unmanufactured and manufactured, wool (raw), and some other articles. By the tariff of August, coffee and quinine have been added to the list of commodities imported free of duty. In this review, however, the position of all articles must be taken to be that which they occupied in the year ending the 31st March 1875.

Agricultural implements.

65. *Agricultural implements.*—The value of the implements imported during the year was £53,543 against £24,433 in the preceding year, shewing a considerable increase. The value of the imports of these articles is now largely above what it was a few years ago. The figures are as follow:—

	£		£
1868-69 ... ..	14,218	1871-72 ... ..	12,815
1869-70 ... ..	16,250	1872-73 ... ..	20,235
1870-71 ... ..	10,782	1873-74 ... ..	24,433
	1874-75 ... ..		£53,543

Chiefly imported for tea gardens.

The bulk of the imports comes to us from England and is landed in Calcutta, whence these implements are distributed to the various tea gardens in Bengal, Assam, the North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab. The importation of European implements of agriculture does not, unfortunately, indicate that native systems of agriculture are in course of improvement, for these are now much what they were a hundred years ago. European implements are almost entirely imported for use in tea and coffee plantations worked under European management; and so far as the increased importation is an indication of a larger breadth of land brought under cultivation in tea or other industrial products by European capital and enterprise, the larger figures of value are satisfactory. It would have been more satisfactory still if it could have been said that native cultivators were abandoning their own primitive and uncouth implements for more efficient aids to labour.

\* Under the tariff which came into force on the 5th August 1875, only cotton produced in continental Asia or Ceylon may be imported duty free. All other cotton is subject, on importation, to a duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*.

66. Of horses 2,548, valued at £67,359, were imported against 2,661, valued Horses. at £70,758, in the previous year. There has thus been a small decrease, but this trade rises and falls without any great variation from year to year, though on the whole the tendency is to an increase both in the number and value of the horses imported. The largest proportion of the horses brought to India is of Australian From Australia. origin and the animals are mostly landed at Calcutta and Madras. These horses, commonly known in this country as "walers," amounted during the year to 2,072 in number, valued at £52,927, against 1,943, valued at £49,230, in the year 1873-74, the number as well as the average value having thus slightly increased. In the number of horses imported from Australia there has not been much variation of late years, though the average value appears to have slightly declined. But it may be well to note here that in regard to all classes of free merchandise, both imported and exported, the recorded values must be accepted under great reserve. They have hitherto been, as a rule, accepted by the customs authorities without question or examination, and experience proves that values thus recorded are frequently susceptible of large modification, many merchants not being very careful in regard to the figures they give to customs officials for goods on which they have no duty to pay.

67. The next largest importation of horses consists of what are called "Gulf From Persia. Arabs," brought from the coasts of the Persian Gulf, mainly to Bombay. These amounted to 458 in number, valued at £13,980, against 164 valued at £4,881 in the previous year—a considerable increase in the trade of that year as well as of previous years. The rest of the imports of horses is made up of ten from the United Kingdom, two from Mauritius, and six from other countries. The only important fluctuation in the trade is with the United Kingdom, the From England. number of horses thence imported having fallen from 541, valued at £16,410, to ten, valued at £155, the lowest point reached for many years. The average value of each English horse imported is stated to have been little more than half what it was in 1873-74, but it is quite certain *prima facie* that the recorded value must be rejected as untrustworthy, when it shows each horse imported from England to be worth on arrival in this country no more than £15 10s. Even the value returned in 1873-74 must have been below the truth.

The importation of other kinds of animals requires no special notice, being insignificant in amount and value.

68. Articles classed under this head (including, however, such mechanical Works of Art. productions as photographs) are imported mainly for Europeans and for a few wealthy natives, and the demand is comparatively small. The average value of the imports for the five years ending 1873-74 was £12,671, and for the year of report £12,127. The trade is steady, with perhaps a small tendency to increase. The bulk of the imports comes from England and the Mediterranean ports (*i. e.*, practically Italy), and is distributed between Bengal and Bombay.

69. *Books and pamphlets, &c.*—The value of the imports amounted to Books. £101,030 against £94,366 in the previous year, shewing an increase of £6,664, and a smaller increase on the average for previous years, though the value is less than the value recorded in 1870-71. Of the total amount, £98,710 represents the value of books, &c., imported from the United Kingdom, the other two most important sources of supply having been France and the Mediterranean ports. From the United Kingdom the import of books was much larger during the year than in 1873-74, when again it was larger than in previous years.

70. The articles classed under this head are bricks, cements, chalk and Building and En- lime, and clay. The import of these articles for the five years ending 1874-75 gineering Mate- was :— rials.

£				£			
1870-71	...	...	22,147	1872-73	...	...	36,404
1871-72	...	...	26,114	1873-74	...	...	35,278
		1874-75	...		...	...	£60,194

These figures shew a very satisfactory increase in the trade in these articles, in which cements hold the most prominent place, the value imported in the year having amounted to £40,475 against £16,149 in 1873-74, being an increase of £24,326. Of the total value of cement imported, Bengal took £25,111,

and Bombay £12,241. Portland cement is now largely employed in these provinces for floorings, as being much more durable and less pervious to damp than the poor cement made in the country. Experiments are now being made in the Public Works Department, in the local manufacture of this cement, and there seems to be a good prospect of producing in Bengal as good cement as any imported from England, and at a lower cost.\*

Bricks and clay also shew a satisfactory increase, but as regards clay (China) it is to be noted that, though classed as a building material, it is said to be employed to an undesirable extent in the sizing of the cloths manufactured in the Bombay cotton mills, for which purpose, it is alleged, a good deal is imported into the Bombay Presidency. The import of clay into Bengal is said to be mainly, if not entirely, for use in the manufacture of paper at the Bally paper mills.

Coal and Coke.

71. The quantities and value of coal and coke imported during the five years ending with 1873-74 and in the year 1874-75 were as follow :—

				Tons.	£
1869-70	...	...	...	337,023	544,477
1870-71	...	...	...	286,180	467,096
1871-72	...	...	...	374,185	514,794
1872-73	...	...	...	324,638	497,942
1873-74	...	...	...	359,902	740,026
1874-75	...	...	...	356,996	680,463

Thus, though the quantity imported last year was but little less than in the previous year, the value was considerably less (shewing an average diminution of about three shillings a ton)—the result of a fall in the very high prices which for some time ruled in England. The effect of these high prices was seen in the disproportionate rise in value as compared with quantity in the imports of 1873-74. Of the total quantity imported during the year 1874-75, Bombay took more than two-thirds (243,484 tons), Bengal took 66,460 tons, and Burma 33,200 tons. The diminution in the total quantity imported was caused by a restricted trade in Bengal, Madras, and Sind. In Bengal the quantity fell off by as much as 18,630 tons, in Madras and Sind the imports were less than in the previous year by 12,335 tons and 2,398 tons respectively. On the other hand, the imports into Bombay and Burma increased by 24,325 tons and 6,130 tons respectively. It is probable that these two provinces will generally shew a much larger consumption of imported coal than the other provinces. In Bombay there are now many mills and manufactories, the number of which is yearly increasing, and with the increase arises a larger demand for coal. The demand for other fuel-consuming industries, as well as for railroads and the increasing number of steamers which visit the port of Bombay, is also regularly on the increase, and it must in large part be met by the import of English and Australian coal, Indian coal not being in a position to compete on favourable terms in this Presidency with imported coal. The only Indian coal which can be at all profitably employed in this Presidency instead of English coal is produced in the Central Provinces, and the distance of the mines from Bombay prevents it from competing with English coal, to which also it is much inferior in quality, except on the Great Indian Peninsula railroad, whose line runs close to the mines. In Burma also it is as cheap perhaps to import English coal as coal from Bengal, though from this province a certain quantity is sent to Burma, where there is an increasing consumption of fuel in rice and timber mills and in sea-going and river steamers. In Bengal, on the other hand, there is already a considerable consumption of native coal on the East Indian Railway and in local industries, as well as in the coasting and river steamers, and the maintenance of an elevated price for English coal will always tend to enable coal of local production to compete on increasingly favourable terms with imported coal, and enlarge the extent of its consumption. Much of the coal is of fairly good quality not greatly inferior to ordinary English coal, and it is esteemed by consumers for this reason as well as for its greater cheapness as compared with English coal. The coal market in Bengal was in a dull and depressed condition during the year, and it was

\* Cement is liable to duty on importation, since the 5th August 1875.

found somewhat difficult to work off, at the prices demanded by importers, the large stocks which had accumulated. In Madras and in Sind not much increase can at present be looked for in the consumption of coal, both those provinces being extremely backward in an industrial point of view.

72. The quantity of raw cotton imported during the year was 1,758,870 lbs., Cotton (raw). valued at £38,667, against 1,644,468 lbs., valued at £46,382, in 1873-74. The decrease in value, which occurred simultaneously with an increase in the quantity, was partly the result of a diminished import of cotton of superior quality from America and the United Kingdom, whence cotton valued at £6,372 was imported in 1873-74. None seems to have come from these countries in 1874-75, though a small quantity of Egyptian cotton (12,835 lbs. valued at £484) was imported instead. The great bulk of the cotton imported is brought from the Persian Gulf to Bombay. This Presidency received during the year 1,723,288 lbs. valued at £37,901, of which 1,686,440 lbs., valued at £37,075, consisted of cotton from the Persian Gulf. In 1873-74 the quantity imported from the same quarter was 1,418,548 lbs. valued at £39,509. There was thus a material reduction in the value. Most if not all of the cotton thus imported into Bombay is consumed in the local mills.

Under the provisions of the new tariff the import of raw cotton not the produce of Continental Asia or Ceylon, *i. e.*, of long-stapled cotton, all the Asiatic cotton imported into this country being short in staple like Indian cotton, has been made subject to the payment of a duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*. The value of the imports of such cotton amounted in 1872-73 to £455, in 1873-74 to £6,372, in 1874-75 to £484. The trade in fact is insignificant in proportions, and attempts to enlarge it have, it is said, been abandoned as unremunerative.

73. The value of bottles imported during the year amounted to £19,071 Glass (common bottles). against £10,220 in the previous year—a large increase. The average value of the import for the five years previous to 1874-75 was £12,310.

One of the phenomena which attract the observer of the industrial features of this country is the absence of all enterprise in the matter of glass manufacture. The raw material for the manufacture abounds—in pestilent profusion indeed—all over the country. Silica and carbonate of soda are unfortunately but too prominent everywhere,—the silica in the form of vast sandy wastes, while the alkali can be extracted from the saline efflorescences which sterilize the soil they cover, and from the salsola plant (whence barilla is made) which covers the great arid tracts existing in the Punjab and other provinces. Sand and the material for the extraction of carbonate of soda exist indeed in inexhaustible quantities everywhere in India, and it seems strange therefore that no attempt has been made to develop the art of glass-making in a country so eminently fitted to produce the article. The art is practised, no doubt, in various places, but it is still mostly in the rudest and most primitive condition. The natives do not seem to understand how to purify and properly mix the raw materials, and whenever they produce the finer kinds of glass, they employ as the basis of manufacture broken European glass. Their own combination of raw material generally produces only the coarse glass which is used in the fabrication of bangles or phials of a rough and unsightly kind. The application of a little capital, and prudently directed energy and skill, would speedily improve the rude native processes, and enable local manufacture to thrust out of the market the enormous quantity of common blown and moulded glassware which is now imported from long distances into this country. The Japanese have set an example to India in this respect, for a manufactory has been set up in that country where all the finer kinds of glassware are made, and, with the exception of window glass, at a cheaper cost than that of the imported articles.

Nearly all the common bottles imported into India are brought from the United Kingdom, a very minute proportion coming from the Straits and China.

74. The value of the imports of grain and pulse was £28,931 against Grain and Pulse. £24,467 in the previous year. Of the imports in 1873-74, the largest proportion consisted of the import of rice from China into Bengal, where an extraordinary demand existed in consequence of the failure of crops. This demand having ceased to exist, the course of trade returned to its ordinary channel,

and in the year of review Bengal imported grain to the value only of £69, as compared with £16,732 in the previous year. The great bulk of the imports consists of wheat and other grains sent from the Persian Gulf and Mekran and Sonmiáni to Bombay and Sind. The imports of rice during the year were unimportant, Bombay only having received any appreciable quantity (4,584 cwts. valued at £2,479) from the Straits. Of the total imports of wheat and other kinds of grain, Bombay and Sind took nearly the whole, their receipts amounting in value to £25,877. The imports from the Persian Gulf represent 46,733 cwts. of wheat worth £16,544, and other grains to the value of £8,343. This was a very considerable increase over the trade of the previous year, when the total imports of grain were worth only £3,435, and the increase explains why the exports of wheat from Bombay to the Persian Gulf shewed a diminution during the year.

Hops.

75. Hops are as yet of but small importance as an article of import, though they are steadily increasing in value. The imports of the last three years were £5,020, £8,940, and £11,828, respectively. Beer of fair quality is now made in some Indian hill-stations, and is coming into extended use among civil residents and the troops in the hills. On the plains the cost of carriage from the hills prevents this beer competing with imported beer. This country beer is all made of imported hops, attempts to grow hops in the neighbourhood of Simla and other parts of the hills having as yet been unsuccessful. Another trial is now being made in Kashmir under the direction of the Maharaja.

Ice.

76. Of ice, 208,980 cwts. were imported, valued at £21,167 against 295,160 cwts., valued at £29,987 in 1873-74. The monopoly of the import of ice into India was formerly possessed by America, but increasing quantities now come from the ports of the Mediterranean. The recorded valuations of ice in the customs returns are susceptible of much modification. The quantity imported into Bengal from America, for instance, 92,400 cwts., was valued at Rs. 51,975, the rate being thus exactly nine annas per cwt. In Calcutta it is sold by the Tudor Company, which practically possesses the monopoly of the trade, at the rate of two annas per seer, or Rs. 7 per cwt. Either, therefore, the recorded value is far below the truth, or the Company, after making all needful allowances for wastage, prime cost, and cost of establishment, realise very handsome profits. It would seem in fact that the recorded values were untrustworthy, for during the first seven months of the current official year the importations, which have amounted to 156,360 cwt., have been valued at Rs. 8,16,500, or over five rupees and three annas per hundredweight. This case illustrates the necessity which existed for the recent instructions to customs officials in regard to the exercise of care in accepting the importers' valuations of free goods.

Jewellery : Precious Stones and Pearls.

77. The import of precious stones and pearls increased from £138,477 to £159,669, *i. e.*, by £21,192, but the value is still a good deal (£17,066) below the amount recorded in 1872-73. The imports of the year were, however, slightly above the average value (£159,414) of the imports of the six previous years. By far the largest proportion of these imports consists of pearls imported into Bombay from the Persian Gulf. It is a trade which has a historical existence, having passed into our hands from those of the early Portuguese navigators in those parts.

From the Persian Gulf the imports during the year were valued at £136,885 against £110,402 in 1873-74, £134,988 in 1872-73, and the trade was also a good deal higher than the average value of the trade for the five years ending 1872-73, which was £120,681. A comparatively small quantity of precious stones and pearls is also received from China, the Straits, the Red Sea and Aden, and other places.

Jute (manufactured).

78. The import of manufactures of jute (by which gunny-bags and gunny-cloths are meant, though this is not specifically stated in the returns of the local Governments) was valued during the year at £16,291 against £15,244 in 1873-74, shewing a small increase. In 1872-73 the value of the imports was £8,187. Up to the year of report these articles were chiefly imported into Bombay and British Burma from the Persian Gulf and the Straits, respectively. But this year the largest quantity, valued at £13,533, was imported from the United Kingdom, Bengal taking the goods to the value of £7,910. The trade is of small importance, and with the development of jute manufac-

ture on a large scale in the mills of Bengal, may be expected to fall off altogether.

79. Machines and machinery form an important item of import, and their increasing prominence is a very satisfactory indication of the industrial progress of India. Machines and machinery.

In 1850-51 the value of the machinery imported into this country amounted to no more than £20,666. In 1874-75 the value was £1,185,943. Taking the figures for the last twenty-five years by their average for each five years of the period, we have :—

Average annual imports.	£
1850-51 to 1854-55	... 48,110
1855-56 to 1859-60	... 520,899
1860-61 to 1864-65	... 614,063
1865-66 to 1869-70	... 723,223
1870-71 to 1874-75	... 711,802

The value recorded in 1874-75 is the highest of any year in the whole period, and the value of the imports in 1873-74 was also considerably higher than the imports of any previous year, except 1867-68, when the imports reached £1,077,529. Bengal and Bombay take much the largest share of the machinery imported. In the year of review the figures for Bengal are £501,339, and for Bombay £521,144 or together £1,022,483, leaving no more than £163,460 out of the total to be shared among the other three provinces. Of this sum, British Burma stands for £91,334, while Madras took no more than £66,074. As compared with the previous year the imports into Bengal show a decrease of £14,912, while the value of the machinery sent to Bombay increased by the large sum of £166,317. The imports into Madras also were more than in the previous year by £44,677, while those for Burma fell off by £10,176, the sum being still, however, considerably in excess of the imports of 1872-73. The rapid extension of the local manufacture of cotton by machinery in Bombay accounts for the great increase of imports under this head. In Bengal the manufacture of cotton in mills has not, naturally, attained such importance as the same industry in Bombay, Bengal not being nearly as well situated in regard to the production of the raw material, and its convenient transport to the mills. There was but little importation into Bengal for cotton mills during the year, and the business of the jute-mills was for some time in such a depressed and discouraging condition (though it has since revived and prospects are hopeful) that all new projects were but coldly regarded. This state of affairs, following on an extensive importation of machinery in 1873-74, will no doubt sufficiently account for most of the falling off exhibited in the year in Bengal. In Burma the ruler of Upper Burma, it is understood, receives an appreciable portion of the machinery imported, and the rest is required mainly for the timber and rice mills which are being erected in increasing numbers in that province.

Most of the machinery we import is of English manufacture, and obtained from the United Kingdom.

80. Of manufactured metals, iron anchors, chains and kentledge, and lead sheets for tea-boxes, are free. Of the former, the import is small, and hardly shews a tendency to increase. The import of the year amounted to £4,493 against £4,155, but the value in the year before was £4,706, in 1871-72 £4,795, and in 1870-71 £10,586. Lead sheets for tea-boxes, on the other hand, are imported in increasing quantities corresponding with the increased production and export of Indian tea. The value last year was £35,053 against £27,014 in 1873-74, and £32,959, in 1872-73. In 1870-71 and 1871-72 the import amounted to £19,019 and £25,015, respectively. Nearly all these goods, like the machinery imported, comes from the United Kingdom, and nearly all the tea lead is landed at Calcutta. Metals (manufactured).

81. In paper and pasteboard there was a reduction of £6,816, the figures being £315,841 against £322,657, but the value was in excess of the value of imports of previous years since 1870-71. The decrease occurred chiefly in the imports from the United Kingdom, which fell off from £291,785 to £283,364. The imports from China also fell off. The imports into Bengal increased consi- Paper and paste-board.

derably, while into Bombay they fell off in greater proportion; the increase in the one case having amounted to £18,195, while the decrease was £23,347. The imports into Bombay in 1873-74 were, however, very largely in excess of those of 1872-73, and the market was probably glutted with paper. The Mediterranean Ports form the largest source of supply of paper sent to India, after the United Kingdom, the cheap German papers being those received from this quarter. It is probable also that a sensible proportion of the exports from the United Kingdom consists of paper of this kind, which has to a great extent usurped, at any rate on the seaboard, the place of the common papers of Indian manufacture. Native paper is generally poor and bad, and it is questionable whether it will for a long time yet be able to compete successfully with foreign paper. Paper-making material abounds in India, but owing to want of means of transport it cannot be conveyed to any central place of manufacture at rates which will enable manufacturers to carry on a profitable business in competition with the imported article. There are as yet, it is believed, only two paper-mills in India,—one near Calcutta, and the other in Bombay—conducted under European supervision, and making paper by good machinery. The Bally paper-mills confine their operations to the manufacture of the coarser kinds of paper, and are just able to compete on fair terms with the imported article. It is intended to publish soon, in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, an account of paper-making and paper-making fibres in India, in view to aiding, if possible, by the collection of accurate information on the subject, the development both of local manufacture and the supply of the most suitable raw material.

**Railway materials.** 82. The only railway materials exempt from duty on import are sleepers. They are imported exclusively into Bombay. The value of the imports last year was £17,810 against £492—a very large increase.

**Ships—parts of** 83. The value of these increased from £17,627 to £22,190. These articles are supplied by the United Kingdom, and are taken almost entirely by British Burma.

**Timber and wood, and manufactures thereof.** 84. The value of these articles increased from £53,406 to £72,360, the chief increase being in Madras, where the value went up from £24,213 to £43,746. Of the total value, Ceylon represents £28,340 against £18,529 in the previous year, and the United Kingdom £26,375 against £12,520.

**Wool—raw.** 85. The import of raw wool advanced from 1,254,900lbs., valued at £38,562 in 1873-74, to 1,542,767lbs., valued at £42,755 in 1874-75. But both quantity and value are still a little below the average for the five years ending in 1873-74, *viz.*, 1,578,313lbs., valued at £46,790. Nearly all the wool which comes to India is imported from the Persian Gulf and Sonmiani and Mekran coasts, which are peopled by pastoral communities, into Bombay and Sind, whence a portion (about one-seventh in the past year) is re-exported to other countries, chiefly the United Kingdom.

86. The other articles in the list of free imports require no special notice, neither the amount nor the fluctuations of the trade being of any importance.

#### DUTIABLE IMPORTS.

**Dutiable imports.** 87. The most important of these are: apparel, arms, ammunition and military stores, candles, clocks and watches, corals (real), cotton goods (these being the most important of all), drugs and medicines, dyeing and colouring materials, earthenware and porcelain, fireworks, flax manufactures (chiefly linen piece-goods and canvas), fruits and vegetables, glass and glassware (other than common bottles), gums and resins, hemp manufactures, hides and skins, instruments and apparatus (musical and photographic), ivory (manufactured and unmanufactured), jewellery and plate (except precious stones and pearls), leather (unwrought and manufactured), liquors, *viz.*, malt and spirituous, and wines and liqueurs, matches, metals, oils, paints and colours and painters' materials, perfumery, provisions and oilman's stores, railway plant and rolling stock, salt, shells and cowries, silk (raw and manufactured), spices, stationery (excluding paper), sugar and sugarcandy, tea, tobacco, toys and requisites for games, umbrellas, and woollen goods.

