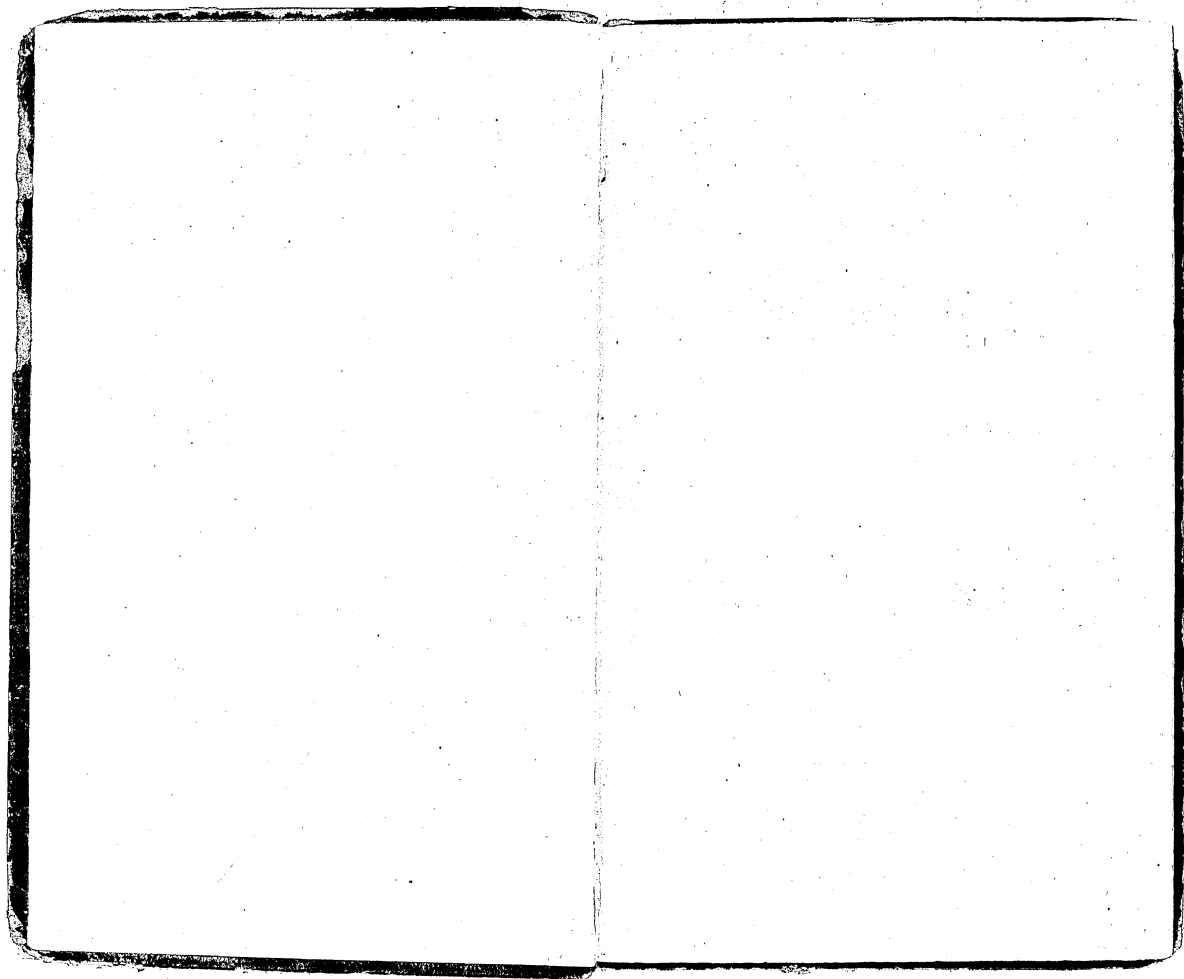


REPORT
OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
FROM 1st NOV. 1863 TO 30th APRIL 1864.



REPORT

OF

THE COMMITTEE

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BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

From 1st Nov. 1863 to 30th April 1864.