88. So far as goods on which duty is levied *ad valorem* are concerned, the declarations of value made by importers are carefully tested in the custom

houses, and the recorded valuations of such articles may be taken as approximating closely to accuracy. But in regard to goods on which duty is levied on a fixed tariff valuation, the figures given in the returns have hitherto represented such official valuation, and not the actual market value for the time being. The figures for such articles therefore are sometimes more or less incorrect. Since the commencement of the current official year the recorded valuation of such goods is the actual market value of the day.

89. The value of apparel (including haberdashery, millinery, &c.) Apparel. amounted during the year to £620,456 as compared with £578,220 in the previous year, and an average annual importation of £496,609 in the five years from 1868-69 to 1872-73. Of the total amount, £588,270 represented apparel imported from the United Kingdom, France, and the Mediterranean Ports; most of the remainder came from China, Ceylon, and the Straits.

90. These were imported to the value of £84,268 against £76,319 in the Arms, ammunition, &c. previous year, but the amount was below the average annual value (£88,415) of the imports during the five years ending 1873-74.

91. Candles were valued at £48,194 against £50,603 in 1873-74, this Candles. sum again being considerably less than the value of the imports of 1872-73 (£84,853). This, however, was an exceptionally large import. The average import for the five years ending 1873-74 was £55,597. British Burma takes a relatively very large proportion of the candles imported, the imports into that province having represented during the year £12,112, and additional quantities to the value of £7,538 were obtained from other parts of India. It appears that candles are extensively consumed in religious ceremonies in the Burmese pagodas and as offerings to the priests. For illuminating purposes generally in India, the extended use of mineral oils seems to be injurious to the candle-making interest.

92. Canes and rattans were imported to the value of £21,794 against £21,626 Canes and rattans. and £21,426 in the two previous years. The trade is small, but shews a tendency to increase steadily. The chief source of supply is the Straits Settlement.

93. The value of these increased from £25,337 in 1873-74 to £33,667 in Clocks and watches. 1874-75. The average import for the five years ending 1873-74 was £32,737, and it would seem therefore from the returns that the increase in the trade has on the whole been very small.

94. The importation of coffee has fallen off largely. The trade has been Coffee. subject to fluctuations from time to time, but since 1871-72 there has been a steady decrease, as will be seen from the figures below:—

		lbs.		£
Imports in 1871-72	...	1,337,004	...	33,672
„ 1872-73	...	1,021,673	...	24,284
„ 1873-74	...	617,623	...	14,093
„ 1874-75	...	166,714	...	3,806

A great decrease in the imports into Bombay accounts for this falling off. From 945,219 lbs., valued at £22,180, in 1872-73, and 540,211 lbs., valued at £12,472, in 1873-74, the imports into that Presidency fell in 1874-75 to 94,119 lbs., valued at £2,185. The coffee imported into Bombay was chiefly of the kind commonly called Mocha coffee, and was shipped from the Arabian coast to Bombay, thence to be re-exported to Europe. It appears, however, that a direct trade has sprung up between England and the coast of Arabia, and Bombay is no longer used as an entrepôt for this coffee.

95. Corals were imported to the value of £66,111 during the year, the Corals (real). Mediterranean Ports, *i. e.*, Italy, having sent us £53,558 worth. The trade shews a very slight decrease on that of 1873-74, when it amounted to £66,689, but it is slowly recovering from the depression of previous years, that depression having, it is believed, been partly caused by the imposition of a duty of 7½ per cent. in April 1870. The imports were as follow:—

		£			£
1868-69	...	93,126		1871-72	...
1869-70	...	65,285		1872-73	...
1870-71	...	45,441		1873-74	...
					54,894
					40,013
					66,689

Though the imposition of the duty probably had an immediate effect in reducing the importations, it must be remarked that the trade is of a variable



and fluctuating nature. It is mainly in the hands of a few foreign firms, from whom natives purchase the corals for sale in the interior at great fairs and religious gatherings. They form a favourite adornment for native children as well as for adults in certain classes of the population. The demand for corals depends upon the outturn of the crops of the year. After an abundant harvest rupees will be freely exchanged for a string of corals to be added to those already worn as a necklace, but in a poor year the coral merchant will find his stock almost unsaleable at any price, and his next importations will consequently be on a very reduced scale.

Cotton manufac-  
tures.  
Value of imports.

96. The figures of the values of imported cotton goods for the last twenty-five years, taking the average of each quinquennial period, are as follow :—

		£
Annual average from	1850-51 to 1854-55	... 5,611,663
"	" 1855-56 to 1859-60	... 7,943,672
"	" 1860-61 to 1864-65	... 11,221,407
"	" 1865-66 to 1869-70	... 16,345,826
"	" 1870-71 to 1874-75	... 18,193,683

The figures for each of the last five years are as follow :—

		£			£
1870-71	...	19,044,869	1872-73	...	17,234,248
1871-72	...	17,483,333	1873-74	...	17,784,625
		1874-75	...	...	£19,421,340

The increase in the quantity of the goods imported was proportionately greater than the increase in the value, for the recorded values are calculated on fixed tariff valuations, and these were lowered by about 15 per cent. in the year previous to that which commenced the last of these quinquennial periods.

Imports of the se-  
veral provinces.

97. Compared with the imports of the previous year an increase of £1,636,716 occurred in the imports of the year of report, or 9·20 per cent. In Bengal the increase was large, the value of the imports having amounted to £11,574,214 against £9,504,906 in 1873-74, showing an excess of £2,069,308, or 21·77 per cent. In that year however there was great stagnation in the trade in Bengal in consequence of the existence of the scarcity in Behar, and extensive orders were transferred from Calcutta to Bombay, where the trade in 1873-74 increased by 19 per cent. This year, on the other hand, the Bombay trade diminished by £461,417, or 8·39 per cent., the value of the imports having fallen from £5,501,026 to £5,039,609. In Sind also there was a large reduction of 27·31 per cent., the figures having fallen from £78,266 to £56,892, or by £21,374. In Madras also the imports fell off from £1,998,318 to £1,910,872, *i. e.*, by £87,446, or nearly 4·38 per cent. In Burma the imports increased by 19·60 per cent., or £137,644, having advanced from £702,108 to £839,752.

Comparative  
values of different  
classes of goods.

98. Taking the different denominations of cotton goods as given in the returns separately, we have the following comparative figures in regard to the values. It would hardly serve any useful purpose to compare quantities, for these have been given in various terms (yards, pounds, pieces, pairs and dozens) which would give scarcely an intelligible idea of the nett result, and moreover in some cases entries have hitherto been made and recorded of values only, quantities being omitted.

Twist and yarn increased from £2,628,959 to £3,157,779; grey or unbleached piece-goods from £10,041,678 to £11,375,536; white (or bleached) piece-goods fell off from £2,931,073 to £2,564,365, and coloured and printed goods from £1,323,522 to £1,248,917. "Turkey reds" increased from £807,585 to £1,013,507, and American cloths from £1,039 to £14,686 (the import of this class of goods however in 1873-74 was considerably less than in the two previous years, when the value was £9,096 and £8,021 respectively). Cotton thread fell off from £47,485 to £43,141, and other sorts, unspecified, increased from £3,284 to £3,407. The nett increase, therefore, amounting to more than £1,636,000, was due chiefly to an improvement in twist and yarn and grey piece-goods.

Re-exports.

99. Out of the total value of the imports not more than £1,117,976 or 5·75 per cent. was re-exported, in the following proportions: twist and yarn

£56,249, grey or unbleached piece-goods £258,353, white or bleached goods £78,475, coloured and printed cloths £711,826, Turkey red £10,513, thread £2,550, and other sorts £10. A portion of the imports also found its way across the frontiers by land, but of this trade we have no accurate record. Its extent however cannot be great. Bombay naturally by reason of her geographical position possesses almost the monopoly of this re-export trade, and of the total value of the re-exports £1,031,714 represent the value of the goods sent from that port, chiefly to the African Coast and the Persian Gulf. The bulk of the re-exports consisted of grey and printed goods; white goods and twist and yarn are also exported to a fair extent.

X

100. Judging merely from the total of the figures given above of the import of cotton goods, shewing as they do a considerable increase on the imports of the previous year, and presenting absolutely the largest figures on record in any year, it would seem that the trade in English cotton goods (for it is almost unnecessary to say that the largest portion of these imports consists of Manchester goods) was unusually prosperous during the year, and that the outlook was very hopeful. This however is known to those acquainted with the circumstances of the trade to be by no means the case. The trade in these goods has been for some time in an unhealthy condition. Importations have been made in quantities much in excess of the demand, and sales have been forced at low and unremunerative rates. The cotton trade in England has developed greatly of late years. New mills have sprung up with surprising rapidity, founded and maintained by means of capital seeking investment in any direction where a hope of return exists. Production has increased in an excessive degree, and the goods thus produced have, through new firms working on credit, been thrown recklessly on markets already glutted. Little consideration was given to the fact that the supplies sent out were far in excess of the demand for consumption. What producers wanted was an outlet for their goods, and the new firms which were established to receive and send the goods to foreign countries, working as they did mainly on credit, found themselves compelled—to keep themselves afloat after their first losses—to send out consignment after consignment, drawing advances on the goods shipped, and hoping, with better prospects in the Eastern markets, to stave off as long as possible the inevitable collapse. The markets of China and of India were consequently for some time overstocked with goods which were not wanted. The collapse came at last, and it may now be hoped that after the failures which occurred last year among the numerous new Manchester firms, the market will assume a more healthy tone, and a more legitimate business will be profitably pursued by the older firms who have capital at their command and whose credit remains unshaken.

Trade apparently prosperous, but not really so.

Causes of low prices and glutted markets.

But the cause of the decline in the demand for English cotton goods and the prices given for them—a decline so steady and persistent that it has again been found necessary to reduce the tariff values of these articles—does not lie alone in speculative overtrading and the consequent glutting of the markets. Another important cause must be sought in the inferiority of the goods, the quality of which, it is alleged, has much deteriorated of late, the practice of sizing having been carried to an extent which has given occasion for great complaint in the Indian and Chinese markets.

X

101. The average value of the imports of drugs and medicines for the five years ending 1873-74 was £254,356, for that year £271,885, and for the year of report £297,765. There has thus been a substantial increase both on the average trade and the trade of the previous year, but the amount is below the value recorded in 1872-73, when it reached £315,254. The trade fluctuates somewhat, but the tendency is towards an increase. Of this class of goods, brimstone or sulphur is the only article which has hitherto been enumerated in the returns, and it is of but small importance comparatively. In Bombay and Bengal, which are much the largest importers, there was an increase in the imports, while in other provinces there was a slight falling off. The greatest portion of the imports is from the United Kingdom, China, the Straits, and the Persian Gulf. Alum from the United Kingdom, assafoetida from the Persian Gulf, and camphor and cassia lignea from China are prominent amongst the items comprised under this head.

Drugs and medicines.

102. These consist to a large extent of cochineal, saffron, and aniline dyes, from the United Kingdom. The last-named dyes are unfortu-

Dyeing and colouring materials.

nately, supported by their great cheapness and facility of application, entering every year into more decided competition with dyes of Indian production extracted directly from vegetable substances. The fact is perhaps to be regretted because, although they have in their favour their great comparative cheapness, and the ease with which they are applied to fabrics, the colours they produce are generally incapable of resisting the action of light, and many of the tints are loud, crude and staring, in unpleasant contrast to the rich, mellow tone given to cloth by many Indian dyes. Such as they are, however, these dyes, after having done some injury to our dyes in the European market, and threatened with extinction the French industry in madder, the cultivation of which formed a main source of wealth in some departments, have penetrated our markets and have entered into direct competition with the indigenious dyes in the very seat of their production : *sheesha-ku-rang* is now well known in most Indian bazars, as far north as Ladakh and Kashmir.

The values of the importations of dyeing and colouring materials for the last seven years are as follow :—

				£
1868-69	...	...	...	94,298
1869-70	...	...	...	111,499
1870-71	...	...	...	141,107
1871-72	...	...	...	119,096
1872-73	...	...	...	186,336
Average of the five years ...				130,467
1873-74	...	...	...	139,929
1874-75	...	...	...	158,146

The trade slightly fell off in 1873-74, owing to a reduction in the imports of aniline dyes, but it was still well above the average of the five preceding years, and in the year of report the trade seems to have recovered entirely, notwithstanding the reduction of the tariff value of aniline dyes by one-half (from 8 annas to 4 annas the ounce). Bombay receives most of the imports of dyeing and colouring materials, and the trade of that presidency in these articles shews a large recovery from the depression of the previous year. The importations into the other provinces also increased, except in Burma, where there was a small decrease. The United Kingdom is the main source of supply of dyes imported into India, the Mediterranean Ports, the Persian Gulf and the Straits also sending us some not inconsiderable quantities.

Earthenware and  
Porcelain.

103. The imports shew an increase of £16,914, having risen from £98,533 to £115,447, and this increase followed on a considerable increase in the previous year. Burma took the largest share of the imports this year as well as the year before, having imported to the value of £47,468 against £33,273 in the previous year. The Burmese, it appears, have acquired a liking for English crockery, the use of which is fast superseding the lacquered platters and bowls which have hitherto been employed. In other provinces the competition is between crockery and metal, and on the whole metal is preferred by those who can afford the use of metal vessels, these being valuable property capable of realisation in time of need. In Bombay the value of imports increased from £26,133 to £35,674. In Bengal, on the other hand, they fell from £30,512 to £24,209. Most of the imports reach us from the United Kingdom, and nearly all the balance from the Straits and China.

Fireworks.

104. Fireworks are imported almost entirely from China and the Straits, the largest proportion of the imports being directed to Bombay. In 1874-75 the value of the fireworks imported amounted to £48,983 against £34,071. The three years previous to 1874-75 seem to have been years of depression in the trade.

Flax, manufac-  
tured.

105. Flax goods are received in India mostly in the shape of piece-goods and canvas. The total value of the imports during the year amounted to £114,235, of which piece-goods represented £49,654 and canvas £59,784. The figures for the year shew a considerable increase over those of the two previous years, which were £85,155 and £91,469 respectively. The increase is due to

larger imports of canvas, piece-goods having somewhat fallen off. Bengal and Bombay take most of the imports, the largest proportion going to the former. The great bulk of the goods is of British origin.

106. The value of the imports of fruits and vegetables stood at £257,087 in the year of report against £315,080 in 1873-74 and an average annual import of £307,525 in the five years ending with 1872-73. The decrease, however, is not really quite as great as would seem from the figures, for some portion of the trade which was in 1873-74 recorded as foreign trade, *viz.*, the trade in cocoanuts with the Laccadives, has now been transferred to the accounts of the coasting trade. Still there is a considerable decrease and especially in the imports from the Persian Gulf, whence the bulk of the imports, largely consisting of dates, wet and dry, is brought to Bombay. The imports from this quarter fell in value from £230,562 to £184,166, a decrease of £46,396.

107. The average annual value of the articles comprised under this head, which includes sheet and plate glass, beads and false pearls, and other ware (excepting common bottles, which are free), amounted for the five years ending 1873-74 to £278,876. For 1873-74 the value was £323,113, and though the value in the year of report (£299,810) was rather less than this, it was in excess of the average imports for the five years previous. As compared with last year the decrease occurred in sheet and plate glass, which fell from £24,006 to £20,185, and in beads and false pearls, which fell from £109,079 to £83,180. In both cases, however, the imports of the year were rather above the average. Of beads and false pearls the largest portion comes from Italy, either direct or *via* the United Kingdom, and the trade is subject to as great fluctuation as the trade in coral, being carried on under much the same conditions and generally by the same firms. Other ware, unspecified, increased from £190,028 to £196,444. The remarks made under the head of glass in the section of articles free of duty apply to this class of articles also.

108. Amongst these are included cutch and gambier, of which a comparatively small quantity is imported from the Straits, mostly into Bengal. The importation of cutch and gambier amounted during the year to 11,248 cwt., valued at £9,299, against 12,298 cwt., valued at £9,924, in 1873-74, and 12,685 cwt., worth £10,149, in 1872-73. But in 1870-71 and 1871-72 both quantities and values were lower than in any of the three years above mentioned. The import of rosin during the year amounted to 42,220 cwt., valued at £50,666, against 38,838 cwt., valued at £46,610, in 1873-74. The import of rosin, which comes mainly from the United States, has greatly increased during the last two years, as will be seen on reference to the figures annexed:—

				Cwt.	£
1870-71	...	...	...	9,524	11,427
1871-72	...	...	...	5,428	6,537
1872-73	...	...	...	12,605	15,082
1873-74	...	...	...	38,838	46,610
1874-75	...	...	...	42,220	50,666

The trade has thus more than trebled during these last two years. The largest share of the imports falls to Bengal, and it seems that a considerable portion is applied to the adulteration of shell-lac, though no doubt a large quantity is also increasingly employed for useful and proper objects. The great increase, however, in the import commenced with the increase in the demand for shell-lac, and has continued with it.

The "other sorts" of gum which complete the list of our imports under this head are for the most part African and Arabian gums, such as copal, gum arabic, myrrh, &c., and gums from the Straits. They are not separately enumerated in the returns and quantities are not given. The value of the imports of these kinds was in 1874-75 £71,884 against £84,860 in 1873-74. In the three years previous the value stood at £74,727, £83,092, and £73,019. The main decrease occurred in the import of gums from Africa and the Red Sea into Bombay, the value having fallen from £74,769 in 1873-74 to £59,033 in the year of report. As has been said before, the port of Bombay is no longer to such an extent as formerly an emporium for the merchandise of Zanzibar and the ports on the Arabian coast, a direct trade having sprung

up between these parts and the European and other markets *via* Aden, in consequence of the establishment of a regular line of mail steamers to Zanzibar and the development of means of direct communication. Consequently a good deal of gum which was formerly brought to Bombay for re-export to Europe does not now come to that port.

The total value of gums and resins under all the heads noted above during the year amounted to £131,849, shewing a decrease of £9,545 on the imports of the previous year.

Ivory, unmanufactured and manufactured.

109. 567,214lbs of ivory were imported during the year against 855,188 in 1873-74.

In the three years previous to 1873-74 the imports were respectively 572,729lbs, 708,573lbs., and 686,185lbs. The total value of the imports was:—

	£		£
1870-71 ... ..	117,092	1872-73 ... ..	145,657
1871-72 ... ..	144,407	1873-74 ... ..	185,969
	1874-75 ... ..		£123,048

These figures shew a very large decrease, which occurred chiefly in the imports from Africa and Aden (the latter place being an entrepôt for African ivory exported from Zanzibar). From these places the imports represented £101,127 against £176,242 in 1873-74. Nearly all the ivory imported comes to Bombay.

The cause of the decrease lies, it seems, in the execution of the treaty with the Sultan of Zanzibar providing for the abolition of the slave trade. Since measures have been taken to enforce the provisions of the treaty, the Arab traders of Zanzibar bring no more caravans down to the coast, and the ivory trade is for the present nearly annihilated. It may be hoped that it will revive in a year or two under the more healthy conditions of ordinary trade.

Lac.

110. The import in 1874-75 was unprecedentedly large, having amounted to 3,449 cwt., valued at £16,432, of which the imports into Bengal stand at 3,420 cwt., valued at £16,396. The greatest portion was from the Straits Settlements (3,243 cwt., worth £15,511): this was probably Siamese lac, imported *via* the Straits. From the United Kingdom 202 cwt., valued at £190, were received, consisting probably of Indian lac unsaleable from some cause and returned to this country. The extremely large import from the Straits (the average value of the four previous years not having exceeded £2,369) was no doubt caused by the great demand in India, and was intended for re-export in the form of manufactured (shell) lac.

Leather.

111. Leather, both unwrought and manufactured into boots and shoes, saddlery, and other articles, was imported to the value of £80,691 against £83,300 in the previous year, and an average import for the five years of £91,782. It cannot as yet be said that the trade shews a decided tendency to decline, but it is certainly not shewing a tendency to increase, and the cause is probably an improvement in the art of tanning skins and the manufacture of leather in this country, and consequently a more extended use of local production. An improvement certainly is manifest of late years, and it was much wanted. There is still great room for further improvement, Indian leather being generally of very poor quality, owing principally to skins being insufficiently tanned.

Liquors:

112. Liquors rank third in order of importance among our dutiable imports, cotton goods being first, and metals second. The total value of the imports during the year amounted to £1,380,286 against £1,302,709—a large increase of £77,577, but the value is not as large as in 1872-73.

The figures for the last six years are appended:—

	£		£
1869-70 ... ..	1,526,227	1872-73 ... ..	1,429,244
1870-71 ... ..	1,137,935	1873-74 ... ..	1,302,709
1871-72 ... ..	1,361,587	1874-75 ... ..	1,380,286

Malt Liquors.

113. Of ale, beer and porter, 1,481,698 gallons valued at £349,844 were imported, against 1,435,345 gallons valued at £337,915 in 1873-74.

There were imported in—

	Galls.	£		Galls.	£
1869-70 ...	1,747,721	413,520	1872-73 ...	1,536,496	363,496
1870-71 ...	1,365,303	311,686	1873-74 ...	1,435,345	337,915
1871-72 ...	1,323,927	305,319	1874-75 ...	1,481,698	349,844

Beer is not drunk by natives to any extent, and the importation is almost entirely for the supply of the European population of the country. The fluctuations in the trade during the last five years are of no particular importance. The trade is not one in which in any series of years a very marked increase can be expected unless there should be large accessions to the European population. On the other hand, it is possible that it may not increase quite in proportion to the augmentation of the European population, for in the hills beer brewed locally is coming into favour, and with a slight improvement in quality, and a reduction in price, may to some extent displace English beer.

114. Spirits (brandy, rum, and other kinds) were imported to the extent of 674,987 gallons, valued at £553,833, against 608,824 gallons, valued at £488,597, in 1873-74. The figures for the last six years are as follow :—

	Galls.	£		Galls.	£
1869-70 ...	713,437	564,378	1872-73 ...	723,609	553,884
1870-71 ...	461,323	385,900	1873-74 ...	608,824	488,597
1871-72 ...	671,626	560,485	1874-75 ...	674,987	553,833

Of the total quantity imported, Bengal takes not much less than half, a considerable proportion of the imports into this presidency consisting of cheap, fiery brandies, to the consumption of which some classes of the native population are addicted to an immoderate extent. The Burmese also are partial to European brandy and gin.

115. Of this class of liquors the imports are as follows :—

	Galls.	£		Galls.	£
1869-70 ...	646,923	548,329	1872-73 ...	592,831	509,285
1870-71 ...	490,835	433,336	1873-74 ...	545,043	474,560
1871-72 ...	567,737	494,689	1874-75 ...	564,921	474,695

Wines and Liqueurs.