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*Proceedings of a General Meeting of the Bengal
Chamber of Commerce held on Wednesday, the
18th May 1864.*

The Hon'ble JOHN N. BULLEN, *President*, in the
chair.

The Chairman commenced the proceedings of the meeting by stating that the submission of the Committee's report for the six months ended the 30th ultimo, the confirmation of their conditional election of new Members, and the election of a President, Vice-President, and Members of the Committee for the year 1864-65, would form the principal business of this Annual General Meeting of the Chamber ; and any other matters which Members wished to bring forward could then be considered.

The report having been read by the Secretary, the President stated that, in addition to the subjects referred to therein, many other matters had come before the Committee in the shape of references from individual firms and members on points of custom, and in various other forms, which it had not been considered necessary to allude to in the report. If, however, it was thought there was less matter of general interest in this report than in many which

A

had preceded it, it must be ascribed to the fewer subjects of interest to the mercantile community which had come to the surface during the last year, than to any disinclination on the part of the Committee to take them up and discuss them.

The last six months had not, however, been unfruitful of events. The commercial community had passed through a period of monetary pressure almost unprecedented in severity, which but for the general soundness of trade could not have failed to produce many disasters.

The last six months also had witnessed the assumption of office by a new Governor General, whose practical and sagacious mind held out certain promise of an administration of solid and enduring usefulness.

In the same period there had been the novel spectacle in Calcutta of an industrial and agricultural exhibition, which, though not financially a success, could scarcely have failed to lay the foundation of some improvement in the rude appliances, and implements of agriculture in this country, fulfilling thereby one of its primary objects.

Within the same time the Imperial and Bengal Legislative Councils had held their session and many important Acts had been passed, amongst which he might mention the Act for the *Registration of assurances*, the Act for *extending the jurisdiction of the Presidency Small Cause Courts*, the Act for *regulating*

the Emigration of Native Laborers, and the Act *constituting the office of Official Trustee*: all Acts affecting in one way or another the interests of the commercial body and of first importance.

Finally the same period had witnessed the completion of another long link in that important line of telegraph which ere long would bring this country into direct communication with England.

The six months had therefore been by no means barren in events, but these were not matters which came specially before the Committee, and did not therefore find place in their report.

With this explanation he moved the adoption of the report.

The motion was seconded by Mr. David Cowie, and carried unanimously.

It was then proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Baboo Ram Gopal Ghose—

That the conditional election by the Committee of Messrs. Graham and Co., Barry, Smith and Co., Hornumjee Bomanjee Cama and Co., Potter and Co., and C. Weskins, Esq., be confirmed.

The Chairman having seconded the nomination by Messrs. Ralli and Mavrojani of Mr. A. Grigor, Officiating Manager of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, that gentleman was duly elected as a member.

Mr. David Cowie proposed that the cordial thanks of the Chamber be given to the President, Vice-President, and Members of the Committee for their services during the year.

In acknowledging this compliment on behalf of himself and colleagues, Mr. Bullen assured the meeting how small a share of their thanks he could appropriate to himself, having so recently succeeded their late able President, Mr. William Maitland, to whose exertions in the cause of the Chamber and interest in all that concerned it, he had great pleasure in bearing public testimony.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of office bearers for the current year, and Messrs. Mosley and Nicholas having examined the voting cards for the new Committee, the Chairman announced the following election :—

THE HON'BLE J. N. BULLEN, *President*,
R. L. EGLINTON, *Vice-President*,
P. T. RALL, *Esq.*,
JAMES ROME, *Esq.*,
HENRY DUNDAS, *Esq.*,
F. SCHILLER, *Esq.*, and
F. G. ELDRIDGE, *Esq.*, *or*,
A. WALKER, *Esq.*,

the last two gentlemen having the same number of votes : but Mr. Walker withdrew in favor of Mr. Eldridge, upon the understanding, however, that he

would serve on the Committee should Mr. Eldridge decline.*

Mr. Bullen thanked the Meeting for the honour again conferred on him, and assured the Meeting that it would be his earnest endeavour, whilst he held the office of President, to maintain unimpaired the influence and usefulness of the Chamber.

A vote of thanks to the Chair concluded the proceedings of the day.