The year 1869-70 appears to have been a year of excessive importation in all classes of liquors, followed by a year of comparative depression, from which there has been gradual recovery. In wines the fall in value in 1874-75, as compared with the quantity imported, indicates a satisfactory increase in the consumption of light French wines, probably the most wholesome beverage for the country. Taking the figures of the trade in liquors as a whole, it does not seem, although there was an increase last year, that the trade possesses any great elasticity, and it is possible therefore that the levy of the additional duty imposed on all classes (except beer) under the new Tariff Act may tend to restrict importation—an effect which is not to be regretted, so far as the cheap brandies are concerned.

116. Next to cotton goods, metals rank highest in importance amongst dutiable imports. The total value in 1874-75 was £2,567,550 against £1,707,337 in 1873-74, being an increase of £860,213, or more than 50 per cent. This increase is a satisfactory recovery from the depression which for some time had characterised the metal trade.

The figures of value are given below :—

	£		£
1868-69 ...	3,813,540	1871-72 ...	2,360,963
1869-70 ...	3,526,488	1872-73 ...	1,764,955
1870-71 ...	2,683,986	1873-74 ...	1,707,337
1874-75 ...	£2,567,550		

The trade is thus still nearly a million sterling below the point reached in 1869-70, and much more below the value of 1868-69. It will be best to review the trade in each metal separately, shewing the fluctuations in quantities and values in the years above noted.

## Copper.

117. The value of the imports of copper exceeded by £350,824 or 68.38 per cent. the imports of the previous year. The figures of the trade are:—

			£				£
1868-69	...	...	1,743,096		1871-72	...	1,036,674
1869-70	...	...	1,753,635		1872-73	...	578,788
1870-71	...	...	1,361,758		1873-74	...	513,023
			1874-75	...	...	...	£863,817

From the United Kingdom the imports amounted to £651,935 in value against £393,403, or little less than double those of the preceding year. From Australia we received copper to the value of £104,670 against £63,665 in 1873-74. Imports from China amounted to £83,137 against £38,641. These are our main sources of supply.

It was explained in the review of the trade for 1873-74 that two causes influenced the serious diminution in the import of copper into this country of late years. One of these was the great rise in the prices ruling for copper in England, which caused the diversion to that country of Australian copper which would have otherwise come to us, and which, at the same time, very largely diminished the supply of the metal from England to India. Imports fell off year by year as prices maintained their high level. To this cause was added in 1873-74 the scarcity in Bengal, the occurrence of which naturally tended to reduce imports, for copper is largely used in this country for vessels and utensils, and in times of distress the people cannot afford copper and must content themselves with earthenware. The second of these causes has ceased to exist, and the influence of the first has materially abated. Prices having fallen to a lower level in England, the ordinary flow of copper to this country from that country, Australia, China, and other countries of supply has again set in, and, unless prices should rise again largely in England, or general distress should again arise in extensive districts in India, may be expected to continue. Amongst the lower classes in this country the purchase of copper vessels is a favourite way of investing their savings. Many people accumulate them in quantities much in excess of household requirements, selling them for their weight in metal in times of pecuniary pressure.

Bengal imported £428,420 worth of copper against £263,333 in 1873-74. Bombay took £356,408 against £181,709, and Madras £63,030 against £53,877. The imports into Sind and Burma are not important.

The copper we receive is divided into cast, wrought, manufactured, manufactures of copper with other metals, and other sorts. Of these the first, second and fourth are most important, and are received in considerable quantities. It is not considered advisable to make a comparison of quantities and prices here, because in some cases the returns specify only the value, and the omission of quantity in such cases would vitiate any comparison that might be attempted. It should be noted here that in our returns for 1874-75 the head "copper" includes brass, but this article will be separately shewn in the returns for 1875-76 and subsequent years.

## Iron.

118. Iron also shewed a material recovery in the year, the result of the tendency to lower prices in England, where of late years the price of iron had risen to such an extreme height as to considerably restrict the exports of the metal to this country. The value of our imports was in—

			£				£
1868-69	...	...	1,425,655		1871-72	...	817,606
1869-70	...	...	1,144,447		1872-73	...	742,437
1870-71	...	...	789,310		1873-74	...	773,727
			1874-75	...	...	...	£1,221,831

Thus, though the trade has materially recovered from the depression of the five years immediately preceding 1874-75, it is still a good deal below the imports of 1868-69. It is advisable to refrain from giving quantities as compared with prices in this case as in the case of copper, and for the same reason, *viz.*, that for an extensive section of the import only values are specified in the returns. For iron imported during the year valued at £300,000, no quantities whatever are stated. The principal description of iron imported is that which is called "wrought, but not manufactured;" the import of this kind

was valued during the year at £716,000 nearly, against £416,192 in the previous year. Manufactured iron (excepting anchors, cables, and kentledge, which are free and have already been noticed) stood for £220,090 against £146,667, and other sorts, not specified, were valued at £274,227 against £205,203. Cast iron comes to us in comparatively small quantities.

Of the total import value of iron, amounting to £1,221,831, not less than £1,200,518 was of British origin or came from England, leaving little more than £21,000 for various other countries. Bengal and Bombay combined took the iron brought to India to the value of £1,037,293, Bengal representing £552,207 (against £363,384 in 1873-74) and Bombay £485,086 (against £292,034)—a large increase in both cases. Imports into Burma also show a large increase from £51,102 to £86,687. In Madras and Sind the increase was unimportant.

Efforts are now being made under the direction of Government to develop the production and manufacture of iron in India, where the metal occurs in considerable quantity in at least two places, Kumaon in the North-Western Provinces, and Lohara in the Central Provinces. At Lohara especially, suitable conditions for extensive and profitable smelting operations seem to exist.

119. The import of lead, except in the form of sheets for tea-boxes, when <sup>Lead</sup> it is free of duty, is not important. The figures are subjoined:—

	£		£
1868-69 ... ..	43,331	1871-72 ... ..	32,381
1869-70 ... ..	44,943	1872-73 ... ..	30,823
1870-71 ... ..	34,325	1873-74 ... ..	11,280
	1874-75 ... ..		£15,890

These figures show a small recovery from the reduction in the imports which commenced in 1870-71. Nearly all this lead is imported from the United Kingdom.

120. Quicksilver is also of no particular importance. For the five years <sup>Quicksilver</sup> ending in 1872-73 the average annual import was 237,410 lbs., worth £24,641. In 1873-74, 143,027 lbs., valued at £14,303, and in 1874-75, 160,744 lbs., worth £16,120, were imported. Of this quantity Bengal took 106,608 lbs., and Bombay 52,257 lbs., these quantities being less in Bengal and more in Bombay than in the previous year.

121. The value of the total import of steel (cast and other sorts) in <sup>Steel</sup> 1874-75 was £95,988 against £56,680 in the previous year and £78,638 in 1872-73. In this article, also, a sensible recovery from depression is manifest.

122. Imports of tin were valued at £161,025 against £165,398 in the pre-<sup>Tin</sup>vious year, the falling off being in the imports from the Straits (whence the bulk of our tin, extracted from the mines of Salang or Junk Ceylon and other places in the neighbourhood, is brought) having fallen from £129,287 to £117,162. On the other hand the imports from the United Kingdom increased from £33,622 to £40,899. Imports into Bengal and Bombay fell off a little, while Madras and Burma show an increase. Under the head of tin have hitherto been included tinned iron plates, but these in future will be removed from this heading and will be placed under that of iron, to which they properly belong. The value of the imports of tin for the last seven years was:—

	£		£
1868-69 ... ..	146,075	1871-72 ... ..	135,297
1869-70 ... ..	156,377	1872-73 ... ..	85,497
1870-71 ... ..	141,742	1873-74 ... ..	165,398
	1874-75 ... ..		£161,025

Thus, the value of the tin imported in the year of report, though less than in 1873-74, was higher than in any of the previous years above mentioned.

A good deal of tin occurs in the Tenasserim division of British Burma, and the mines have been worked, though in an ineffective way, for some years, by Chinese miners. But the unhealthiness of the locality, its comparative inaccessibility, and the absence of local means for the protection and subsistence of the work-people, present obstacles to the complete development of this source of industry.



Zinc.

123. The value of the import of zinc (or spelter or tutenague as it is indifferently called) amounted in 1874-75 to £47,464 against £49,523 in 1873-74, showing a further small reduction on the very large diminution which was shewn by the figures of 1873-74 as compared with 1872-73, when the value of the imports was £121,917. For the last seven years the values were:—

				£					£
1868-69	...	...	...	192,805		1871-72	...	...	123,791
1869-70	...	...	...	137,045		1872-73	...	...	121,917
1870-71	...	...	...	122,205		1873-74	...	...	49,523
				1874-75	...	...	...	...	£47,464

Nearly all our zinc comes from the United Kingdom. The great falling off in the trade occurred in Bengal, which is the largest importer of zinc, imports having fallen from £93,714 in 1872-73 to £33,787 in 1873-74 and £28,395 in 1874-75. Cast zinc constitutes the bulk of the imports under this head, and the reduction was chiefly in this article, the demand for which in the Calcutta market was very limited throughout the year.

Other kinds of metals.

124. The value of the imports of all kinds of metals, unenumerated and other than those already specified, increased from £123,403 in 1873-74 to £145,385 in 1874-75, the average annual import for the five preceding years (1868-69 to 1872-73) having been £105,170. All the provinces shared in the increase.

Oils.

125. The total value of the import of oils for the last five years was as follows:—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	59,880		1872-73	...	...	51,626
1871-72	...	...	...	59,544		1873-74	...	...	67,448
				1874-75	...	...	...	...	£109,954

Mineral oil from the United States constitutes the largest part of the imports. The value of this oil amounted during the year to £79,807 against £35,127, £74,958 representing the direct imports from the United States. The trade in this oil is subject to great fluctuations dependent on the circumstances of the trade in America, which is of a speculative and uncertain character. The imports into India shew a large increase in the last year, the consequence of unusual cheapness, which has induced larger consumption of an oil coming more and more extensively into use for illuminating purposes. In Calcutta this oil has now to compete to a certain extent with petroleum produced and refined in Burma, where it exists in large quantity, being imported thence under the name of "Rangoon oil." Bengal took most of the imports of American oil, and Bombay the bulk of the remainder.

The import of vegetable (non-essential) oils amounted to £26,185 against £27,425. The chief consumer of these is Bombay. The trade seems to be declining, and considering that India is herself a large producer and exporter of oils of the same character, *viz.*, linseed, rapeseed (or colza), and castor-oil, it is difficult to understand how the trade can be maintained at all. The United Kingdom and Ceylon are the principal sources of supply. The import of essential and other kinds of oil is quite insignificant.

Paints, colours and painters' materials.

126. The value of these articles in 1874-75 was £136,821 against £118,003 in 1873-74, showing a fair increase, though the amount is below the value of the import of 1872-73, *viz.*, £148,482. The trade on the whole seems to be satisfactorily increasing. Bengal and Bombay receive the bulk of the imports, which come mainly from the United Kingdom and China.

Provisions and oilman's stores.

127. These include all kinds of provisions, except *bêche de mer*, butter and salted fish, which are free. The trade is tolerably steady and seems on the increase. The figures for the last five years are:—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	292,873		1872-73	...	...	315,045
1871-72	...	...	...	285,279		1873-74	...	...	316,315
				1874-75	...	...	...	...	£309,749

The chief sources of supply are the United Kingdom, the Straits, and the Persian Gulf, though fairly large quantities are received from various other countries in Europe and elsewhere. The imports into Bengal for the

year stood at £119,335 against £136,822 in 1873-74, and into Bombay at £101,302 against £105,989.

128. The value of the importations of railway materials, notwithstanding the great advance in the price of iron of late years, is hardly a third of what it was some years ago, as will be seen by the figures attached:—

	£		£
1868-69 ... ..	1,591,813	1871-72 ... ..	513,246
1869-70 ... ..	1,217,334	1872-73 ... ..	327,465
1870-71 ... ..	1,466,068	1873-74 ... ..	438,847
1874-75 ... ..	£521,152		

Most of the lines of guaranteed railroad have now been completed, or nearly completed, and future imports will probably only consist of material required for the renovation of lines and rolling stock, their importance depending on the extent of damage done from year to year by floods and other causes. The importations on account of State lines are shown under the head of Government Stores. Madras takes the largest quantity of railroad plant now, that Presidency being practically the only one in which guaranteed lines are still under construction.

129. The average annual import of salt for the five years 1868-69 to 1872-73 was cwt. 5,402,318, valued at £787,575. In 1873-74 it was cwt. 5,584,911, worth £835,354, and in 1874-75 cwt. 5,541,691, valued at £755,771. These figures show a reduction in price more than proportionate to the diminution in quantity. Nearly the whole of the imports are confined to Bengal and British Burma, the other provinces consuming salt of local manufacture. In Bengal, as compared with 1873-74, the imports of the year of report show a reduction from cwt. 5,107,119 and £784,178 to cwt. 4,960,853 and £686,426. In Burma, on the other hand, the imports show a large increase, having advanced from cwt. 474,822 and £50,174 to cwt. 579,339 and £68,515. The imports chiefly consist of Cheshire salt shipped from Liverpool, comparatively small quantities being imported also from the Mediterranean Ports, the Red Sea, and the Persian Gulf.

130. The value of these articles advanced from £27,995 to £36,264 in 1874-75. The average value of the imports in the five years 1868-69—1872-73 was £27,892. They are imported mostly from the Persian Gulf, Africa, Ceylon, and the Maldives, Bombay taking the largest share. The imports into Bengal and Madras also are tolerably large. The large shells, or "chanks" as they are called in the trade (probably either a corruption of conch or *sankh*), are used as ornaments and in connection with the religious worship of the Hindus. Cowries are largely employed for small change amongst the poorer classes, and especially in the rural districts, and also to a certain extent in the adornment of the person and the manufacture of native toys. There cannot be a stronger proof of the poverty of the mass of the people than the use of these small shells as currency.

131. A large and steady trade is carried on in the import of raw silk into India from China and the Straits (the latter being mainly an entrepôt for Chinese silk), the Persian Gulf, and Ceylon. The bulk of the silk is consigned to Bombay, but British Burma also takes an important share. Every Burmese who can afford it will dress in silk garments in preference to cotton or wool, and this province is consequently always a large consumer of imported silk, (the local production not being extensive) both in the raw and the manufactured state. The figures of the importation of raw silk for the last two years and the five years previous are attached:—

	lbs.	£
1868-69 ... ..	1,959,951	730,934
1869-70 ... ..	2,016,726	901,117
1870-71 ... ..	2,328,854	895,563
1871-72 ... ..	1,799,591	651,595
1872-73 ... ..	1,930,910	659,480
1873-74 ... ..	2,282,758	786,914
1874-75 ... ..	2,467,255	872,927

The quantity imported in 1874-75 was larger than in any former year of the period, though the average value was rather lower than it has been before.

Bombay took lbs. 2,142,012 (value £768,777), shewing an increase on the imports of the year before, *viz.*, lbs. 2,019,507, worth £697,856, and a more material increase on the imports of 1872-73, *viz.*, lbs. 1,736,659, valued at £591,027. The imports of Burma also increased from lbs. 198,323, worth £80,319 to lbs. 244,705, worth £91,538. Of the quantity imported into Bombay, lbs. 74,461, worth £30,098, were re-exported.

Silk piece-goods. 132. The trade in these goods is also large and increasing. In the last five years the value was:—

					£
1870-71	...	...	...	...	407,771
1871-72	...	...	...	...	410,674
1872-73	...	...	...	...	535,082
1873-74	...	...	...	...	558,626
1874-75	...	...	...	...	697,087

The largest source of supply of these goods is China, from which more than half the total quantity received during the year was imported, but the value of British and French silks imported from the United Kingdom was considerably larger than the Chinese goods, although the quantity was much smaller, the average quality being greatly superior. From France direct, from the Mediterranean Ports, and from the Straits we also receive a good deal of silk, though in much smaller quantity than the importations from England and China. Bombay and Burma consume most of the imports of manufactured as of raw silk, and both these provinces shew an increasing trade. The value of the imports into Burma was in 1872-73 £161,130, in 1873-74 £221,282, and in 1874-75 £290,616. For Bombay the figures for the same years are £234,260, £258,155, and £306,680, respectively. The imports into Bengal are much smaller, and the figures shew a decreasing trade, *viz.*, £130,728, £100,899, and £91,178. A small proportion of the imports into Bombay is re-exported: the value of the re-exports in 1874-75 was £19,554. The value of the silk re-exported from Bengal was £3,818.

The trade in other silk goods, thread, mixed goods, &c., is unimportant.

Spices. 133. This seems to be a declining trade. The average imports for the five years ending in 1872-73 were:—

Cwt.	£
291,190	244,886

and in 1873-74 and 1874-75:—

Cwt.	£
233,474	150,562
229,104	179,126

The various kinds of spices imported have not hitherto been separately enumerated in our returns, but the most important kinds will be specified in future. It is understood that some part of the increase in the value of spices during the year was the result of an extraordinary rise in the value of cloves ensuing on the extensive destruction of clove plantations in Zanzibar (which now forms a main source of supply to the world of this article) by a hurricane. The imports into Bengal shew a complete recovery from the depression of 1873-74, the value exceeding that of the imports of 1872-73. Bombay also shews a small increase on the previous year, though the imports are still far below those of 1872-73. Madras has fallen off considerably, and Burma shews a moderate increase.

Sugar.

134. This trade is subject to great fluctuations, influenced by Hindu superstition. In a year which the astrologers declare to be favourable for the celebration of marriages, the demand for sugar to furnish forth the materials for the wedding feasts is extremely active, and it droops correspondingly when the religious authorities have arranged that marriages shall be prohibited in what they are pleased to call an unfavourable year. Other causes are also at work from time to time, such as a deficient harvest and high prices in Mauritius, whence the bulk of our imports is received. Bombay takes far the largest

portion of the whole quantity brought to the country. The figures of the trade for the last six years are as follow :—

				£					£
1869-70	...	...	...	715,553	1872-73	...	...	...	440,146
1870-71	...	...	...	555,801	1873-74	...	...	...	558,978
1871-72	...	...	...	709,778	1874-75	...	...	...	515,857

The import of foreign sugar into India is much larger than the export of Indian sugar to foreign countries.

135. The import of tea seems to be gradually declining, as might indeed be expected, in proportion to the increasing production and local consumption of tea grown in India. The average value of the imports from 1868-69 to 1872-73 was £186,331. In 1873-74 the import fell to £182,859, and in 1874-75 to £169,982. The values here stated are based on the tariff value, which is all that the Customs returns give, and this value being one rupee per pound, the quantities in pounds are almost exactly in every case ten times the values stated above. The main source of supply is China, either by direct importation, or in a smaller degree *via* the Straits, and Bombay is the largest consumer. In Bengal the import, strangely enough, has not fallen off as one might have expected, considering that Calcutta is the depôt for the teas of Assam and most of those of the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab. The value of the imports in each year from 1869-70 was as follows: £18,054, £17,976, £52,559, £66,289, £53,748, £39,338. The figures of the import into Bombay, the principal consumer of foreign tea, are :—

				£					£
1869-70	...	...	...	129,473	1872-73	...	...	...	159,082
1870-71	...	...	...	77,888	1873-74	...	...	...	109,252
1871-72	...	...	...	123,610	1874-75	...	...	...	105,211

The market for China tea in Bombay last year was dull, and a quantity (upwards of 30,000 lbs.) for which no sale could be found was returned to China. The importations of tea into the other provinces are comparatively of no importance.

136. The trade in tobacco is tolerably steady. The value of the imports in the last five years has been :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	75,432	1872-73	...	...	...	70,382
1871-72	...	...	...	88,493	1873-74	...	...	...	71,406
				1874-75	...	...	...	£70,274	

The principal importations consist of cigars from the Straits (these are Manila cigars) and China, and a smaller quantity from England, the latter being Havana cigars and German imitations of them. The importations of cake and cut tobacco from England and America are also extensive, and a fair amount of leaf tobacco is imported from Ceylon into Madras, and from the Straits into Burma. Of the cigars, Bengal takes far the largest portion, and from Calcutta they are distributed all over the provinces comprising the Bengal Presidency. Their consumption is almost entirely confined to the European population. There can be no doubt that if the cultivation and preparation of tobacco in India were properly attended to, nearly the whole of the money paid to foreign countries for the annual importation of tobacco might be saved. Serious attention is now being given to the subject both by the State and private persons, and if the attempts which are being made in Bengal and Madras under private management, and which are about to be made on the part of the State in Burma, are judiciously persevered in, we shall probably in a few years have to record a material decline in the import trade in tobacco, and shall be able to point to largely increased quantities and comparatively high rates of value under the head of our exports of the Indian-grown article.

137. During the last three years umbrellas have been imported as follows: 1872-73, 1,778,546; 1873-74, 1,169,717; 1874-75, 1,596,291. The recorded values for the last five years were :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	86,771	1872-73	...	...	...	134,818
1871-72	...	...	...	124,130	1873-74	...	...	...	90,246
				1874-75	...	...	...	£119,362	

The largest proportion comes from the United Kingdom, whence the imports last year were valued at £87,931 against £71,257 in the previous year. The imports into Bengal represented £67,571 against £55,146 in the previous year, and into Bombay £30,150 against £23,481. Importations into Burma were valued at £19,257 against £9,188. The leaf umbrellas formerly used by the lower classes of Bengal are fast being superseded by English cotton umbrellas, at least amongst the urban population. Leaf umbrellas are very cheap, but very unsightly, and they rot and drop away in one rainy season, while by the aid of elaborate patching a Bengalee makes a cotton umbrella last an amazing time. In Burma oiled paper umbrellas imported from the Straits are extensively used by the Chinese communities settled in various towns of the province, and also by the Burmese.

Woollen goods.

138. Of the other enumerated articles of import, woollen goods only require separate notice. The value of these articles, including piece-goods, braids, and other sorts, amounted during the year to £557,585, shewing a large decrease on the imports of 1873-74, which were worth £668,911. The imports in that year again were less than in 1872-73, when they were worth £719,530, but this was a large importation which followed on very low shipments for three successive years, and these again were preceded (in 1868-69) by a higher value than has since been reached. The trade is always subject to fluctuation, a large import in any year glutting the market for a considerable time afterwards. Bengal and Bombay consume the greater part of the woollen goods imported, most of which are supplied by England.

Articles imported  
by post.