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

* Mr. Eldridge having consented to resume his place in the Committee, Mr. Walker was entitled to the vacancy caused by Mr. Schiller's inability to serve, but declined it ; Mr. Moncrieff, next in order of votes, was therefore elected to complete the Board.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE HALF-YEAR
ENDED 30TH APRIL, 1864.

THE BUDGET.

APPENDIX A.

THE financial statement read in the Governor-General's Council on the 7th April disclosed a satisfactory condition of the public finances. The year 1863-64 closed with a small surplus, notwithstanding a large unexpected falling off in the opium revenue, owing to the derangement of the money market a few months back, and an increase in the military expenditure, owing to the operations on the frontier during last cold season. For the current year the budget estimates show a surplus of £823,000, and as the same causes which produced last year so considerable an increase over the estimates in land tax, abkarree, and stamps are still in full operation, the actual surplus, apart from any at present unforeseen contingencies, will probably be greater. The income tax which produces little over a million expires next year, and if Sir Charles Trevelyan's expectations are realised its renewal will be unnecessary. None will regret the removal of a tax which,

though in principle essentially equitable, has in this country been so levied that its incidence has notoriously been most unequal on different sections of the community.

The alterations made in customs duties are not important. It is to be regretted that the duties on metals and other goods formerly paying 10 per cent. were not reduced to 5 instead of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Had such reduction been made the articles affected might have been sensibly cheapened to the consumer, and increased consumption thereby promoted, through which a portion of the duties given up would have been recovered. A reduction of only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is too inconsiderable to affect the duty-paid price, and only results in putting the difference of duty into the pockets of importers. If a reduction to 5 per cent. on all articles paying 10 per cent. involved too great an apparent sacrifice of revenue, it would have been better to have divided them into classes, reducing the more important, of which metals may be taken as the type, to 5 per cent., and leaving the others, including all articles of luxury, at 10 per cent. Uniformity of the tariff is no doubt to be desired, but it is of less importance than that trade in articles susceptible of great expansion should be relieved of heavy charges which hamper it, to the loss equally of Government, the merchant, and the consumer.

The increase in the fixed valuations for duty of cotton yarn and grey cotton piece goods, though not in terms an alteration of duty, was practically an

increase of duty. It is to be regretted that in the present circumstances of the trade such alterations were found necessary, but they cannot be objected to as inequitable. There was of course no good reason why cotton goods of one class should pay one rate of duty, and other classes, though legally subject to the same duty, practically pay much less. The inequality might of course have been corrected by so adjusting the duties on bleached and colored goods that they should pay in effect the same rate as was being levied on grey goods: but the Government is evidently not at present prepared to reduce the duties on cotton goods below 5 per cent., probably considering it an effective and inexpensive way of raising an important revenue out of the masses who consume these cotton goods, and whom it is otherwise difficult to reach by taxation at all. It should not however be lost sight of by Government that India is a large manufacturer of cotton goods for her own consumption as well as an importer, and that the home manufacture is untaxed. A duty of 5 per cent. at the sea-board, in addition to unavoidable expensive land carriage into the interior, is a heavy charge with which to weight one party in a competition which to be fair should be on equal terms.

No reduction was made in the export duty on saltpetre, but it was elicited that the subject would not be lost sight of by Government, and that care would be taken not to jeopardise an important trade by maintaining too long an excessive duty.

SALT SALES.

APPENDIX B.

The Government notified in the Gazette of the 3rd March 1864 that, commencing from that day 12-month, they intended disposing of their accumulated stock by annual instalments. Whilst the state manufacture continued, the Government were pledged not to dispose of their salt below the cost of production : but having ceased to manufacture, and the cost of importing foreign salt having fallen so much below the cost of the government salt now in stock, this pledge could not reasonably be expected to be of perpetual continuance. Were it so, the salt might remain unsold for the next twenty years, and a large amount of public money be thereby locked up in a most unproductive form. By giving those interested in the trade a clear twelve months' notice of their intention, and by spreading the sales over a number of years, the Government appear to have been actuated by an anxious desire to withdraw from the position they occupied with the least possible injury to private interests.