139. The establishment of the overland parcel post has been followed by a considerable import of articles imported in that way. Our returns do not at present specify the nature of the articles thus imported, but it is hoped that some idea of the contents of the parcels may be furnished in the accounts of the current year. The value of these articles is stated to have been £14,588 in 1873-74 and £48,252 in the past year, of which, £7,352 represented articles free of duty, and £40,900 articles subject to duty. The item appears in the accounts of the Bombay Presidency only, the parcels being delivered there by the Peninsular and Oriental Company, and checked by the Customs authorities,

## SECTION III.

## EXPORT TRADE.

140. It seems needless, after the remarks which have already been made in several places in the two preceding sections, to enter into any details of the re-export of foreign goods. The trade is of no great importance either absolutely or relatively, and though the list of articles is tolerably long, there are only two classes of goods, cotton manufactures and metals, which are of large value, and these have already been noticed in dealing with the imports of these goods. The largest portion of the re-export trade is carried on between Bombay and the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, and the African coast. The value of the total trade under all heads is represented by the following figures:—

				£
1868-69	...	...	...	1,385,932
1869-70	...	...	...	1,791,831
1870-71	...	...	...	1,780,144
1871-72	...	...	...	1,488,622
1872-73	...	...	...	1,787,112
Average of these five years				1,646,728
1873-74	...	...	...	1,846,358
1874-75	...	...	...	1,811,166

The establishment of direct communication between Zanzibar and Europe by mail steamer *via* Aden, and the existence of the direct trade which has recently sprung up between the Persian Gulf and England, will probably tend to diminish the importance of Bombay as a depôt for goods imported into and exported from these countries.

141. Articles of Indian produce and manufacture will be dealt with, like the imports, under the heads of free and dutiable. The total value of the exports in both classes amounted to £54,501,080, which sum was larger than the value of the exports in 1873-74 by £1,386,661, or 2.61 per cent. This sum was also in excess of the average of the exports for the five years previous to 1873-74 by £292,067. The value of free goods exported during the year amounted to £41,901,356 against £39,574,095, which sum was the value of the free exports in 1873-74, showing an increase of 5.88 per cent. The value of dutiable goods was £12,599,724 against £13,540,324 in 1873-74, showing a reduction of £940,600, or 6.94 per cent. By the new tariff of last August all exports of Indian goods, with the exception only of indigo, rice and lac, are free of duty.

142. The most important articles in this class are: animals (living), borax, caoutchouc, coffee, coir, cotton (raw), dyeing and colouring materials (other than indigo), wheat, gums and resins, hemp (raw), hides and skins (raw), and horns, jute (raw and manufactured), opium, provisions and oilman's stores, saltpetre, silk (raw and manufactured), jadestone, sugar and other saccharine produce, tea, tobacco, teakwood, wool (raw and manufactured.)

143. This is a steadily increasing trade. The average value of the exports for the five years preceding 1873-74 was £49,574, in that year £74,869, and in 1874-75, £77,709. Most of the trade consists in the export of cattle from Madras to Ceylon.

144. Borax (biborate of soda) is classed in our returns as an article of Indian produce, though in reality it does not occur at all in this country, being imported across the Himalayas from Thibet and Ladakh. In commerce two kinds of this article are known, the refined article, which is called *borax*, and the partially refined, which is called *tincal*, one of the native names for the product. In its crude state, natives call it *sohâga*. Most of the borax exported

from Bengal is brought down from the place of production to Patna, where it undergoes a refining process before despatch to Calcutta. The two commercial classes are undistinguished in our returns. The price of borax at the port of shipment is subject to much variation, dependent both on the supply and on the demand. It may happen that stocks will be abundant in Calcutta, whence nearly all the exports of borax are shipped, and yet prices will rise if there is a large demand in Europe or Eastern Asia for it. Or it may be that stocks are very small, but if the demand is temporarily limited, prices will fall considerably. The borax we send from India has a competitor in Tuscan borax, and the circumstances of the trade in that article probably determine to a certain extent the price and quantity exported of Indian borax.

The export of 1873-74 was larger than in any of the five years preceding, having amounted to 19,043 cwt., and the average price was higher, the value of the exports having been £55,897, or about 58s. 8½d. per cwt. In 1874-75 the export was lower than in any of the preceding six years, having fallen to 8,604 cwt., and the average price was much lower than in 1873-74, the value of the exports having been £22,161, or about 51s. 6d. per cwt. The average exports from 1868-69 to 1872-73 were 15,628 cwt., valued at £35,300. Prices have risen considerably since 1872-73, and have maintained a high level, though with great fluctuation. Most of the borax sent from India is taken by England, the Straits, and China.

Caoutchouc  
(raw).

145. The trade of 1874-75 was somewhat less than in the previous year, and still less than in 1872-73, the supply of the market of shipment being somewhat uncertain under the conditions in which the rubber is collected by jungle tribes. In the Forest Department measures are now in progress for the propagation of the *Ficus elastica* and other rubber-producing trees in Assam and Burma. Both these provinces present favourable conditions for the profitable production of caoutchouc on an extensive scale. In Upper Burma large tracts are covered with rubber-producing trees, and under better conditions of administration the supply might at once be greatly increased.

The exports from Bengal are much larger than those from Burma. All the caoutchouc brought down to Calcutta is produced in Assam. Dealers in the article find it necessary to be careful in testing their purchases. The rubber is brought to Calcutta in large balls, which, instead of consisting as they should of solid gum, are sometimes found to be a collection of stones and rubbish enveloped in caoutchouc. The rule is to cut through all balls before payment. These frauds are probably committed by, or under the direction of, the Bengalee dealers who purchase the rubber from the primitive tribes by whom it is collected in the forests. The extent of the trade for the last seven years will be seen from the following figures:—

				Cwt.	£
1868-69	...	...	...	7,219	31,594
1869-70	...	...	...	6,584	25,372
1870-71	...	...	...	9,006	36,716
1871-72	...	...	...	15,638	78,646
1872-73	...	...	...	21,571	143,760
Average of the five years ...				12,003	63,217
1873-74	...	...	...	16,837	117,775
1874-75	...	...	...	15,893	108,645

The trade is shared by Bengal and Burma, by the former in much the larger proportion. The exports from Bengal fell off during the year from 16,255 cwt., worth £115,754, to 13,938 cwt., worth £96,492. The exports from Burma, on the other hand, increased from 582 cwt., worth £2,020, to 1,954 cwt., worth £12,104. The export trade from Burma only commenced, in appreciable quantity, in 1873-74. All or nearly all the caoutchouc exported from this province is produced in Upper or Independent Burma.

Coffee.

146. The production of coffee is confined almost entirely to the Madras Presidency, the Native State of Travancore, Mysore and Coorg. The fluctuations of the trade, which are often considerable, are to be explained by the deficiency or abundance of crops according as the season is unfavourable or

the reverse. Crops have often been materially affected, too, by the ravages of the "borer" (the larva of a coleopterous beetle, the *Xylotrechus quadripes*), by rot, as well also (and this is a large element in the influences which have from time to time affected injuriously the outturn of the crops), by the want of knowledge of proper conditions of culture on the part of those engaged in the cultivation, both European and native. The industry has been long established in Southern India, and Europeans have engaged in it for upwards of forty years. The cultivation has now settled down into a steady and prosperous industry, in which natives are largely occupied as well as Europeans, but, like tea, before attaining this last stage, it went through all the phases of wild speculation. From 1860 to 1863 or 1864 there was quite a mania for the cultivation of coffee. Land was bought recklessly, without regard to its suitability, cleared and brought into cultivation at enormous expense and, in many cases, ruinous loss ultimately. Great sums of money were wasted in this speculative period, which was followed by the inevitable reaction and depression. This period has long passed, and planters understand now that, while they cannot hope for the visionary profits of which they were formerly assured, the cultivation of coffee is, with care and intelligence, a steady and prosperous support to those engaged in the industry.

147. The average annual exports of coffee from India since 1850 are shewn below in five periods of five years each:—

				lbs.	£
1850-51	}	...	...	7,813,602	94,974
to					
1854-55					
1855-56	}	...	...	8,274,183	135,263
to					
1859-60					
				The figures for quantity for this period are not quite accurate, the quantity exported in 1856-57 not being stated in the returns.	
1860-61	}	...	...	24,162,260	555,652
to					
1864-65					
				Speculative excitement reached its height in this period.	
1865-66	}	...	...	33,879,096	784,727
to					
1869-70					
1870-71	...	...	...	33,459,426	800,090
1871-72	...	...	...	56,363,838	1,368,949
1872-73	...	...	...	41,462,705	1,128,549
1873-74	...	...	...	40,815,038	1,491,411
1874-75	...	...	...	34,925,063	1,305,335

As compared with the year 1873-74, the exports last year fell off in quantity, though their relative value was larger. Of the total quantity exported, about 33 $\frac{3}{4}$  million pounds went from Madras direct, and 1,184,000 *via* Bombay. The United Kingdom is our largest customer for coffee, 19 $\frac{1}{4}$  million pounds having gone thither during the year. France took upwards of 13 millions, Turkey in Europe more than three quarters of a million, more than a million went to the Persian Gulf and Red Sea, and nearly 350,000 pounds to the Mediterranean Ports. The balance was sent in smaller quantities to various other countries.

148. The quantity and value of the exports during the year were Coir. 152,745 cwt. and £137,280, against 162,576 cwt. and £153,371 in 1873-74, there having thus been a slight decrease. The average of the three preceding years was 137,891 cwt. and £126,655. Madras exports the bulk of our coir, 116,659 cwt. having been the share of that Presidency, this amount being rather less than in the previous year. Bombay exported 31,835 cwt., shewing a much larger reduction proportionately on the exports of 1873-74. Most of the exports are taken by the United Kingdom, Ceylon, the Straits, the Red Sea, and Persian Gulf; Mauritius and some other countries also take small quantities.



Cotton (raw).

149. The figures of the exports of this important staple since 1850-51 are appended, as far as they are discernible in the returns :—

Year.	Quantity in lbs.	Value in £.
1850-51	...	3,474,789
1851-52	...	3,619,989
1852-53	...	3,629,494
1853-54	...	2,802,150
1854-55	...	2,428,764
1855-56	...	3,314,951
1856-57	...	4,437,949
1857-58	...	4,301,768
1858-59	...	4,094,100
1859-60	...	5,637,624
1860-61	...	7,342,168
1861-62	...	10,203,470
1862-63	...	18,779,040
1863-64	...	35,864,795
1864-65	...	37,573,637
1865-66	...	35,587,389
1866-67 (11 months)	...	16,458,277
1867-68	...	20,092,570
1868-69	...	20,149,825
1869-70	...	19,079,138
1870-71	...	19,460,899
1871-72	...	21,272,430
1872-73	...	14,022,858
1873-74	...	13,212,241
1874-75	...	15,257,342

The largest quantity exported was in 1871-72, but the highest value was reached in 1864-65, when the exports were worth more than 37½ millions sterling, being at the average rate of 16·94*d.* per pound. After that year, the value of Indian cotton fell rapidly, as supplies from the United States were resumed. In 1870-71 Indian cotton was worth on an average 8·08*d.* per lb.; in 1871-72, 6·30*d.*; in 1872-73 prices slightly advanced, cotton being worth 6·80*d.* per lb., but they fell again in the next year to 6·29*d.*, and in the year of report Indian cotton was worth no more than 5·83*d.* per lb. all round. These figures represent the average price of Indian cotton at ports of shipment in India, and are calculated on the basis of the values given by exporters. There is of course considerable difference between the quality and value of cotton in Bombay and Calcutta, and moreover the recorded values must be considered as being subject to certain modification, owing to the system of accepting exporters' declarations of the value of free goods without examination. But the figures are good for comparison and as proving that the abundance or otherwise of cotton exported from India has very little effect on ruling prices here. Prices in the Indian market are regulated by the prices in England, and these depend largely upon the prospects of the cotton crop in the United States from time to time. If there is a prospect of abundant supplies from America, Indian cotton falls in price at once in England and becomes dull of sale, and prices in India are immediately affected. When it seems likely that the American outturn will be below the average, Indian cotton looks up in England and prices immediately rise here, often disproportionately, for the trade is of a very speculative character.

The quantity of the exports from year to year fluctuates, *firstly* and mainly with the demand from foreign countries, *secondly*, but in a smaller degree, with the average outturn of the crops, and *thirdly* with the comparative lowness or otherwise of freights. Probably even in a bad year, so large is the area now under cotton, India could supply as much cotton as was exported in 1871-72. But it does not necessarily follow that, in these days, a diminution in the quantity exported is a diminution in the wealth of the cultivator, for there is a large and growing demand for cotton at remunerative rates for local consumption in the cotton mills as well as in the handlooms which still in many rural districts constitute a quiet but flourishing industry.

150. Our chief customer is still the United Kingdom, which takes quite two-thirds of the total exports, but of this from 50 to 60 per cent. is re-exported from England to Continental Europe, where Indian cotton is regarded with more favour than in the English manufacturing districts. English machinery was originally adapted to the treatment of cotton of longer staple than the Indian fibre, and as long as manufacturers can obtain a supply sufficient for their purposes of the longer-stapled American, Egyptian, or Brazilian cotton (of which not more than 9 or 10 per cent. of the imports into England are re-exported), the Indian fibre is regarded with disfavour. In some cases, indeed, cotton operatives have refused to work with Indian cotton as being too troublesome to manage. This is not the case on the Continent, where mills exist possessing machinery specially adapted to the treatment of short-stapled cotton, and in these quarters there seems to be a growing demand for our staple. While more than half the cotton sent from India to England is again shipped off to the Continent, an increasing direct trade between India and the States of Continental Europe (France, Germany, the Mediterranean Ports, and Russia) is becoming manifest.

151. The total exports during the year exceeded those of the previous year by 123,243,441 lbs. in quantity and £2,045,101 in value, or 24·45 per cent. in quantity and 15·48 per cent. in value. Far the largest quantity is exported from Bombay, to which port is brought for shipment the cotton produced in the cotton-growing districts of that Presidency as well as the produce of Berar, the Central Provinces, and Central India. The season was favourable in these provinces, the outturn from an increased acreage was abundant, and the exports larger than at any time during the previous six years. From these provinces there were exported during the last season, commencing in October and ending in May, 122,033,128 lbs., being 3,186,176 lbs. in excess of the exports of the previous year. Of this cotton all but 1,364,000 lbs was sent to Bombay, whence the greater portion was shipped. A part of the shipments is recorded in the accounts under review, but the remainder will appear in the accounts for 1875-76. These figures, as well as those which follow, shew the undiminished activity of the cotton industry in the Central Provinces and Berar. They are taken from a report addressed to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce by Mr. A. J. Dunlop, Assistant Commissioner in charge of Cotton Statistics, Central Provinces and Berar (No. 1796, dated 17th June 1875) :—

Year.	Acreage under cotton in Central Provinces and Berar.		Export of cotton from the two provinces. lbs.
1868-69	...	...	2,037,617
1869-70	...	...	2,239,813
1870-71	...	...	2,316,363
1871-72	...	...	2,176,589
1872-73	...	...	2,410,435
1873-74	...	...	2,649,992
1874-75	...	...	2,717,362
			106,345,288
			83,232,576
			96,473,944
			42,961,240
			95,721,696
			118,846,952
			122,033,128

From the Bombay Presidency the exports during the year amounted to 510,364,362 lbs., valued at £12,833,579, being 81·38 per cent. of the total quantity and 84·11 per cent. of the total value of the exports from the whole of India. The cotton of Western India is better than any other cotton produced in the country and commands a higher value. The exports from Bombay shew a considerable increase (amounting to nearly 112 million pounds in quantity, and £1,951,110 in value) over the exports of the previous year, and a still more considerable increase over the exports of the year 1872-73. Nearly the whole of the increase in the total trade occurred in fact in Bombay.

Madras follows Bombay (but a long way behind) as an important cotton-exporting province. During the year there were exported 77,550,625 lbs., valued at £1,569,781, against 59,184,907 lbs., worth £1,238,536, in 1873-74, the increase on the trade of that as well as of the previous year being satisfactory. The cotton exported from Madras is all produced in that Presidency.

Bengal holds the third place in the export of cotton, at a considerable distance behind the two other Presidencies. The exports during the year amounted to 25,090,185 lbs., valued at £523,699, against 33,527,312 lbs., valued at £776,779, in 1873-74—a heavy decrease of nearly 8½ million pounds in

quantity and £253,080 in value, and this decrease followed on one more serious, the exports of 1872-73 having exceeded those of 1873-74 by more than 46 million pounds in quantity and a million sterling in value. The cotton exported from Bengal is the produce of Northern and North-Western India, which is brought down the valley of the Ganges to Calcutta. The Lower Provinces of Bengal produce scarcely any cotton except what is required for local consumption, and not even enough for that, the soil being covered with rice, jute, and other produce yielding more profitable returns than cotton of the very poor quality which grows on Bengal soil can afford. The crops in the North-Western Provinces have not lately given favourable outturns and the area of cultivation has been rather restricted. The quality of the fibre which is exported from Calcutta is very poor, much inferior to that which is produced in the "black cotton soil" of the Bombay Presidency, Berar and the Central Provinces, and its price in the markets of consumption is comparatively much lower. Prices have fallen so low in fact, owing to the abundant supply of the English market with better cotton at reasonable rates, that exportation from Calcutta, after payment of all the charges of transport down to Calcutta from the places of production, can hardly yield a fair profit except in the trade with China and in a lesser degree with Continental Europe. The export of cotton from Bengal to the United Kingdom has fallen off enormously and seems on the road to extinction. On the other hand, there is an increasing demand for local consumption in the Calcutta cotton mills and in the two which exist at Cawnpore.

The exports of cotton from Sind and Burma are comparatively unimportant. The exports from Sind will, perhaps, increase on the completion of the Indus Valley (State) Railway, which will probably make Kurrachee the port of shipment for much of that portion of the Punjab cotton crop which now finds its way to Calcutta, while the provision of this additional means of communication may perhaps induce the cultivation of cotton over a larger area.

152. Of the total exports, upwards of  $438\frac{1}{2}$  million pounds, valued at £10,651,000, were sent to the United Kingdom. France took 84,366,000 lbs., worth £2,109,731; the Mediterranean Ports 67,504,936 lbs., worth £1,598,924; China 17,650,614 lbs., worth £439,470; Russia 9,180,444 lbs., valued at £229,432; Germany 7,115,192 lbs., worth £177,324; and the balance went in smaller quantities to Ceylon and other countries. The trade with all the countries in Continental Europe mentioned above shews a large increase. Most of the trade was with Bombay, and the Commissioner of Customs in that Presidency refers to it in the following terms: "Continental stocks were allowed to fall very low towards the end of 1874, the prevailing idea being that prices could not fail to give way further in January, February, and the early spring months, but when the American receipts began to manifest signs of a permanent falling off, an entire revulsion of feeling took place, and a largely increased business was done with foreign nations at prices very much better than those ruling in Lancashire. Russia and France indented largely for Indian cotton on this account. \* \* \* It may be added that the season was favourable and early, and the outturn larger, and that the popularity of the Indian cotton on the Continent seems increasing. Many mills, which during the cotton famine adapted their machinery to its use, have continued to employ it." (*Introduction to the Annual Statement of Trade and Navigation for the Bombay Presidency for 1874-75.*)

It cannot be expected, nor is it to be hoped, that Indian cotton will again be the subject of the frantic speculation which marked the era of the "cotton famine" in England resulting from the interruption of supplies from the United States during the rebellion of the Southern Confederacy. Such prices as were then obtained will not again be realised, but there is a wide outlet at reasonable profits for all good Indian cotton which can be produced within easy distance from the coast. What will not be taken by England will be taken by other countries in Europe and in Asia, and local manufacture will consume what is not wanted for export. On the whole, the prospects of the Indian cotton trade, except in Bengal, are by no means gloomy.

153. Lac dye was freed from export duty on the 27th November 1874. The trade returns having shewn a progressive decline in the exports of this article for years past, both in quantity and in value, it was considered that the

export duty, which was fixed at a time when lac dye bore a comparatively higher value than shell-lac, pressed very heavily on producers, whom an enormous reduction in prices of late years left with large unsaleable stocks on their hands. It must be remembered that the manufacture of lac dye is always combined with that of shell-lac, the dye being the colouring matter contained in the body of the insect whose resinous excretion is converted into the shell-lac of commerce. In the process of the manufacture of shell-lac it is necessary to eliminate the dye, and having thus obtained the liquid dye separately, it is almost as cheap to let it solidify into cakes as to throw it away. These cakes were formerly an important article of commerce and worth more to the manufacturer than his shell-lac. Now, however, the position of the two articles is reversed. As shell-lac went up in price, the result of a constantly increasing demand, lac dye went down, until the dye was made merely because it was necessary to make it before shell-lac could be made. The cause of the decline in the demand for the dye and its consequent reduction in value is to be found in the competition of cochineal from Mexico and of the aniline dyes which now form an important industry in Europe. Considering all these facts, the Government of India decided that it was not fair to weight producers of lac dye with an export duty of 4 per cent. on a tariff value representing about six times the actual value of the article, and the duty was taken off. The remission gave an impulse to the trade, stimulating exports for a short time, but it has since fallen back into a stagnant condition, whence it is doubtful whether it will emerge, for even if the formidable competition of cochineal should from any cause abate, there is an increasing opposition present in the manufacture of aniline dyes. The export of lac dye during the year amounted to nearly cwt. 8,379, valued at £37,602, but this was about the tariff value and was much in excess of the real value. The quantities exported in previous years, commencing with 1868-69, were:—

	Cwt.		Cwt.
1868-69 ... ..	17,748	1871-72 ... ..	17,437
1869-70 ... ..	19,557	1872-73 ... ..	10,507, and
1870-71 ... ..	12,500	1873-74 ... ..	9902

Lac dye is all exported from Calcutta, which practically possesses the monopoly of the lac trade.

154. The trade in Indian dyes, unspecified and included under this general heading, fluctuates considerably as will be seen by the following figures: Dyeing and colouring materials other sorts. Indigo is not included in this head; it will be treated as a separate item, amongst articles subject to duty.

	Cwt.	£
1870-71 ... ..	242,379	204,937
1871-72 ... ..	392,017	242,379
1872-73 ... ..	526,258	251,662
1873-74 ... ..	271,567	158,474
1874-75 ... ..	458,447	203,620

There has thus been a very great reduction in value of late years, the result of a falling off in prices of most of our Indian dyestuffs, which are now subject to active competition with aniline dyes. The kinds included under this general head are madder or manjit, safflower, sapan-wood, myrabolams, &c. In the reports of future years they will be treated separately, and a work on the subject of Indian dyes is now in preparation in this Department, in which the production and trade will be fully dealt with.

155. Wheat was freed from duty in January 1873 for the reasons stated in the review of the trade for 1873-74, and the trade at once expanded to a surprising degree, as will be seen from the following figures:— Grain and pulse wheat.

	Cwt.	£
1870-71 ... ..	248,522	103,833
1871-72 ... ..	637,099	235,644
1872-73 ... ..	394,010	167,690
1873-74 ... ..	1,755,954	827,606
1874-75 ... ..	1,069,076	490,435

In 1874-75 there was a contraction of trade, the quantity exported having fallen to cwt. 1,069,076, valued at £490,435. Wheat is an article the trade in which cannot be maintained at a very high level save under exceptional circumstances. The best wheat-growing districts in India are remote from the coast, and the cost of transit to the ports of shipment is so great, that export becomes profitable only when there are failures in crops elsewhere and a sensible rise in ordinary prices. Such a rise occurred in 1873-74 in the European markets, and the remission of the duty enabled Indian wheat to compete advantageously with the produce of other wheat-producing countries. In 1874-75 prices fell to such an extent, that large quantities of wheat available for shipment remained in the districts because prices were actually higher there than those current at Bombay. Intelligence of expected short crops, such as was recently received from England during the floods, imparts activity to the trade, which immediately returns to a comparatively dull position on the announcement of a slight fall in prices. The remission of the duty, however, was in fact the removal of a prohibition of export, for as such the tax practically operated on an article the margin of profit on which must always be small; and though the trade may not continue to expand at the extraordinary rate manifested immediately after the removal of the export duty, it will probably maintain the level it has now reached, and may, with the development of cheap and easy communications between the coast and the interior, shew steady and gradual further progress. A reduction of carrying rates on the railways would probably materially assist the trade, and the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces strongly urges the construction of a railway through the Chhattisgarh country, to provide an outlet for the enormous stocks of food grains now produced in that tract and allowed to accumulate and spoil there because there are no means of removing them at remunerative rates to places where they are wanted.

Of the total quantity of wheat exported, 633,681 cwt. were shipped from Bombay and 143,144 cwt. from Sind, Bombay shewing a very large increase, while the exports from Sind fell off materially. From Bengal also exports fell off largely (from 513,875 cwt. to 280,530 cwt.) The wheat exported from Bengal is grown in Behar and the North-Western Provinces. From Madras and Burma exports of wheat are insignificant, these being mainly rice-growing countries.

Shipments to the United Kingdom fell off from 1,358,092 cwt. to 399,492 cwt. On the other hand, France took 259,359 cwt. against 27,614 cwt. in 1873-74. Exports to the Mediterranean ports (chiefly to Trieste) increased from 18,797 cwt. to 152,318 cwt. This is a new trade. The rest of the exports was sent chiefly to Mauritius, Réunion, the Red Sea and Aden, Ceylon, and the Straits.

Gums and Resins:  
Cutch and Gambier.

156. Cutch or catechu (*terra japonica*) and gambier are commercial terms for much the same article, most of which is exported from Burma, Burmese cutch being more esteemed in the markets of consumption than other Indian qualities of the gum. The figures of export for the last five years are—

				Cwt.	£
1870-71	...	...	...	170,044	131,715
1871-72	...	...	...	158,582	116,778
1872-73	...	...	...	278,965	196,147
1873-74	...	...	...	164,622	118,507
1874-75	...	...	...	191,891	147,889

From Burma were exported 151,588 cwt., valued at £112,251, during the year, against 112,352 cwt., valued at £75,106, in 1873-74. The very large exports of 1872-73 had caused great accumulations of the gum in the English market, and in 1873-74 there was a considerable falling off in the trade, but the figures of the year of report shew a sensible recovery. A good deal of Burmese cutch comes down from Independent Burma, and the trade is obstructed by the heavy duties levied by the King's officials. The exports from Bengal amounted to 39,399 cwt., worth £34,261, against 48,105 cwt., valued at £36,695, in the previous year. Exports from Madras also fell off materially. The chief consumers are the United Kingdom and the United States.

157. Hides (raw), *i. e.*, hides of oxen and buffaloes, form a steady article Hides and Skins. of export. The average number of hides (raw) exported annually in the four years ending 1873-74 was 7,738,208, valued at £1,788,883; in that year they were 6,829,938 in number, worth £1,840,755; and in the year of report the number of raw hides exported was 7,117,889, valued at £1,981,982, both quantity and value being in excess of the exports of 1873-74. The chief seat of this trade is Calcutta, whence 6,518,615 hides, worth £1,853,222, were exported during the year, these figures shewing a very large increase over the exports of the previous year, which were 5,852,215 hides, valued at £1,622,416. The increase was probably the result of the mortality amongst plough-cattle in the drought of 1873-74. The trade is in the hands of a few Mahomedans (Hindus will not deal in hides by reason of religious prejudices), and some of these men are very wealthy, for the trade is highly profitable. They purchase hides from *chamars*, one of the lowest classes of the people, who go about the country skinning dead cattle, and reap a rich harvest in bad seasons. It is well known that this is an unscrupulous class of men, who do not hesitate systematically to poison cattle while feeding in the pastures for the sake of the hide, which is abandoned to them. Cattle-poisoning by this class is in fact a profession to which the attention of the authorities has long been directed with a view to its suppression, but with little effect as yet. The most effectual remedy for the evil lies in the hand of the Hindu agriculturist himself. If he can be made so far to overcome his religious prejudices as to render the hides of such of his oxen as he suspects to have died a violent death useless for the purpose of the *chamar*, which he can do by slashing the hide in three or four places, thus rendering it unmerchantable, poisoning will be found an unprofitable occupation. The export trade will fall off no doubt, but this is not to be regretted. Living cattle are more wanted in India to plough the fields than the money obtained for their hides. A considerable proportion of the eight million head of cattle whose hides (raw and dressed) are exported from India every year die from preventible causes, such as neglect (for the ryot is not careful of his cattle), drought, murrain, and poison, and these beasts represent an actual loss to the country which outweighs the value of the whole number of hides put together.

Next to Bengal, Burma occupies the most important place as an exporter of raw hides. The largest quantities are taken by the United Kingdom, the Mediterranean ports, America and France.

Skins (raw) also are largely exported. They amounted last year to 3,291,733 in number, valued at £190,473. For these the United States is much the largest consumer.

158. The progress of the trade in jute for the last twenty-five years will be Jute, raw: seen by the figures appended:—

			Cwt.	£
1850-51	...	...	584,461	196,936
1851-52	...	...	535,027	180,976
1852-53	...	...	349,797	112,617
1853-54	...	...	509,507	214,768
1854-55	...	...	699,566	229,241
Average of 5 years:			cwt. 535,671	£186,907
1855-56	...	...	882,715	329,076
1856-57	...	...	673,416	274,957
1857-58	...	...	788,820	303,292
1858-59	...	...	317,890	525,099
1859-60	...	...	761,201	290,018
Average of 5 years:			cwt. 684,808	£344,488
1860-61	...	...	1,092,668	409,372
1861-62	...	...	1,232,279	537,610
1862-63	...	...	1,266,884	750,456
1863-64	...	...	2,513,887	1,507,037
1864-65	...	...	2,100,577	1,307,844
Average of 5 years:			cwt. 1,641,259	£902,464

		Cwt.	£
1865-66	...	2,354,910	771,691
1866-67	} (11 months)	...	1,761,321
1867-68			
1868-69	...	3,363,648	1,891,899
1869-70	...	3,361,852	1,981,495
Average of 5 years :		cwt. 2,579,834	£1,326,348
1870-71	...	3,754,083	2,577,553
1871-72	...	6,133,813	4,117,308
1872-73	...	7,080,912	4,142,548
1873-74	...	6,127,279	3,436,015
1874-75	...	5,493,957	3,246,882
Average of 5 years :		cwt. 5,718,009	£3,504,061

It will be noticed that there have been violent fluctuations from time to time. The trade, in fact, has always been of a more or less speculative and uncertain character. Enormous profits and equally enormous losses have succeeded each other in various seasons. People rushed into the business, possessing no capital and but little credit, and by skilful financing buoyed themselves up for a time. Encouraged by high prices obtaining temporarily in the European market for various reasons, they exported shipload after shipload of jute in a reckless way. The result of these operations was generally a rise in local prices to a level higher than English prices. For a short time the market remained inflated, then with glutted warehouses and large expected stocks on the way, the bubble burst and prices fell in Europe to a level involving ruinous loss. The speculator vanished from the scene, either through the open doors of the insolvent court, or silently round the corner. The ryot, whose heart had been gladdened by the rupees he had received for his jute, and who had consequently sown with jute for the next season a largely increased breadth of land in the hope of a maintained demand, was left lamenting, for nobody came to take his jute (at profitable rates) and it was in many cases actually thrown away. The following season perhaps enthusiasm revived, and though the ryot had sown a smaller surface with jute he received higher prices than ever. Such was the history of the jute trade in Bengal for many years after 1860, when speculative excitement began, and until very recently. Indeed, the trade is still somewhat of a speculative character, though much of the excitement of speculators in Calcutta has been transferred from the raw material to the shares of companies established on the limited liability principle for the local manufacture of jute. On the whole, notwithstanding occasional disappointments, the jute trade has brought a wide and steady stream of wealth to the Bengali cultivator.

159. The exports of the year of report were much less than in 1873-74 in quantity, but the average value was about 2s. 6d. per cwt. higher. Business was done with great activity and at extremely high prices on the arrival of the new crop in Calcutta in August and the following months. But the English market was dull and drooping, prices being a good deal lower than in Calcutta, and business rapidly fell off. Transactions were subsequently restricted by the range of freights and the prices asked by holders of stock, who were very firm, the demand for local consumption in the mills enabling them to resist the call for lower prices made by exporters.

The cultivation of jute is almost entirely confined as yet to the Lower Provinces of Bengal and chiefly to the Eastern Districts. Of the total quantity exported during the year all but 3,166 cwt. was shipped from Bengal, of which province jute is now a main industrial staple. The principal consuming countries are the United Kingdom, the United States, and France. The exports to the United Kingdom fell from 5,296,723 cwt. in 1873-74 to 4,581,436 cwt. in

1874-75. The quantity sent to the United States, on the other hand, increased from 717,688 cwt. to 835,806 cwt. This quantity was much less than the shipments of 1871-72 and 1872-73, but those years seem to have been years of overtrading and excessive speculation in jute. The figures of export to the United States since 1868-69 are as follow :—

				Cwt.	£
1868-69	...	...	...	365,276	161,218
1869-70	...	...	...	338,267	155,578
1870-71	...	...	...	477,448	274,034
1871-72	...	...	...	1,040,527	516,695
1872-73	...	...	...	1,466,613	551,619
1873-74	...	...	...	717,688	231,334
1874-75	...	...	...	835,806	310,240

A good deal of the jute sent to the United States consists of the butt-ends of the fibre which are cut off when the jute is pressed into bales. These are called "cuttings" in Calcutta, and, with "rejections," now form a regularly quoted article of export to America, where they are employed in the fabrication of various "shoddy" stuffs. In former years these cuttings were thrown away. Bengal is now threatened with serious competition in the cultivation of jute by the Americans, who declare that in Louisiana and other Southern States and throughout the valley of the Mississippi they can and mean to grow better jute than has ever been produced in the Gangetic delta. As yet the cultivation seems to be quite in its infancy, and indeed hardly out of the experimental stage; but if the States of the Union take to the matter seriously, the Bengali cultivator must make up his mind to face a very formidable competitor whom he cannot hope to distance unless he sets to work greatly to improve the quality of his produce by ameliorated methods of culture and greater care in the processes connected with the separation of the fibre and its preparation for the market.

The trade with France shews some reduction, having fallen from cwt. 86,026 to cwt. 58,839. Jute in France is required for the consumption of spinning mills at Dunkirk, and a good deal is imported from England in addition to that which is imported direct from Calcutta. Of course with the raw material in England worth actually less than in Calcutta, our direct trade with France during the year had but little chance.

160. In England, America, and France jute is manufactured into various articles of clothing, carpets, &c., the jute being mixed with cotton or wool or silk, and it is also made into coarse sacking. In India the manufacture is as yet confined to sacking, known in commercial circles as gunny bags and cloths, and to rope and twine. Of cordage the manufacture is limited, but the manufacture of bags and cloth has taken great development within the last few years, power-looms having to a material extent taken the place of the old hand-looms. There are now in and about Calcutta ten jute spinning mills, working with capital subscribed on the limited liability principle, the total amount of capital being not much short of a million and a half sterling. These mills employ about 2,500 looms. There are also two mills belonging to private proprietary, and it is believed that others will soon be started. It is stated that altogether there are now in Bengal about 3,900 looms worked by steam-power, and at the present moment orders are abundant and the mills are working full time. The establishment of these mills has given rise to much unhealthy excitement in Calcutta in connection with transactions in shares, and periods of inflation have been followed by gloom and depression; but confidence is expressed by competent persons in the future of this manufacturing industry, for it possesses all the elements of success. So hopeful are the prospects of jute manufacture on the banks of the Hooghly that one of the Dundee mill-owners has recently closed his mill there and transferred his machinery to India to be set up and worked near Calcutta.

The value of the exports of gunny bags shews very violent fluctuations; but besides the exports to foreign countries, it must not be forgotten that there is a large market in the country itself for these articles in packing merchandise exported, and that the market increases with the increase of traffic.

Jute manufac-  
tures :  
Gunny b ags.



The figures for gunny bags and cloths are:—

			Number.	£
1868-69	...	...	5,868,585	185,305
1869-70	...	...	6,596,419	202,401
1870-71	...	...	6,761,133	342,425
1871-72	...	...	5,264,612	182,459
1872-73	...	...	6,169,622	188,212
Average of 5 years ...			6,132,074	220,160
1873-74 ...			6,606,302	200,789
1874-75 ...			8,016,299	235,699

These figures shew a steady and constant increase for the last four years. The exports to the United States, which formerly were important, have gradually dwindled away to comparative insignificance, America being supplied more cheaply with bags and cloth from Dundee and locally manufactured. The trade with the United Kingdom is also, as must be expected, unimportant. The chief consumers of our jute manufactures are the Straits, which took them to the value of £132,155 during the year, Australia (£49,017), Ceylon (£19,684), and China (£11,014). The trade with the Straits shews a large increase over that of 1873-74, while the exports to Australia fell off very much. Exports to Ceylon, Persia, and other countries whose shores lie on the Indian Ocean, also shew an increase. Bengal will probably always be able to do a flourishing trade in gunny bags and cloth with these countries, and defy competition from other quarters.

Opium.

161. The number of chests of opium exported during the year amounted to 94,746, worth £11,956,972, against 88,726, worth £11,341,854, in 1873-74, shewing a small reduction in the average value of each chest. From Bengal 45,712 chests were exported (value £5,534,201) and from Bombay 49,034 (value £6,422,771). China and Cochin China took 85,524 chests, the Straits 8,943, the United Kingdom 165, and the remainder went in small numbers to Ceylon, Africa, Mauritius, Macassar, and Australia. It is unnecessary to make any remarks on the features of this trade, which, as a most important branch of the Indian revenue, is under the immediate supervision of the Financial Department.

Salt.

162. Salt of Indian manufacture is exported in small quantities chiefly from Bombay and Madras to the Straits. The total quantity exported last year was 121,828 cwt., worth £25,977, of which all but two cwt. was taken by the Straits. The exports were shared between Bombay and Madras in the proportion of 91,823 cwt. from the former and 30,003 cwt. from the latter. The exports of last year shew a considerable increase on those of the four previous years, the average of which was 53,702 cwt.

Saltpetre.

163. Saltpetre (nitrate of potass) is mainly exported from Bengal, this natural product occurring in great quantities in Behar and other parts of the province. The trade is subject to extreme oscillations, the result partly of political influences. It reached its highest point during the Confederate struggle in the United States, the value of the exports being at that time: 1860-61, £661,614; 1861-62, £828,378; 1862-63, £896,808; 1863-64, £722,165; 1864-65, £542,461; and in 1865-66 (the impetus given to the trade continuing after the termination of the war) £605,376. It should be remarked, however, that the trade in this article is extremely sensitive to the fiscal action of Government. Thus there is no doubt that the reduction of the export duty by one-half in 1865 tended to maintain the trade at a high level in that year, though the extraordinary demand of the previous years had ceased; and on the other hand, when in the following year a heavy duty was imposed, the value of the trade fell at once to £297,713 (in 1866-67), and again to £256,301 (in 1867-68). The trade was freed in 1867, but the blow had been heavy and recovery was slow, other sources of supply having been sought by consuming countries. The French, for instance, commenced a local manufacture, and a chemical substitute also

entered into competition with native saltpetre. The figures since 1868-69 are as follow :—

			Cwts.	£
1868-69	...	...	397,019	310,758
1869-70	...	...	490,116	394,870
1870-71	...	...	482,940	440,554
1871-72	...	...	432,210	397,251
1872-73	...	...	518,982	536,313
Average of the five years			464,253	415,949
1873-74	...	...	451,197	464,974
1874-75	...	...	553,330	501,468

The trade of the year of report was thus larger than in any year since the remission of the duty. There would not seem to be much apprehension that, in these days of international conflicts followed by internecine struggles,—days of military supremacy and bloated armaments,—the demand for ‘villanous saltpetre’ will fall off materially, and as the article is increasingly required moreover in some of the useful arts it is probable that the trade will remain tolerably steady, unless it should be interfered with from time to time by the political exigencies of the administration of the day.

Of the quantity exported during the year, cwt. 540,321 were shipped from Bengal, the exports from the other provinces being unimportant. The United Kingdom took cwt. 338,744 against 255,742 in 1873-74. The exports to France increased from cwt. 5,003 to cwt. 41,807. The quantity sent to America fell from cwt. 115,990 to cwt. 79,910. China took cwt. 68,694 against cwt. 50,467 in 1873-74, and Mauritius cwt. 15,033 against cwt. 7,347. The trade with other countries was not material.

164. Of this article, too, Bengal exports much the largest quantity, practically in fact the whole of what is exported from India. The shipments from Bengal amounted last year to 1,634,548 lbs. in a total from British India of 1,656,015 lbs. The manufacture of silk in Bengal is an old, and was once a thriving industry, but is now apparently in a state of gradual decay. The average annual figures of the trade, commencing with the year 1856-57, previous to which period they are defective and imperfect, are as follow, in quinquennial periods:—

			lbs.	£
1856-57	}	...	1,636,206	825,809
to				
1860-61	}	...	1,345,515	874,975
to				
1865-66	}	...	2,342,070	1,328,053
to				
1870-71				

And for the last four years as follows:—

1871-72	...	...	1,893,322	1,081,097
1872-73	...	...	2,231,578	1,256,356
1873-74	...	...	2,223,917	1,143,744
1874-75	...	...	1,656,015	766,462

Thus the trade has fallen below the point at which it stood fifteen years ago, and this is unfortunately not a temporary depression only, from which the trade might be expected to emerge with a new lease of life. The falling off commenced some years ago, but was interrupted by the serious outbreak of disease in an epidemic form amongst the silkworms of France and Italy. Indian silk then found again the markets which seemed to have been gradually closing up against it, but at the same time that Indian silk was sought for, other silk-producing countries were called upon for aid, and first China and then Japan entered into competition with our produce with formidable energy. China has always furnished Europe with considerable stocks of silk, and the supplies increased year after year as the silkworm disease spread in Europe. Japan was a comparatively new source of supply, but the Japanese, once their

ports were opened to foreigners for commercial intercourse, shewed themselves to be quite capable of profiting by circumstances, and with at least as much intelligence and acuteness as the Chinese. And at the same time that these countries enormously increased their exports of silk, they also supplied fresh seed with which to replenish the worn-out stocks of European breeders. Disease now no longer exists in an epidemic form in Europe, and recent silk harvests in France and Italy have been amongst the finest ever known, while every steamer from China and Japan carries to the ports of Europe large quantities of raw silk for manufacturers, and selected eggs for breeders. In 1874 four-fifths of the whole of the silk employed in Europe was of Italian and Chinese origin. China supplied no less than eight million pounds of silk, and Japan twelve hundred thousand. Bengal silk, inferior in quality, unfit for employment in the manufacture of the finer kinds of goods, and not liked by manufacturers because defects resulting from careless reeling (in silk of native manufacture at any rate) make it comparatively difficult to work, was unable to hold its own, and prices fell to a very low point. Here another obstacle to the progress of the trade presented itself, for native dealers could not be convinced that in existing circumstances better rates could not be expected, and that they must be content with such prices as they could get. They persisted in holding their stocks, hoping for a better market, until business became next to impossible, the result being of course finally all to their own disadvantage and to the advantage of foreign silks. At the present time the trade is at a low ebb, and serious distress exists in many of the silk-producing districts in Bengal amongst the classes which have hitherto gained their living by the industry. So depressed is the trade that recently in Calcutta some large lots of Surdah silk, mostly the produce of European filatures, having found no buyers by private sale, were put up for public sale unreservedly to the highest bidders. The prices realised were extremely low. This circumstance is, it is believed, unprecedented in the silk trade in the Calcutta market.

The exports during the year consisted of lbs. 1,009,705 to the United Kingdom, lbs. 450,258 to France, and lbs. 177,156 to the Mediterranean Ports, with small quantities to some other countries. The exports to these three important consuming centres shew a serious diminution on the trade of the previous year.

Silk manufac-  
tures.

165. These chiefly consist of the printed silk piece-goods called "corahs" and "bandannas," and to a more limited extent of tussler fabrics. The total value of the exports during the year was £231,988 against £222,755 in 1873-74, and £186,025 in 1872-73. This trade seems to be increasing, and is, so far, a compensation for the loss of the trade in raw silk. But its extent compared to that of raw silk is very limited. Bengal represents £174,036 and Bombay £45,747 of the whole trade. The largest customer for these goods is the United Kingdom. France also takes a certain quantity, and the remainder is distributed in various proportions between the Straits, Ceylon, Aden, the Persian Gulf, the Coast of Africa, and other countries, where Arabs, Persians, Negroes, and Malays are partial to bright-coloured silks to wrap round their heads and waists.

Stone (jade).

166. Jadestone is exported from Burma, being brought down from the independent part of that country. It is sent to the Straits, where it is made up into vases, cups, ornaments, &c., for the Chinese and others, and is also re-exported in the raw condition to China, there to be manufactured. A very small quantity is obtained from Burma by Madras and thence re-exported to Ceylon. The trade last year amounted to cwt. 5,153, valued at £80,236, against cwt. 2,495, worth £50,232, in 1873-74. The trade does not possess any features requiring particular notice.

Sugar and other  
saccharine pro-  
duce.