GOLD CURRENCY.

APPENDIX C.

This subject was considered at a special meeting of the Chamber held on the 17th February, at which it was resolved to address the Government praying for the appointment of a Committee to enquire into

the best mode of introducing gold as an auxiliary currency. The Chamber's letter to Government and the Government reply will be found in the Appendix. This important question will doubtless occupy the attention of the Government during the legislative recess, and action may be expected on the return of the members to Calcutta at the commencement of the cold season. Sir Charles Wood has expressed in Parliament an opinion in favor of the admission of the sovereign as the equivalent of ten rupees, and Sir Charles Trevelyan is understood to hold similar views. The advantage of uniformity of currency with England and Australia, in the event of gold being made a legal tender in this country, would doubtless be very great. The practical difficulty may be found to lie in inducing any important supply of sovereigns from England at this relative price with silver, and in keeping in circulation as currency such sums as the state of the exchanges may from time to time permit of being imported from Australia.

COTTON PAPERS.

APPENDIX D.

Official reports on the subject of cotton cultivation and of the manufacture of native cotton goods have, from time to time, been communicated to the Chamber by Government. These the Committee have had reprinted and have furnished copies to Members.

**STAMP DUTY ON MARINE POLICIES, MARGINAL
CREDIT BILLS OF EXCHANGE, GUARANTEES,
AND BILLS OF LADING.**

APPENDIX E.

The circular issued by the Committee on 1st February last contained correspondence between the Government of the Straits Settlement and the Government of India, and the opinion of the Officiating Advocate General, on these points; and the attention of members was specially directed to the bills of lading issued by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, by which, in consideration of a higher rate of freight, they become answerable for the safety of the goods shipped, or, in other words, become *insurers* as well as *carriers*. In the opinion of the Advocate General such bills of lading are policies and ought to be stamped accordingly.

RIVER TRUST.

In their last half-yearly Report your Committee submitted the fullest particulars in connection with the proposed formation of a trust for the river Hooghly and port of Calcutta, and the correspondence between the Government of Bengal and the Chamber terminated with your Committee's letter of 3rd December last, in which they laid before the Hon'ble the Lieut.-Governor a general outline of the

plan which appeared to them best adapted for carrying out the scheme, and which it was hoped would at once form the basis of a draft bill to be prepared by the Government of Bengal for the approval of the Government of India in the first instance and then introduced into the Bengal Legislative Council. But it has been a source of disappointment to your Committee that the last session of the Council closed without any Legislative action in this important matter, the disposal of, which has thus been postponed for another six months.

Your Committee trust however that during that long interval the Lieutenant-Governor will have had the opportunity of considering in all its bearings a subject which so largely concerns the commercial interests of this port, and that His Honor will be prepared to introduce at an early meeting of the Legislative Council a bill which will provide for the constitution of a trust on the principles and for the objects indicated by His Excellency the Governor General in Council.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO EN-
QUIRE INTO THE BEST MEANS FOR PREVENT-
ING FIRE AMONG THE SHIPPING.**

APPENDIX F.

In the last six months no less than four vessels have been totally destroyed by fire within the limits of this port, viz: the *St. Leonard*, *Express*, *Royal Alice*, and *North Atlantic*; and the American ship

Josiah Bradlee had a narrow escape from being added to the list of such casualties.

In December a Committee was appointed to consider the best means for preventing fire among the shipping, and to submit their views and recommendations to Government.

The Committee's Report and proposed draft of Regulations having been forwarded to the Chamber, your Committee expressed their entire approval of the latter, as eminently calculated to diminish the risks of fire to which vessels are more or less liable; but they were unable to concur in those portions of the Report which reflected on the discipline generally maintained in port; and they considered that isolated instances of laxity of control scarcely justified the charges of neglect and indifference made against owners, commanders, and officers.

The rules submitted by the Committee having been considered by the Government of Bengal it was found that all of them could not be carried out under the existing law; but such of the rules as are within the law have been embraced in a fresh draft, and the sanction of the Supreme Government has been solicited to embody them in the port regulations; and steps will be taken in the legislative department of the Government of Bengal to introduce a bill into the Local Council for giving effect to the remaining rules recommended by the Committee.