167. The trade in Indian sugar varies a good deal from time to time according to the outturn of the crops, and the quantity available for export, and also the demand in the European market, which is regulated by the abundance or otherwise of supplies from other sources, *e. g.*, the West Indies and Mauritius. The figures for 1874-75 and the five previous years are appended:—

				Cwt.	£
1869-70	...	...	...	346,295	276,946
1870-71	...	...	...	307,144	244,031

			Cwt.	£
1871-72	...	...	372,897	288,048
1872-73	...	...	630,938	492,743
1873-74	...	...	294,18	227,823
1874-75	...	...	498,054	319,238

During the year the trade in Bengal sugar amounted to cwt. 106,851, worth £101,424, against cwt. 135,746, worth £132,806, in 1873-74. Exports from Madras, on the other hand, increased from cwt. 138,867, worth £71,109, to cwt. 370,600, worth £193,731. The Madras Board of Revenue attribute the diminution of the trade in 1873-74 to a falling off in the demand of the English market for Indian sugar. The demand would seem to have revived, and with it an activity in the exports. In 1872-73 the United Kingdom took cwt. 575,867 of Indian sugar; in 1873-74 only cwt. 241,789; and in 1874-75 cwt. 444,830. The other most important centres of consumption for our sugar are Ceylon, and the coasts of the Red Sea and Persian Gulf, with Aden.

168. According to the latest returns we possess, there were, at the date of Tea those returns, about 488,000 acres of land under tea in India, viz. :—

			Acres.
In Assam and Bengal	...	...	457,026
In the North-Western Provinces	...	...	17,200
In the Punjab	...	...	9,805
In Madras	...	...	(over) 3,640

But these figures are not of quite recent date, and the extension of cultivation since they were obtained requires that some addition should be made to them. There are certainly not less than half a million acres under tea in India at the present date, and probably the area exceeds that figure. Of the tea produced in Assam and Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab, all that portion which is meant for shipment is with but slight exception brought down to Calcutta and shipped from that port.

The continued and steady progress of the trade in tea is most satisfactory. The figures, which are only available from 1861-62, are appended :—

		lbs.	£
1861-62	...	1,473,270	130,283
1862-63	...	2,253,773	178,128
1863-64	...	2,920,232	220,282
1864-65	...	3,457,430	280,284
1865-66	...	2,758,187	275,055
1866-67 (11 months)	...	6,387,088	340,572
1867-68	...	7,811,429	686,928
1868-69	...	11,480,213	951,376
1869-70	...	12,754,022	1,037,883
1870-71	...	13,232,232	1,120,517
1871-72	...	17,187,328	1,454,984
1872-73	...	17,789,911	1,577,691
1873-74	...	19,324,235	1,742,925
1874-75	...	21,137,087	1,937,429

The trade has thus expanded year after year without interruption, and it will no doubt continue to develop. Tea now constitutes one of the most prosperous industries of the country.

Of the total quantity exported, all but 77,452 lbs. was sent to England, which country takes our tea in constantly increasing quantities, while the imports from China, if they are not declining, are very nearly stationary. In 1869 the proportion of Chinese to Indian tea imported into England was more than 11 to 1. In the first ten months of the current year it has been little more than 6 to 1. The small balance left over after the wants of the United Kingdom were supplied, was sent to various countries, Australia and the Straits taking the largest share. The former country however derives the bulk of her supply of tea direct from China.

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*to be paid.*

## Tobacco.

169. Indian tobacco is at length beginning to make some figure as an article of export. The plant is largely cultivated in most parts of India, but no attention having been given to the development of its inherent good qualities, the product has been of a coarse, rank kind reckoned unfit for exportation. Up to within the last three years very little tobacco indeed was exported, and most of the exports went to Mauritius for the Indian cooly population of that island. Very small quantities were sent to Europe, mainly to Germany. In 1872-73, however, a sudden demand arose, the result, it is said, of a trial shipment, and the trade since then has grown apace. The value of the tobacco exported for 1874-75 and the five previous years was :—

	Unmanufactured.	Manufactured : Cigars.	Other sorts.	
	lbs.	No.	lbs.	£
1869-70 ...	4,017,578*	...	...	58,431
1870-71 ...	4,232,228*	1,342,200	...	61,307
1871-72 ...	4,167,744	306,300	1,055,488	78,275
1872-73 ...	17,135,552	405,385	248,640	134,331
1873-74 ...	19,870,480	1,111,128	355,824	165,275
1874-75 ...	33,411,504	2,993,940	425,040	228,201

The bulk of the tobacco is exported from Bengal, the value of the tobacco sent from this Province to foreign countries for the last five years having been in 1870-71 £12,083 ; in 1871-72, £9,943 ; in 1872-73, £74,087 ; in 1873-74, £94,642 ; in 1874-75, £180,871. These figures indicate how rapidly the foreign trade in Bengal tobacco has developed since 1872-73. The tobacco is brought to Calcutta chiefly from the districts of Rungpore and Tirhoot, where it is extensively grown, and though still of very poor quality finds ready and profitable sale for the markets of Europe. From Bombay the exports during the year were valued at £30,099 and from Madras at £14,742. From Burma and Sind the exports are insignificant. Burma is a fine country for tobacco, and yet does not produce enough for home consumption, having to import the leaf from Bengal and Madras.

The value of the exports to the United Kingdom advanced from £33,646 in 1873-74 to £101,187 in the year of report ; to France from £8,974 to £10,294 ; to the Mediterranean Ports from £21,718 to £38,808 (largely for Italy) ; exports to Gibraltar nearly doubled, having advanced from £14,573 to £27,780. The imports of tobacco into this place are, it seems, for contraband purposes. The large quantities sent thither from India and other countries are far in excess of the requirements of the population of the possession (from America, for instance, in 1874 tobacco to the value of nearly 810,000 dollars was sent to Gibraltar), and it is not, as far as can be ascertained, an entrepôt for legitimate commerce in this article. The Spanish authorities, whose fiscal restrictions on tobacco are exceptionally severe (and exceptionally ill-judged), have remonstrated against the systematic smuggling which is carried on from Gibraltar, and recently British and French vessels laden with tobacco and other merchandise were seized by them on the ground that the goods were contraband. The trade with Aden and the Red Sea fell off in value from £55,011 to £29,434. The other countries which consume Indian tobacco are Mauritius, Ceylon, and the Straits, and some others in small quantities.

170. If proper attention is given to the cultivation of tobacco in India, an extensive and highly profitable industry may undoubtedly be created, adding considerably to the wealth of the country. There are many parts of India where tobacco can be produced quite as good as the best grown in Manila, and if cured under skilled supervision, our manufactured tobacco will bear comparison with any produced elsewhere (except the finer kinds of Havana tobacco). What is required is that the business of cultivation and manufacture should be taken up, like tea and coffee and indigo, by European capitalists. Native cultivators, as a rule, are too poor to practise the high cultivation which tobacco requires, and, besides, their standard of good tobacco is radically different from that of Europeans. It seems that there is a prospect of the introduction of

\* Includes manufactured tobacco.

European enterprise into this industry in Bengal, for two firms in Calcutta have taken it up and a company has also been started in London for the growth and preparation of tobacco. Excellent tobacco was recently produced by one of the two Calcutta firms. In Madras Europeans are now engaged in the same business and their manufactures are much esteemed by Anglo-Indians.

171. Nearly all the teak exported from India is Burmese timber shipped from Wood : Teak Burma. The trade for 1874-75 and the five previous years was as follows :—

				Tons.	£
1869-70	...	...	...	19,831	134,481
1870-71	...	...	...	32,632	228,727
1871-72	...	...	...	42,459	291,280
1872-73	...	...	...	50,443	356,386
1873-74	...	...	...	51,124	381,293
1874-75	...	...	...	42,868	328,564

The decrease, it is believed, is to be attributed to the scarcity of mature timber in the Moulmein forests within easy distance of the coast. Some Burmese foresters have in fact, it is said, crossed the frontier into the Siamese forests, those in British territory not affording sufficient remuneration for their labour. The Commissioner of Tenasserim has made the following remarks on this subject : “ \* \* \* Our timber trade which, by care in reproduction within our own provinces, might, with the supply we get from foreign States, have gone on flourishing for years, will now, I fear, gradually shew a decrease. The quality of timber already shews a marked deterioration as compared with former years : gradually the number of logs will decrease.” (Report on the Trade and Customs of British Burma, 1874-75.) Of the total quantity exported 42,210 tons were sent from Burma and 37,952 tons were taken by the United Kingdom. Mauritius took 1,495 tons, Africa (Cape Colony mostly) 1,663 tons, the Red Sea 577 tons, Gibraltar 613 tons, Ceylon 380 tons, the Straits 102 tons, Aden 66 tons, and other countries 20 tons.

The other kinds of wood exported are of no importance and require no special notice.

172. Wool (raw) is exported almost entirely from Bombay and Sind. Wool (raw). The exports in 1874-75 and the five previous years were :—

				lbs.	£
1869-70	...	...	...	13,117,904	465,238
1870-71	...	...	...	19,185,039	661,653
1871-72	...	...	...	24,122,562	902,900
1872-73	...	...	...	20,394,718	838,042
1873-74	...	...	...	20,333,372	938,336
1874-75	...	...	...	21,290,782	959,901



Indian wool is exported exclusively to Europe, the great bulk of the exports going to the United Kingdom, which took 21,065,326 lbs. in the year of report. France took 178,864 lbs. and the Mediterranean Ports 46,592 lbs.

173. The trade in shawls is not in a flourishing condition. The demand for France, which was the largest consumer of Kashmir shawls, was almost extinguished by the war of 1870-71, and a revival of the trade has been prevented by a change in fashion which has cast shawl-weavers in this country into distress analogous to that into which the ribbon-makers of Coventry fell some years ago for the same reason. So gloomy are the prospects of the shawl trade in Kashmir, that the ruler of that State is endeavouring to develop the production and manufacture of silk in his territories to compensate for the loss of revenue occasioned by the decline in the sale of shawls. The weavers of Amritsar, too, where the industry was in a flourishing condition some years ago, are in a bad way. The value of the exports in late years is as follows :—

				£
1868-69	...	...	...	295,862
1869-70	...	...	...	230,596

Woollen goods :  
Shawls.

In the next year the trade was freed from duty, but without any effect, the war having commenced and stopped business:—

	£
1870-71 ... ..	135,026
1871-72 ... ..	167,719

The next year (1872-73) saw a large revival of trade following on the conclusion of peace. Exports were valued at £312,545, but they caused heavy losses, stocks being unsaleable by reason of the caprice of fashion, and the figures fell rapidly to £199,737 in 1873-74 and £166,979 in 1874-75. The decrease is largely in the value of the trade with France, which fell from £192,069 in 1872-73 to £113,068 in 1873-74, and £94,954 in 1874-75. The trade with the United Kingdom also has fallen off considerably. The figures are: 1872-73, £79,613; 1873-74, £47,892; 1874-75, £48,951. In every case the average value of each shawl shews an enormous falling off as compared with the quantities, indicating a decline in the value of Kashmir shawls as well as the substitution for them of the cheaper woollen shawls known in this country as Rampur chadars. Besides being cheaper, many think these shawls superior in appearance to the shawls of Kashmir, and hence their popularity with the wearers of shawls.

Other kinds.

Of other kinds of woollen goods the trade is increasing in value, but is still so small as to require no special notice.

#### DUTIABLE EXPORTS.

Cotton goods :  
Twist and yarn.

174. The exports of Indian-made twist and yarn are steadily increasing year by year. The annual value for the last five years is as follows:—

	£		£
1870-71 ... ..	63,329	1872-73 ... ..	97,492
1871-72 ... ..	90,975	1873-74 ... ..	128,386
	1874-75 ... ..		£147,562

This steady increase is almost entirely in the manufactures of the Bombay mills, the export from Bombay representing £146,003 of the total value of the year's trade. The chief consumers are China (£83,671), Aden (£49,564), the coasts of the Red Sea and Persian Gulf (£11,181), the rest going in small quantities to other neighbouring countries.

Piece-goods.

175. In piece-goods also a large trade is done. The exports for the last five years were:—

	£		£
1870-71 ... ..	254,237	1872-73 ... ..	305,003
1871-72 ... ..	272,159	1873-74 ... ..	384,937
	1874-75 ... ..		£353,822

The decrease in the year of report was chiefly in the trade from Bombay to Aden, which fell off owing, according to the Commissioner of Customs at Bombay, to large direct importations from America to Aden. That officer adds that the Bombay mills have large stocks undisposed of. Madras exported during the year more cotton goods than Bombay, and the value was largely in excess of the Bombay goods, shewing that the quality of the cloths was much superior. Most of the Madras country cloths, which are woven in hand-looms, are sent to Ceylon and the Straits. These two countries took cloth during the year to the value of £118,505 and £69,541 respectively. Exports to Aden amounted to £67,106, to the Red Sea £26,376, and the Persian Gulf £22,751. The United Kingdom took Indian cotton cloth to the value of £31,603 against £64,754 in 1873-74, shewing a large reduction in the trade during the year.

Manufacture of  
cotton in India.

176. The great advance made of late years in the local manufacture of cotton is deserving of particular attention.

There were in Bombay at the end of the official year 1874-75 40 mills for the spinning and weaving of cotton, employing about 886,098 spindles and 8,537 looms. There are four in Calcutta, two in the North-Western Provinces,

one at Nagpore, and another at Indore (the property of the Maharajah Holkar, worked under European supervision), while others are being formed elsewhere. The mills now at work probably employ not less than a million spindles and 10,000 looms, and there can be no question that, in regard at any rate to the coarser qualities of cloth, they form the nucleus of a formidable competition with the mills of Lancashire, for their goods are not sized to such an extent as English goods, and they are liked by native consumers on the ground of quality and price. A novel feature in the market of Calcutta presented itself a few months ago in the importation of Bombay-made cotton cloths which found favour with buyers in Calcutta. The manufactures of these mills are now, as will be seen from the figures given above, being exported in increasing quantities to neighbouring countries hitherto supplied with English goods re-exported from Bombay, and in India itself there is a very large and increasing outlet for these goods.

177. The quantity of indigo exported year after year is largely dependent on the crops, the outturn of which is always very uncertain, but the value fluctuates according to the needs of the European markets and the abundance or otherwise of supplies from Southern America, as well as the quality of the dye produced in India. The exports for 1873-74 and 1874-75 and the five years previous are given below:—

			Cwt.	£
1868-69	...	...	99,206	2,893,823
1869-70	...	...	98,085	3,178,045
1870-71	...	...	103,184	3,192,503
1871-72	...	...	115,414	3,687,762
1872-73	...	...	115,312	3,426,824
Average of 5 years	...	...	106,240	3,275,791
1873-74	...	...	115,980	3,555,300
1874-75	...	...	81,466	2,576,302

The falling off in the exports of last year followed on one of the shortest crops ever known in Bengal, which province is the chief seat of the indigo industry. Exports from Madras were also much below those of last year.

Exports to all the principal consuming countries fell off very materially as compared with the exports of 1873-74. To the United Kingdom from 83,612 cwt. to 57,592 cwt.; France from 10,525 cwt. to 8,670 cwt.; the Mediterranean Ports from 8,432 cwt. to 7,130 cwt.; America from 5,334 cwt. to 2,435 cwt.; the Persian Gulf from 6,561 cwt. to 3,152 cwt. The trade to Russia on the other hand increased from 955 cwt. to 1,776 cwt., shewing a great increase not only on the exports of 1873-74 but on those of 1872-73, which amounted to only 261 cwt. A direct trade with Russia has only commenced within the last three years.

178. "Gram" is the common name applied to the grain of two pulses, *Dolichos-uniflorus* and *Cicer arietinum*, the former of which is extensively cultivated in Madras and the latter in Bengal and Northern India. The exports of this grain seem to be increasing, the chief consumption being in Mauritius and Réunion for the coolies there, in Ceylon, and the Straits. The Mediterranean ports also took a not inconsiderable quantity (2,237 cwt.) during the year. It seems that gram is eaten by the lower classes of Southern Europe as it is in India by the natives. Europeans here feed their horses with it. Madras and Bengal export the largest quantities. The exports for the last five years from all India have been:—

			Cwt.	£
1870-71	...	...	23,171	9,490
1871-72	...	...	142,492	42,323
1872-73	...	...	291,400	80,344
1873-74	...	...	270,218	86,500
1874-75	...	...	322,661	112,919

179. Rice (including paddy or rice in the husk) constitutes the main staple of British Burma, which province exported during the year nearly 61 per cent.



of the total exports from India. The following figures represent the extent of the total trade for the last seven years :—

Year.	Rice (unhusked).	Rice (husked).	Total.	Value.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	£
1868-69 ... ..	325,860	15,051,211	15,377,071	4,283,965
1869-70 ... ..	332,449	10,282,195	10,614,644	3,087,615
1870-71 ... ..	295,791	15,792,022	16,087,813	4,203,850
1871-72 ... ..	320,395	16,990,890	17,311,285	4,499,161
1872-73 ... ..	320,159	22,973,797	23,293,956	5,761,030
Average of 5 years ...	318,931	16,218,023	16,536,954	4,367,124
1873-74 ... ..	440,201	19,805,184	20,245,385	5,549,797
1874-75 ... ..	452,296	16,940,642	17,392,938	4,765,334

The extent of the exports from British Burma and the expansion of the trade will be seen from the following figures for the same period :—

Year.	Rice (unhusked).	Rice (husked).	Total.	Value.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	£
1868-69 ... ..	42,039	7,979,602	8,021,641	1,881,844
1869-70 ... ..	66,552	5,072,206	5,138,758	1,238,038
1870-71 ... ..	49,977	8,179,813	8,229,790	1,886,866
1871-72 ... ..	38,874	9,231,424	9,270,298	1,995,006
1872-73 ... ..	37,021	13,629,028	13,666,049	2,854,254
Average of 5 years ...	46,893	8,818,414	8,865,307	1,971,202
1873-74 ... ..	51,205	12,193,256	12,244,461	2,705,142
1874-75 ... ..	100,484	10,491,895	10,592,379	2,295,003

The decrease in the exports of 1873-74 to foreign ports was caused by the diversion of large quantities from Madras and Burma to Bengal for the supply of the population of the distressed districts. The greatest part of the decrease in 1874-75 was caused, first by the early exportation from Burma to Bengal within the last two months of 1873-74 of a portion of the crop which would under other circumstances have been held over until the commencement of the year of report for exportation to foreign countries, and secondly, to the reluctance of the Burmese cultivators later on in the year to sell at the low prices, compared with those which had ruled during the previous year, offered by merchants. Considerable quantities were held back in the districts on this account and not brought to market at all up to the end of the year of report. The demand in the European market was also slack. In Bengal very little business was done with European countries during the greater part of the year, local prices ranging above the level of those current at home. Exports accordingly fell off a good deal. The United Kingdom, which took cwt. 11,882,560 in 1873-74 took no more than cwt. 9,986,739 in 1874-75, a reduction of cwt. 1,895,821. Exports to the West Indies fell from cwt. 728,770 to cwt. 213,805. The shipments to Mauritius (an important centre of consumption) increased from cwt. 1,047,732 to cwt. 1,475,205. Exports to Réunion, Africa, the Red Sea and Aden also largely increased. To Ceylon exports decreased from cwt. 3,931,245 to cwt. 2,741,831, and to the Straits from cwt. 1,056,757 to cwt. 893,580. There were other fluctuations, but these were the most important. On the whole 1874-75 was a bad year for the trade in rice with foreign countries, as compared with the trade of the two previous years.

180. The trade in other sorts of grain increased from £84,441 to £118,465. Other sorts. This trade is chiefly with Mauritius and Ceylon.

181. The value of the trade for the last five years was—

			£				£	Hides and skins (dressed or tanned).
1870-71	...	...	378,500		1872-73	...	697,921	
1871-72	...	...	514,516		1873-74	...	634,663	
			1874-75	...	...	505,312		

Madras is the chief seat of this trade, and the exports are principally sent to the United Kingdom, America and the Straits.

182. There has been great activity in the trade in this article for some time, the demand having steadily exceeded the supply. The exports for the last seven years are as follow:—

	Cwt.	£
1868-69	43,746	116,587
1869-70	45,532	127,495
1870-71	40,222	112,613
1871-72	57,952	162,191
1872-73	50,762	142,226
1873-74	65,769	184,149
1874-75	67,705	189,564

The values here recorded are the tariff values which, until the revision of the tariff in August, were much below the real value of the exports, average prices having increased enormously within the last two years. The increase of the trade must be measured by the quantities exported. The value of the shell-lac exported last year was probably not less than £250,000 at the lowest estimate. Calcutta is the centre of the lac trade, all the lac produced in Assam, Bengal, the Central Provinces and Burma being brought thither for shipment. Measures are now being taken both in Burma and the Central Provinces to increase the production of lac in the State forests, the only obstacle to a great increase in the trade being the scarcity of the raw material. India has hitherto had the almost undisputed monopoly of lac, but the excessively high prices which have recently ruled have had the effect of stimulating the shipment of lac from Siam, and the exports from that country are now beginning sensibly to compete with Indian lac. Siamese lac is said to be superior in quality to most of the lac produced in India. The principal countries of consumption are the United Kingdom, France, the Mediterranean Ports and America.

183. The oils exported from India are divided into the various classes of animal, essential, mineral, and vegetable (non-essential). Of these the last class constitutes the great bulk, and is the only one requiring separate notice. The exports of this class for the last five years were:—

	Gallons.	£
1870-71	1,153,155	143,121
1871-72	2,733,162	350,133
1872-73	2,235,907	297,081
1873-74	1,972,697	232,511
1874-75	2,724,323	322,285

The oils are mainly linseed, cocoanut, teel or gingelly oil, and rape (or colza) oil. The principal countries to which they were sent during the year were the United Kingdom (the quantity exported to that country having increased from 1,056,793 gallons in 1873-74 to 1,662,453 gallons in 1874-75), Australia, Mauritius, the Persian Gulf and the Straits, the trade with all these shewing material increase. Of the total quantity exported 1,754,170 gallons were shipped from Bengal, 677,217 from Madras, 203,171 from Bombay, 82,598 from Sind, and only 7,167 from Burma.

184. Closely connected with oils are oilseeds. Of these the most important are linseed, poppy seed, rape or colza seed, and teel or gingelly seed. The total value of all seeds exported during the year was £3,235,947, shewing an increase of nearly £875,000 over the exports of the previous year, which were worth £2,361,423, the value for the four previous years having been:—

			£				£
1869-70	...	...	2,308,942		1871-72	...	2,728,127
1870-71	...	...	3,522,305		1872-73	...	1,508,241

The trade is very uncertain, and sometimes leaves large losses, cargoes heating on the voyage and the seeds arriving at their destination lumped together in great masses wholly unfit for useful purposes. The prospects of the trade from 1871-72 to 1873-74 were not cheering, and in 1872-73 merchants were greatly discouraged, the exports having fallen off to less than half what they were in 1870-71, in consequence of a general failure of the seed crop in Bengal and other causes. The trade, however, shews a return of vitality, and with the removal of the export duty in August, a steady and profitable business may perhaps be expected. The largest portion of the trade falls to the share of Bengal, from which province the exports in 1874-75 amounted to £1,947,481 against £1,404,487 in 1873-74, an increase of more than half a million sterling in the year, but still below the point reached in some previous years. From Bombay the exports were worth £577,265 against £382,190 in 1873-74. Exports from Sind also shew a large increase, having advanced from £181,113 to £290,966. The exports from Madras advanced from £393,526 to £420,166. Burma is not a seed-exporting province. The principal consumers are the United Kingdom and the United States, which during the year took Indian oilseeds to the value of £1,368,279 and £1,011,747, the exports to both countries shewing a large increase over those of 1873-74. Exports to the Mediterranean ports (£70,773), Ceylon (£19,491), the Straits (£12,875), and to other countries in smaller proportion, account for the remainder.

Linseed.

The kind exported in greatest bulk is linseed, of which 3,595,798 cwt., worth £1,797,929, were shipped in 1874-75 against 2,820,315 cwt., worth £1,410,157, in 1873-74. Bengal exports and the United States take the largest share of this seed, exports to that country having amounted to 2,019,398 cwt., valued at £1,009,723, in the year of report. The seed is in great request in America for the manufacture of oil to be used in the preparation of paints and varnishes for the wooden houses which in many States constitute the great majority of dwellings. India has now to compete with the Western States of the Union in which the cultivation of oilseeds is extensively undertaken. Exports to the United Kingdom were 1,565,364 cwt., valued at £782,681.

Although the flax plant is extensively cultivated in India, it is grown only for the seed, and no attempt is made to utilize the fibre.

Teel or Gingelly.

Teel or gingelly seed (*Sesamum indicum* and *S. orientale*), is also an important item under the heading of oilseeds. Exports in the year were 1,203,222 cwt., valued at £722,892, against 908,430 cwt., worth £544,918, in 1873-74. Of this kind Madras exports most, the value of the exports from that province having been £340,475 in the year. France takes the great bulk of this crop (exports thither in 1874-75 were 1,081,715 cwt., worth £648,968).

Rape.

The exports of rapeseed, amounting in 1874-75, to 827,430 cwt., worth £372,343, are divided between Bengal and Sind. The exports from Bengal shew a great rebound from the depression of 1873-74, having more than quadrupled. Exports from Sind also shew a satisfactory increase. The bulk of the exports of rapeseed is taken by the United Kingdom (798,499 cwt., worth £359,324).

Poppysseed.

Of poppyseed also the United Kingdom takes the greatest share, *viz.*, 286,390 cwt., worth £157,513. France took 115,728 cwt., valued at £63,649. The export trade is almost entirely confined to Bengal, only a very small quantity being shipped from Bombay.

Mustard and other kinds of seed are exported in comparatively small quantities and require no special notice.

Spices.

185. Under dutiable spices are (or rather were until last August, when they were all freed), cassia, pepper, ginger, cardamoms, chillies, &c. The total value of the exports was £183,309 against £226,241 in 1873-74. The trade fluctuates a good deal, as will be seen from the figures for the last five years:—

				£					£
1869-70	...	...	...	170,281	1872-73	...	...	...	154,025
1870-71	...	...	...	201,082	1873-74	...	...	...	226,241
1871-72	...	...	...	284,660	1874-75	...	...	...	183,307

Exports to the United Kingdom amounted to £62,569; to France £39,038; to Ceylon £17,019; to Persia £13,169. The remainder was sent in small quantities to various other countries.

## SECTION IV.

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF COIN AND BULLION.

186. The great extent to which the precious metals are absorbed and mostly withdrawn from circulation by India is shewn by the figures in the table below, which commence with the year 1846-47, when the returns first distinguish the value of gold and silver separately. During these twenty-nine years (1846-47 to 1874-75) the total imports of gold amounted to £100,931,966 while the exports did not exceed £3,521,368, leaving a nett accession of gold to the country of £97,410,598.

During the same period the imports of silver amounted to £211,515,168, and the exports to £34,457,753, leaving a nett balance of silver in India of £177,057,415.

In the eleven years previous to this period, *viz.*, from 1835-36 to 1845-46, when gold and silver are not separately distinguished in the returns, the imports of both metals combined amounted to £31,256,881, and the exports to £5,802,147, the nett balance of both left in the country being £25,454,734.

In these forty years, therefore, India has absorbed three hundred millions sterling in gold and silver coin and bullion, of which most of the gold and a considerable proportion of the silver has been withdrawn from general circulation, having been either converted into ornaments or hoarded in the earth.

The imports and exports during the years 1846-47, 1847-48, and 1848-49, and the average annual imports and exports in quinquennial periods for the last twenty-five years previous to 1874-75, are appended:—

PERIOD.	GOLD.		SILVER.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1846-47 ... ..	852,839	5,890	2,087,082	708,833
1847-48 ... ..	1,048,778	9,662	922,185	1,416,376
1848-49 ... ..	1,401,748	52,830	2,798,628	2,484,724
1849-50 } to } 1853-54 } 1854-55 } to } 1858-59 } 1859-60 } to } 1863-64 } 1864-65 } to } 1868-69 } 1869-70 } to } 1873-74 } 1874-75 ... ..	1,214,690	60,361	3,573,288	939,897
	2,566,900	59,245	8,708,130	859,227
	5,905,578	16,040	11,185,935	1,004,154
	6,156,460	321,342	11,461,317	1,480,212
	3,264,246	190,469	5,002,422	1,404,151
	2,089,236	215,701	6,051,810	1,409,608

The largest imports of treasure were made during the period of the American war and the cotton famine in England, when in return for the increased production of Indian cotton streams of the precious metals poured into the country.

Government transactions have been included in all these figures; for to obtain a correct view of the part played by India in the absorption of gold and

silver, it is necessary to take all the imports and exports into account, whether the transactions are private or public. Government does not import either gold or silver, nor does it export gold. Its transactions are confined to the export of silver, and this ordinarily to a comparatively small extent. The total exports of silver, on account of Government during the last five years, do not exceed altogether £854,683.

Our largest imports of gold are from China, which sent us last year £1,083,584 against £812,651 in 1873-74. From the United Kingdom we received £454,621; from the Red Sea, £205,902; from Ceylon, £106,683. Imports from Australia have fallen off very much, having sunk to £50,376 from £174,520 in 1873-74, and £366,473 in 1872-73. Exports of gold to various countries fluctuate greatly every year. In the year of report the United Kingdom took £207,230, which was nearly all that was sent away from India.

Our largest imports of silver are from the United Kingdom, which sent us during the year £4,376,881 against £2,149,305 in 1873-74—a great increase, of which a considerable proportion consisted of German coin thrown on India in consequence of the adoption of a gold standard in Germany. China sent us £353,302—a great reduction on the imports of 1873-74, which amounted to £912,967. From Ceylon we received £322,686—a small increase on the imports of the previous year. The Persian Gulf and Red Sea, the Straits Settlements, Mauritius and France, sent us the bulk of the rest of the silver imported. Of that which was exported, Ceylon took £937,302; China, £102,536; the Persian Gulf, £113,897, of which £15,000 was on account of Government, and Mauritius £95,000, the remainder going in small quantities to other countries.

## SECTION V.

### CUSTOMS REVENUE.

187. The total gross customs revenue during the year amounted to—

	£
Duty on imports ... ..	4,380,333
Duty on exports ... ..	662,061
TOTAL ...	5,042,394

and the nett revenue to £4,946,886. The figures for the previous five years are—

YEAR.	Imports.*	Exports.*	TOTAL OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.	
			Gross.	Nett.
	£	£	£	£
1869-70 ... ..	4,206,536	480,191	4,686,727	4,580,175
1870-71 ... ..	4,296,563	640,322	4,936,885	4,837,061
1871-72 ... ..	4,129,155	687,717	4,816,872	4,736,623
1872-73 ... ..	4,177,102	798,975	4,976,077	4,858,708
1873-74 ... ..	4,161,716	724,072	4,885,788	4,796,217
Average of five years ...	4,194,214	666,255	4,860,469	4,761,756

188. The total revenue for 1874-75 has therefore exceeded the revenue of any of the previous five years. The revenue from import duties, shews an increase, while that from export duties has rather fallen off. The largest source of revenue in the articles of import is salt, the duty on which realised £2,570,790 against £2,485,920 in 1873-74. This sum in the financial accounts is not included under customs, but classed separately under "salt," with the revenue realised from the same article by the Inland Customs. Cotton goods realised £905,635 against £842,510 in 1873-74. The revenue from liquors increased from £266,387 to £287,241. The revenue from metals increased from £92,931 to £133,209. The duty on silk and silk goods increased from £81,855 to £92,270. In other articles there were various increases and decreases, but the duty in each case being of comparatively small amount, the fluctuations need not be separately enumerated. The articles mentioned above are the main sources of the revenue from import duties.

189. In the list of dutiable exports, rice stands first, the revenue from this source constituting much the largest part of the export duties. The realisations in 1874-75 were £454,154, shewing a great falling off on the returns of the two previous years, which were £617,497 and £529,686. The revenue from indigo fell from £47,290 to £33,351. The diminution in both cases was consequent on diminished exports. Seeds, on the other hand, with an increased export, produced a revenue of £98,473 against £72,601 in 1873-74. The revenue from seeds in 1870-71, before the depression in the trade set in, was £107,998, but the amount realised fluctuates much with the trade. This source of revenue has now been abandoned, seeds being henceforth free of duty. The increase of duty on Indian cotton goods is proportionate to the progress of exportation, but the total sum is still small, having amounted to only £16,382 in 1874-75 against £15,797 in 1873-74. The revenue from lac (all kinds) shews a decrease, having fallen from £10,334 to £9,495, consequent on the repeal of the duty on lac dye in November 1874.

190. Looking at the customs revenue provincially, we see Bengal at the head of the list with a return of £3,435,739 from imports, and £200,068 from

exports, shewing an increase over the previous year of £200,820 in imports, and a decrease of £18,781 in exports.

Bombay.

Bombay follows with a revenue of £633,343 from imports, and £49,769 from exports; the difference between the two provinces being that, whereas Bengal exports large quantities of dutiable articles, such as lac, indigo, seeds, rice, &c., the main staple of export from Bombay is cotton, which is free. In Bombay both import and export duties show a small increase.

Sind.

The total revenue realised in Sind was £22,825 on imports (a small decrease in the preceding year), and £17,252 on exports—a fair increase on 1873-74.

Madras.

The revenue of Madras was £172,123 on imports, being a decrease of £5,630 in 1873-74. Exports also fell off by £13,633, having amounted to £123,226.

British Burma.

The customs revenue of British Burma increased from £96,714 in 1873-74 to £116,302 in the year of report—a satisfactory increase. On the other hand, the export duties fell off from £314,803 to £271,746 consequent on the decrease in the export of rice.

Present tariff.

191. Under the tariff adopted on the 5th August 1875, the only articles of Indian produce now subject to duty on export are indigo, rice, and lac.

## SECTION VI.

## COASTING OR INTERPORTAL TRADE.

192. The interportal trade of British India should properly be classified in each Province under three heads, *viz.*, trade with—

- (1) British ports in other Provinces;
- (2) British ports within the Province;
- (3) Foreign Indian ports, whether in other Provinces or within the Province.

This is the classification adopted in the returns from the commencement of 1875-76; but the classification of previous years was defective, inasmuch as it omitted the trade from port to port within a province, and erroneous, inasmuch as owing to a misapprehension some local Governments did not clearly perceive what was wanted and rendered imperfect figures. Thus in Part II of the volume now under review, the figures of the coasting trade embrace only (1) trade from British Indian ports in one province to British Indian ports in another province, and (2) trade between British Indian and Foreign Indian ports, the trade from port to port (British) in the same province being omitted. To remedy this defect and obtain a complete view of the total trade (foreign as well as coasting) of every port in India, the forms contained in Part IV of the Annual Accounts of Trade and Navigation were devised, shewing the trade of each port with—

- (i) Foreign countries external to India;
- (ii) Ports in other Presidencies;
- (iii) Ports within the Presidency.

In compiling the review of the trade for each year hitherto it has been the practice to add to the figures in Part II those in Part IV under the head "with ports within the Presidency." This classification, however, was vague, for to arrive at a correct result the word "British" should have been prefixed to the words "with ports within the Presidency," the trade with Foreign Indian ports in the Presidency as well as in other Presidencies having already been shewn in Part IV. The result has been that part of the figures given in Part II have in previous reviews been taken twice over, once from Part II and again from Part IV. But a more serious error has occurred, for in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay the words "Ports within the Presidency" have been taken to mean *Foreign* ports within the Presidency, and consequently the trade between British Ports in the same Presidency has been wholly omitted for years past in these returns, so far as Bombay and Madras are concerned. As the figures of this trade amount to an extremely large sum, the whole of the calculations which have hitherto been based on the accepted returns of the coasting trade are worthless. The discovery of this error and the subsequent attempts made to obtain accurate statistics have been the cause of the delay in the issue of the Accounts of Trade for the year 1874-75. Under the precise classification now enforced it is impossible that any such mistakes can occur in future.

The tables in Part II have also been deficient in another respect. The figures for Foreign Indian ports entered against Bombay represented the trade of that province only with Goa, Damaun and Diu (Portuguese), and Pondicherry and Mahé (French), but did not include the trade with Cutch, Kattywar and Foreign Konkan, the local monthly returns having omitted this branch of the trade altogether, although it amounts in value to about two millions sterling annually. The annual volume published by the Government of Bombay, however, contains the figures of this trade.

The value of the trade between British ports within the province, for Madras and Bombay, for the year 1874-75, has been ascertained and inserted in the following statement which exhibits the total amount of the interportal trade for the past year.



## IMPORTS.

		Bengal.	Bombay.	Sind.	Madras.	British Bur- ma.	TOTAL.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
From British Ports in other Provinces.	Merchandise ...	2,432,368	2,593,576	1,807,746	1,858,597	1,949,820	10,142,107
	Treasure ...	692,644	1,405	22,909	368,179	631,384	1,616,581
From Foreign Indian ports.	Merchandise ...	4,040	107,034	7,052	47,939	100	166,165
	Treasure ...	.....	15	.....	1,535	.....	1,550
Total as shewn in Part II of the Imperial Vo- lume for 1874-75.	Merchandise ...	2,436,408	2,700,610	1,814,798	1,906,536	1,949,920	10,308,273
	Treasure ...	692,644	1,420	22,069	369,714	631,384	1,618,131
ADD—							
From Cutch, Kattywar and Foreign Konkan, as shewn in the Bom- bay Volume for 1874- 75.	Merchandise ...	.....	1,188,968	.....	.....	.....	1,188,968
	Treasure ...	.....	33,453	.....	.....	.....	33,453
From British ports with- in the province (taken from Part IV of the Imperial Volume).	Merchandise ...	897,165	6,405,120	111,837	1,851,818	556,148	9,822,089
	Treasure ...	64,960	281,770	800	217,255	246,702	810,987
TOTAL ...	Merchandise ...	3,333,573	10,294,698	1,426,635	3,768,354	2,506,068	21,819,328
	Treasure ...	657,604	816,643	23,269	586,969	878,086	2,462,571
Total Merchandise and Treasure ...		3,991,177	10,611,341	1,449,904	4,345,323	3,384,154	23,781,899

## EXPORTS.

		Bengal.	Bombay.	Sind.	Madras.	British Bur- ma.	TOTAL.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
To British ports in other provinces.	Merchandise ...	5,413,346	2,646,266	624,899	1,923,463	1,620,054	12,227,528
	Treasure ...	688,788	331,899	340	57,542	568,268	1,644,837
To Foreign Indian ports	Merchandise ...	5,460	82,678	69,932	212,998	12	371,078
	Treasure ...	.....	4,740	.....	16,790	.....	21,580
Total as shewn in Part II of the Imperi- al Volume for 1874-75.	Merchandise ...	5,418,806	2,728,944	694,331	2,136,450	1,620,066	12,598,008
	Treasure ...	688,788	336,639	340	74,332	568,268	1,606,307
ADD—							
To Cutch, Kattywar and Foreign Konkan as shewn in the Bombay Volume for 1874-75.	Merchandise ...	.....	680,074	.....	.....	.....	680,074
	Treasure ...	.....	178,373	.....	.....	.....	178,373
To British ports within the province (taken from Part IV of the Impe- rial Volume).	Merchandise ...	995,263	5,757,514	112,815	2,501,070	576,092	9,942,754
	Treasure ...	194,953	605,466	800	404,573	273,293	1,478,585
TOTAL ...	Merchandise ..	6,414,069	9,166,532	807,146	4,637,520	2,196,158	23,221,434
	Treasure ...	883,741	1,120,478	640	478,905	839,561	3,323,325
Total Merchandise and Treasure ...		7,297,810	10,287,010	807,786	5,116,434	3,035,719	26,544,759
Grand Total of Imports and Exports ...		11,288,987	20,898,351	2,257,690	9,461,757	6,419,873	50,320,658

193. The total of the interportal trade, it will be seen from the foregoing statement, amounts to over fifty millions of pounds sterling, the share of each of the three classes into which it has been divided being as follows:—

Trade from British Ports in one Province to	£
British Ports in other Provinces ... ..	25,631,053
Trade with Foreign Indian Ports ... ..	2,641,191
Trade between British Ports in each Province	22,054,414
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>50,326,658</b>

194. The trade was shared by each province in the following proportions:—

Bengal	...	...	22.43		Sind	...	...	4.49
Bombay	...	...	41.52		Madras	...	...	18.80
		British Burma	...	...				12.76

195. The principal articles comprising the coasting trade are: animals (living), apparel, coal, coffee, coir (raw and manufactured), cotton (raw), cotton twist and yarn, and cotton piece-goods, drugs and medicines, dyes, *viz.*, indigo and other kinds, fruits and vegetables, *viz.*, cocoanuts and other kinds, grain and pulse (gram, rice and paddy, wheat and other grains), gums and resins (cutch and gambier), hemp (raw and manufactured), hides and skins, jute (raw) and manufactures of jute (mostly gunny bags and cloths), lac of all kinds, wines and spirits, metals and manufactures of metals, oils (mineral and vegetable), provisions and oilman's stores, salt, seeds of all kinds, silk (raw and manufactured), spices (largely consisting of betelnuts), sugar and other saccharine produce, tobacco (raw and manufactured), wood (teak) and manufactures of wood, and wool (raw and manufactured).

Principal articles  
of trade.

196. The details of the coasting trade, as recorded in the accounts furnished to the Government of India, are so manifestly incomplete that it is unsafe to trust them or to base any general conclusions upon the published figures. It will be best to limit comment to a few important items exchanged inter-provincially, and shew for these the fluctuations from year to year for the last five years.

197. Of apparel the value of the exports has advanced from £105,391 in 1870-71 to £214,519 in 1874-75.

The figures for each year are as follow:—

1870-71 ... ..	£	105,391		1872-73 ... ..	£	130,311
1871-72 ... ..	114,861		1873-74 ... ..	176,476		
1874-75 ... ..	£214,519					

The increase in the trade is mainly in Bengal, whence apparel to the value of £134,168 was exported during the year, against £116,783 in 1873-74 and £71,969 in 1872-73. Exports from Bombay amounted to £65,626. These goods are sent to British Burma, Sind and Madras, Burma taking the largest share.

198. The export of coffee amounted in value to £95,859 against £50,794 in the previous year. The trade however is not very much above the point at which it stood in 1870-71. Madras is of course the largest exporter, almost monopolising the trade, the figures for that presidency standing at £93,147. Bombay takes much the largest share (£66,000) of Madras coffee, exporting a good deal of it to foreign ports.

199. The exports of this article indicate a prosperous trade:—

Coir.

1870-71 ... ..	£	63,212		1872-73 ... ..	£	85,915
1871-72 ... ..	60,296		1873-74 ... ..	88,497		
1874-75 ... ..	£103,901					

Of this trade too Madras practically possesses the monopoly, the exports from that presidency having been worth during the year £99,904. Bombay and Bengal take the largest share (£50,800 and £30,376 respectively).

Cotton (raw)

200. The value of the exports was :—

			£				£
1870-71	...	...	257,766		1872-73	...	211,629
1871-72	...	...	258,783		1873-74	...	234,698
		1874-75	...	...	...	£299,107	

The returns from the different provinces shew great fluctuations in the exports from each, the coasting trade no doubt rising or falling as prices for Indian cotton in the foreign markets fall or rise. British Burma, Sind, and Madras account for £109,960, £106,714 and £57,098 of the exports of the year; Bengal for £234,033 and Bombay £116,132 of the imports, the total value of which is given in the returns as £352,414 against less than £300,000 exported. Part of the discrepancy may of course be accounted for, in this as in other cases of the kind, where imports largely exceed exports, or the reverse, by the non-inclusion of exports from and imports into Foreign Indian ports, of which the Government of India has not as yet been able to obtain returns from the Foreign Administrations of these ports. But these omissions do not by any means account for the whole discrepancy. Thus, in the present case the returns prepared in Burma inform us that the value of the exports of raw cotton from that province to Bengal was £109,753 in 1874-75. On the other hand the Bengal returns state that the value of the raw cotton imported in the year from Burma was £141,406. Similar irreconcilable inconsistencies pervade the whole of the returns of the Indian coasting trade.

Cotton twist and yarn.

201. The chief exporters of twist and yarn are Bengal and Bombay, these two presidencies accounting for £365,252 and £278,901 respectively out of a total sum of £706,180. The total figures for the five years are :—

			£				£
1870-71	...	...	570,411		1872-73	...	662,609
1871-72	...	...	527,547		1873-74	...	689,554
		1874-75	...	...	...	£706,180	

These goods are sent in the greatest proportion to Madras and British Burma.

Cotton piece-goods.

202. The figures for cotton piece-goods do not shew such an increasing trade as those for twist and yarn indicate. But it is believed that increasing quantities of these goods are sent from province to province by railway. The annual value of the exports for the last five years was :—

			£				£
1870-71	...	...	1,879,800		1872-73	...	1,745,767
1871-72	...	...	1,885,573		1873-74	...	1,667,975
		1874-75	...	...	...	£1,716,783	

Exports from Bombay shew a material decrease :—

			£				£
1870-71	...	...	1,162,122		1872-73	...	1,032,660
1871-72	...	...	1,057,201		1873-74	...	962,283
		1874-75	...	...	...	£933,740	

But the decrease is probably more apparent than real, large quantities of cotton goods (both of Manchester and Indian make) now finding their way from Bombay to other parts of the country by rail and otherwise than by sea.

Exports from Bengal are tolerably steady :—

			£				£
1870-71	...	...	566,170		1872-73	...	539,164
1871-72	...	...	652,173		1873-74	...	538,581
		1874-75	...	...	...	£573,712	

Exports from Madras are not unimportant, having amounted to £172,976 during the year. The trade seems to be increasing. The largest importing province is Sind (£672,620), a material proportion of the imports no doubt finding its way out of India into the neighbouring countries across the Sind frontier. Madras follows with an import of £329,462 and Burma with £167,154.

203. The value of the cocoanuts exported during the last five years was :— Fruits and vegetables: Cocoanuts.

			£					£
1870-71	...	...	129,067		1872-73	...	...	329,721
1871-72	...	...	356,329		1873-74	...	...	300,982
			1874-75					£360,010

As with coir (the husk of the nuts), so with the nuts themselves, Madras has most of this trade, the value of the exports thence during the year having been £324,037. Bombay and Bengal take the largest share of these fruits.

204. The figures for the five years which represent the value of paddy Grain and pulse:  
Rice in the husk. exported coastwise are :—

			£					£
1870-71	...	...	81,385		1872-73	...	...	88,137
1871-72	...	...	85,269		1873-74	...	...	144,668
			1874-75					£186,775

The trade thus shews a considerable increase in the last two years, much of which is the result of an increased trade in Bombay and Sind. Madras is almost the sole importer of paddy. The largest exporters were Bombay (£98,586), British Burma (£49,128), and Sind (£31,942).

205. The trade in husked rice is very large :— Rice not in the husk.

			£					£
1870-71	...	...	1,396,217		1872-73	...	...	1,145,457
1871-72	...	...	1,403,610		1873-74	...	...	1,838,303
			1874-75					£1,522,644

The value of the export coasting trade in rice from Burma is shewn below :—

			£					£
1870-71	...	...	54,182		1872-73	...	...	36,404
1871-72	...	...	49,726		1873-74	...	...	1,109,694
			1874-75					£688,637

And on the other hand the Bengal trade has fallen off very largely :—

			£					£
1870-71	...	...	1,165,408		1872-73	...	...	897,156
1871-72	...	...	1,188,453		1873-74	...	...	418,234
			1874-75					£613,082

The rise in the one case and fall in the other are explained by the scarcity in Bengal in 1874, during the prevalence of which enormous quantities of rice were poured into the province from Burma, while comparatively but little Bengal rice was available for export. The value of the rice imported into Bengal in the five years was :—

			£					£
1870-71	...	...	1,460		1872-73	...	...	80
1871-72	...	...	552		1873-74	...	...	56,134
			1874-75					£919,821

During this last year, the value of the imports of Burma rice into Bengal was, according to the returns furnished by the Bengal authorities, £822,369, and according to the Burma returns £666,319. In ordinary years the import of Burmese rice into Bengal is insignificant, because (*firstly*) it is not wanted, and (*secondly*) the people do not like it. In addition to the large quantity of rice imported by private trade into Bengal, the Government imported during the year rice to the value of £907,147, *viz.*, £733,788 from Burma and £173,359 from Madras.

206. The value of the trade in hides and skins was :— Hides and skins.

			£					£
1870-71	...	...	120,332		1872-73	...	...	241,127
1871-72	...	...	141,319		1873-74	...	...	135,635
			1874-75					£155,043

Madras is the largest exporter, the trade of that province having amounted to £118,096 during 1874-75. The largest importer is Bengal.

Jute (raw).

207. The coasting trade in raw jute is falling off in proportion to the increase in the exports of manufactured jute, the development of jute-spinning by steam in Calcutta having made it more profitable for other provinces to import bags and cloths ready made than to work them up themselves from the raw material. The exports of raw jute, nearly all from Bengal, were for the five years :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	12,965		1872-73	...	...	107,212
1871-72	...	...	...	57,164		1873-74	...	...	27,010
				1874-75	...	...	...	£47,298	

The chief importer is Bombay.

Jute (manufactured).

208. The value of the exports of manufactured jute (also mainly from Bengal) is appended :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	360,759		1872-73	...	...	678,777
1871-72	...	...	...	536,223		1873-74	...	...	1,032,745
				1874-75	...	...	...	£1,249,846	

These figures indicate the large field there is in India itself for the productions of the Calcutta jute mills, over and above the foreign markets which they supply. The principal consumers are Bombay and British Burma, the former for the packing of cotton, seeds, and wheat, and the latter for the packing of rice.

Metals, and manufactures of metals.

209. The value of the trade is increasing steadily :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	423,910		1872-73	...	...	491,210
1871-72	...	...	...	433,072		1873-74	...	...	539,989
				1874-75	...	...	...	£637,750	

The principal exporters are Bengal and Bombay, and the importers are Madras, Sind, and Burma.

Oils, mineral.

210. This trade is increasing, as will be seen from the figures below :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	4,607		1872-73	...	...	40,153
1871-72	...	...	...	15,119		1873-74	...	...	39,936
				1874-75	...	...	...	£33,394	

The trade mainly consists of the export of petroleum from Rangoon to Calcutta.

Oils, vegetable.

211. This trade is steady. The exports last year amounted to £265,562 against £257,291 in 1870-71, with not very much fluctuation in the intervening period. The chief exporter is Madras, and the bulk of the oil is consumed in Bombay, Burma and Bengal, the first-mentioned presidency taking much the largest share.

Provisions and oilman's stores.

212. The value of the trade seems falling off, having amounted to £127,927 in the year against £140,942 in 1873-74 and £259,260 in 1870-71. The trade is divided in not very unequal proportion between Bengal, Bombay, Sind and Madras.

Salt.

213. The trade for the five years was :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	298,722		1872-73	...	...	436,650
1871-72	...	...	...	265,609		1873-74	...	...	331,218
				1874-75	...	...	...	£319,119	

According to the figures given by the Bombay Custom House, the salt exported during the year was sent to the value of £162,927 to the Madras Presidency, and to the value of £151,108 to Bengal. According to the returns from Madras the value of the salt imported during the year from Bombay was £85, and according to the figures furnished by the Calcutta Custom House the imports there were £59,646. The figures are quite irreconcilable, and strikingly illustrate the general worthlessness of the statistics of the coasting trade.

Silk (raw).

214. For raw silk the figures of export are :—

				£					£
1870-71	...	...	...	376,759		1872-73	...	...	324,703
1871-72	...	...	...	298,160		1873-74	...	...	259,869
				1874-75	...	...	...	£413,285	

The main seat of this trade is in Bengal, the figures for this province being :—

£				£			
1870-71	...	...	280,419	1872-73	...	...	303,334
1871-72	...	...	266,554	1873-74	...	...	241,564
		1874-75	...	...	...	...	£392,263

Most of the silk exported from Bengal is sent to Madras.

215. The coasting trade in manufactured silk is thriving, the value of the Silk manufac-  
tured. exports having advanced from £161,777 in 1870-71 to £323,938 in 1874-75. Bengal is the largest exporter of silk goods, Burma taking the great bulk of the exports.

216. This trade is also improving. The figures for the five years are :— Spices.

£				£			
1870-71	...	...	404,197	1872-73	...	...	428,735
1871-72	...	...	359,411	1873-74	...	...	485,241
		1874-75	...	...	...	...	£524,207

The exports of the year were shared by the different provinces as follows: Madras £235,195, Bengal £202,742, Bombay £75,437, Burma £10,528, the balance of £305 belonging to Sind. By far the largest proportion of the exports from Bengal consists of betelnuts sent to Burma, the people of that province, like all the Indo-Chinese communities, being addicted to the immoderate consumption of the nut.

217. The export of sugar and sugar-stuffs was greater in the year of Sugar and other  
saccharine pro-  
duce. report than in 1873-74 (£667,190 against £646,441) but less than in 1870-71, when the value of the trade was estimated at £698,770. Bengal is the largest exporter of sugar, and Bombay the largest importer.

218. The value of the trade in tobacco is as follows :—

£				£			
1870-71	...	...	188,298	1872-73	...	...	117,543
1871-72	...	...	158,878	1873-74	...	...	217,215
		1874-75	...	...	...	...	£188,657

Tobacco, raw and  
manufactured.

Of this last sum the exports from Bengal represent £115,820 and from Madras £62,867. Much the largest share of the exports is taken to Burma, where the leaf is either consumed by the population, or made up into cheroots to be returned to Bengal as "Burma cheroots." The soil and climate of British Burma are well adapted to the growth of excellent tobacco; but the leaf is so little grown that even much of the supply required for local consumption has to be imported from other provinces. Burma received during the year from Bengal £110,532 and from Madras £45,490 worth of tobacco.

219. Exports were valued at :—

£				£			
1870-71	...	...	186,109	1872-73	...	...	373,366
1871-72	...	...	266,189	1873-74	...	...	432,652
		1874-75	...	...	...	...	£483,504

Wood: Teak.

Teak is exported mainly from Burma, Madras also sending away a small quantity. Bengal takes most of this wood, which is used for construction and furniture.

220. The trade in raw wool is falling off :—

£				£			
1870-71	...	...	318,994	1872-73	...	...	516,048
1871-72	...	...	525,681	1873-74	...	...	349,884
		1874-75	...	...	...	...	£256,583

Wool (raw).

Sind possesses the monopoly of this trade, the exports from that province having been :—

£				£			
1870-71	...	...	318,434	1872-73	...	...	514,634
1871-72	...	...	525,290	1873-74	...	...	348,295
		1874-75	...	...	...	...	£255,568

Nearly all this wool goes to Bombay, whence a good deal is re-exported to foreign countries.

Coin and bullion. 221. The total movement of treasure (gold and silver) between the different provinces of India amounted in the year of report to—

Imports—						£
Private ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,618,131
Government	...	...	...	...	...	1,308,460
Exports—						
Private ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,666,367
Government	...	...	...	...	...	1,532,593

Nearly the whole of this money is interchanged by British Indian ports. Hardly any treasure is transmitted to or received from foreign ports in India, at any rate by sea.

## SECTION VII.

## SHIPPING.

## I.—FOREIGN INTERCOURSE.

222. The total number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared Total tonnage. at all ports in British India from and to foreign countries with cargoes and in ballast for the five years ending with 1874-75 is shewn below :—

					Vessels.	Tons.
1870-71	...	...	...	...	11,838	4,142,168
1871-72	...	...	...	...	12,539	4,645,997
1872-73	...	...	...	...	12,466	4,759,980
1873-74	...	...	...	...	12,739	4,647,410
1874-75	...	...	...	...	12,404	4,835,516

223. The entries and clearances of vessels with cargoes are as follow :—

					Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels with cargoes;
1870-71	...	...	...	...	8,644	3,541,617	
1871-72	...	...	...	...	9,129	4,021,378	
1872-73	...	...	...	...	9,137	3,996,102	
1873-74	...	...	...	...	9,158	3,902,327	
1874-75	...	...	...	...	8,768	4,074,256	

Thus, though the number of vessels was rather less in the year of report than in the three previous years, the aggregate tonnage was a good deal larger, pointing to the employment of vessels of a larger average size in the Indian carrying trade.

224. The following figures shew the share of each Province in the movement of shipping with cargoes for the last five years :—

					Vessels.	Tons.	Share of each province.
Bengal—							
1870-71	...	...	...	...	1,401	1,361,194	
1871-72	...	...	...	...	1,509	1,520,798	
1872-73	...	...	...	...	1,432	1,457,435	
1873-74	...	...	...	...	1,248	1,349,858	
1874-75	...	...	...	...	1,243	1,389,284	
Bombay—							
1870-71	...	...	...	...	1,615	915,854	
1871-72	...	...	...	...	1,619	1,046,072	
1872-73	...	...	...	...	1,476	926,278	
1873-74	...	...	...	...	1,553	945,930	
1874-75	...	...	...	...	1,608	1,074,086	
Sind—							
1870-71	...	...	...	...	479	82,854	
1871-72	...	...	...	...	472	85,208	
1872-73	...	...	...	...	410	76,696	
1873-74	...	...	...	...	488	116,269	
1874-75	...	...	...	...	528	122,668	
Madras—							
1870-71	...	...	...	...	4,287	721,388	
1871-72	...	...	...	...	4,425	802,441	
1872-73	...	...	...	...	4,547	778,550	
1873-74	...	...	...	...	4,765	833,967	
1874-75	...	...	...	...	4,458	875,789	



## British Burma—

	Vessels.	Tons.
1870-71 ... ..	862	460,327
1871-72 ... ..	1,104	566,859
1872-73 ... ..	1,272	757,143
1873-74 ... ..	1,104	656,303
1874-75 ... ..	931	612,429

**Nationalities:** 225. The proportion in which British bottoms were employed in 1874-75  
**British shipping;** was about 67·64 per cent. of the whole tonnage which entered and cleared from Indian waters; this proportion has not very materially varied during the last five years. The figures of British tonnage are—

	Vessels.	Tons.
1870-71 ... ..	3,242	2,882,248
1871-72 ... ..	4,044	3,317,043
1872-73 ... ..	3,600	3,266,880
1873-74 ... ..	3,317	3,135,130
1874-75 ... ..	3,382	3,271,104

**British-Indian shipping;** The number of vessels under the British-Indian registry has fallen off as compared with the previous year, but the tonnage is in excess of the previous years of the quinquennial period :—

	Vessels.	Tons.
1870-71 ... ..	7,048	645,305
1871-72 ... ..	6,882	665,213
1872-73 ... ..	6,868	639,618
1873-74 ... ..	7,230	698,982
1874-75 ... ..	6,879	683,627

**Foreign shipping;** The proportion of British-Indian tonnage employed in the foreign trade to all other tonnage was in 1874-75 about 14·14 per cent.

The remaining 18·22 per cent. of the aggregate tonnage consisted of foreign shipping, the figures of which for the past five years are as follow :—

	Vessels.	Tons.
1870-71 ... ..	1,548	614,615
1871-72 ... ..	1,613	663,741
1872-73 ... ..	1,998	853,452
1873-74 ... ..	2,192	813,298
1874-75 ... ..	2,143	880,785

**Detail of foreign shipping.** The nationalities chiefly represented in the foreign shipping entering at and clearing from British Indian ports are shewn in the following statement, in which the number of vessels and the aggregate tonnage are contrasted for 1873-74 and 1874-75 :—

1873-74.			1874-75.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Austrian... ..	54	46,489	57	54,672
French ... ..	344	175,143	375	192,373
German ... ..	88	66,904	76	64,726
Italian ... ..	290	181,222	254	177,598
Norwegian ... ..	55	37,607	107	81,413
Portuguese ... ..	21	4,309	21	2,974
Russian ... ..	22	14,377	29	23,012
Swedish ... ..	41	24,306	45	25,944
American ... ..	132	132,949	139	144,205
Arab ... ..	565	76,798	493	64,413

**Countries.** 226. 961 vessels (1,160,365 tons) entered from the United Kingdom and 1,133 (1,191,390 tons) cleared thither during the year. The movement between

India and other principal countries with which we have intercourse is shewn below:—

## BRITISH POSSESSIONS—

		Vessels.	Tons.
Aden ...	Entered ...	69	67,223
	Cleared ...	24	6,054
Total		93	73,277
Australia ...	Entered ...	50	53,062
	Cleared ...	19	18,644
Total		69	71,706
West Indies ...	Entered ...	3	2,732
	Cleared ...	20	18,370
Total		23	21,102
Ceylon ...	Entered ...	3,633	399,244
	Cleared ...	3,219	322,067
Total		6,852	721,311
Cape of Good Hope	Entered ...	48	26,924
	Cleared ...	13	8,290
Total		61	35,214
Hong-Kong ...	Entered ...	23	23,053
	Cleared ...	35	38,577
Total		58	61,630
Mauritius ...	Entered ...	149	101,540
	Cleared ...	157	97,415
Total		306	198,955
Nicobars ...	Entered ...	Nil	Nil
	Cleared ...	5	1,521
Total		5	1,521
Straits ...	Entered ...	192	119,449
	Cleared ...	206	114,400
Total		398	233,849
Other British Possessions	Entered ...	8	7,551
	Cleared ...	10	6,516
Total		18	14,067

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES—

Denmark ...	Entered ...	3	1,895
	Cleared ...	Nil	Nil
Total		3	1,895

FOREIGN COUNTRIES—*continued.*

		Vessels.	Tonn.
France ...	{ Entered ...	30	21,236
	{ Cleared ...	166	111,313
Total		196	132,549
Germany ...	{ Entered ...	21	17,779
	{ Cleared ...	4	3,233
Total		25	21,012
Holland ...	{ Entered ...	4	2,638
	{ Cleared ...	8	5,525
Total		12	8,163
Spain ...	{ Entered ...	Nil	Nil
	{ Cleared ...	1	2,505
Total		1	2,505
African Coast ...	{ Entered ...	56	12,034
	{ Cleared ...	55	10,624
Total		111	22,658
Réunion ...	{ Entered ...	10	4,141
	{ Cleared ...	16	6,923
Total		26	11,064
United States ...	{ Entered ...	26	26,400
	{ Cleared ...	107	120,563
Total		133	146,963
South and Central America	{ Entered ...	91*	64,876
	{ Cleared ...	7	6,763
Total		98	71,639
China ...	{ Entered ...	24	30,771
	{ Cleared ...	32	45,630
Total		56	76,401
Java ...	{ Entered ...	9	6,352
	{ Cleared ...	2	1,983
Total		11	8,335
Red Sea and Per- sian Gulf	{ Entered ...	548	133,031
	{ Cleared ...	473	128,686
Total		1,021	261,717

\* Of these 88 entered in ballast.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES—concluded.

			Vessels.	Tons.
Siam ...	{	Entered ...	90	8,549
		Cleared ...	81	7,661
		Total	171	16,213
Suez ...	{	Entered ...	40	50,471
		Cleared ...	34	48,643
		Total	74	99,114
Sumatra ...	{	Entered ...	5	1,787
		Cleared ...	3	1,636
		Total	8	3,423
Other Countries ...	{	Entered ...	254	99,458
		Cleared ...	227	68,020
		Total	481	167,478

## II.—INTERPORTAL TRADE.\*

227. The intercourse between the ports of India displays increasing activity each year, as will be seen from the figures annexed of entries and clearances at all the ports for five years:—

			Vessels.	Tons.
1870-71 ...	{	Entered ...	13,357	1,796,699
		Cleared ...	12,472	1,789,189
		Total	25,829	3,585,888
1871-72 ...	{	Entered ...	15,071	1,790,163
		Cleared ...	14,275	1,897,478
		Total	29,346	3,687,641
1872-73 ...	{	Entered ...	15,958	1,965,897
		Cleared ...	15,211	2,084,962
		Total	31,169	4,050,859
1873-74 ...	{	Entered ...	14,171	2,124,059
		Cleared ...	13,155	2,242,283
		Total	27,326	4,366,342
1874-75 ...	{	Entered ...	13,528	2,461,266
		Cleared ...	13,037	2,589,718
		Total	26,565	5,050,984

The diminution in the number of vessels and the increase in the aggregate tonnage following on a similar diminution and increase in the previous

\* The statistics given are exclusive of the figures for the movement of shipping between British Ports within the Presidency, the information on this head not being available for Bombay for the first four years of the quinquennial period and for Madras for the whole five years.

year, shew that the small native coasting vessels are, as was said in the review of the trade for 1873-74, being gradually displaced by larger and presumably better equipped vessels. The average tonnage of each vessel engaged in the coasting trade was 130 in 1872-73, 159 in 1873-74, and 190 in 1874-75.

The nationalities of the vessels are shewn below :—

NATIONALITY.	1870-71.		1871-72.		1872-73.		1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.	Ves- sels.	Tons.
<i>Entered.</i>										
British ... ..	1,452	957,169	1,201	878,097	1,215	1,010,359	1,319	1,201,728	1,188	1,479,774
British Indian ... ..	868	315,594	763	319,428	644	309,260	694	379,255	712	462,520
Foreign ... ..	1,321	116,694	1,402	104,323	1,649	137,403	1,262	113,124	1,206	118,644
Native Craft ... ..	9,716	407,242	11,705	488,325	12,450	508,875	10,876	429,952	10,003	400,328
<i>Cleared.</i>										
British ... ..	1,394	982,971	1,414	1,035,494	1,470	1,195,009	1,545	1,381,253	1,617	1,653,259
British Indian ... ..	831	301,339	707	311,689	621	288,682	628	342,366	755	441,547
Foreign ... ..	1,159	76,100	1,258	78,869	1,415	98,945	1,167	81,417	1,115	101,382
Native Craft ... ..	9,088	428,779	10,896	471,486	11,705	502,236	9,815	437,253	9,520	393,530

The following statement shews the share of each province in the aggregate tonnage employed in the coasting trade :—

1873-74.			1874-75.		
	Vessels.	Tons.		Vessels.	Tons.
<b>Bengal—</b>			<b>Bengal—</b>		
Entered ...	555	364,099	Entered ...	530	404,185
Cleared ...	546	364,211	Cleared ...	512	391,423
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>728,310</b>	<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>795,608</b>
<b>Bombay—</b>			<b>Bombay—</b>		
Entered ...	6,364	353,369	Entered ...	5,991	372,111
Cleared ...	5,684	438,387	Cleared ...	5,629	410,063
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>12,048</b>	<b>791,756</b>	<b>Total ...</b>	<b>11,620</b>	<b>782,174</b>
<b>Sind—</b>			<b>Sind—</b>		
Entered ...	1,216	114,043	Entered ...	1,091	107,437
Cleared ...	1,226	105,179	Cleared ...	1,092	100,312
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>219,222</b>	<b>Total ...</b>	<b>2,183</b>	<b>207,749</b>
<b>Madras—</b>			<b>Madras—</b>		
Entered ...	5,420	864,890	Entered ...	5,337	1,141,947
Cleared ...	5,156	1,009,073	Cleared ...	5,262	1,341,296
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>10,576</b>	<b>1,873,963</b>	<b>Total ...</b>	<b>10,599</b>	<b>2,483,243</b>
<b>British Burma—</b>			<b>British Burma—</b>		
Entered ...	616	427,658	Entered ...	579	435,586
Cleared ...	543	325,433	Cleared ...	542	346,624
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,159</b>	<b>753,091</b>	<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>782,210</b>