WET DOCKS.

APPENDIX F.

In concluding the Report just noticed the "Fire Prevention Committee" expressed their belief that perfect security from fire can alone be arrived at by the construction of Wet Docks; they pressed this point upon the consideration of Government; and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor directed the special attention of the Chamber to it.

The Committee observed, in reply, that the recommendation of Wet Docks appeared to be based on the assumption that all fires which occur among the shipping have their origin in the use of fire being permitted on board and are accidental,—an assumption which your Committee were of opinion had not been borne out by the most recent cases which had undergone investigation. Where incendiarism is at work no such precaution as the interdiction of the use of lights or fire on board will avail, and there is always the chance, also, of spontaneous ignition, where large quantities of oil seeds and cotton or jute are stowed in close proximity.

Whilst however your Committee did not concur in the opinion that Wet Docks would afford absolute immunity to the shipping against fire, the construction of Docks and the rigid enforcement of rules against the use of fire on board, in force elsewhere, would certainly tend greatly to diminish the risk of

accidental fires, and to this extent the Committee endorsed the opinion expressed in the Report.

As regarded the general question of Wet Docks, the construction of which has for several years been consistently recommended by the Chamber, the Government of Bengal was referred to the Committee's latest representation on the subject, and to the views then expressed (which will be found in the Chamber's last half-yearly Report) the Committee informed the Government they still adhered.

BENZOLE, KEROSENE, AND OTHER INFLAMMABLE OILS.

APPENDIX G.

It appeared to the Committee that an urgent necessity existed for placing under restrictions the landing and warehousing of certain highly inflammable oils known as Benzole, Kerosene, &c., the trade in which though a new one seemed to have attained considerable proportions.

In the case of the American ship *Josiah Bradlee*—the attempt to burn which was then under inquiry before the Chief Commissioner of Police—the Committee found by reference to her import manifest that she had on board at time of her arrival off Calcutta no less than 3,400 cases of these dangerous oils; fortunately these had been landed before the ship caught fire, otherwise the consequences might

have been most disastrous, not only to the vessels lying in close proximity to her, but also in all probability to houses and property on shore.

The Committee therefore recommended that the landing and warehousing of all oils of that character should be subject to stringent regulations; in particular, that vessels arriving off Calcutta with more than a certain limited quantity on board should not be brought into the moorings until it had been discharged; that when landed it should not be brought within the precincts of the Custom House; and that no considerable quantity should be allowed to be stored together within the limits of the Town.

These recommendations have had the approval of the Hon'ble the Lieut-Governor, and a clause containing special provision for the landing and storing of these oils will be contained in the bill referred to in a preceding paragraph.

TRANSMISSION OF SOUTHAMPTON MAILS via BOMBAY.

APPENDIX H.

Under present postal arrangements the mails which come from England via Bombay do not contain *Southampton* correspondence for stations in Madras or Lower Bengal, a prohibition against such transmission having been found necessary with

reference to its great weight and the consequent difficulty and expense of arranging for its speedy and regular conveyance on the extended line of road transit to Calcutta and Madras ; and the Officiating Director General of the Post Office states that the necessity for this prohibition appears still to exist as respects *papers, books*, and such like, but that it might be advantageously withdrawn in respect of *letters*.

This point having been referred to the Committee, they replied that it would be more convenient to the public if *all* letters, via Marseilles and Southampton, were received here simultaneously, provided the punctual delivery of the former portion of the mail was in no way impeded by the latter.

SORTING OVERLAND LETTERS WHILE IN TRANSIT BY RAILWAY.

APPENDIX I.

The system adopted by the London Post Office of sorting letters while in transit by railway, by which time is economised, labour diminished, and delivery expedited, was recommended by your Committee to the Officiating Director General of the Post Office in India, and they are glad to believe that the plan proposed by them will ere long be in force on all the railway lines open for the conveyance of the public mails.

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH EASTERN, OR MUTLAH, RAILWAY.

APPENDIX J.

The Commissioners appointed to report on a railway scheme for a branch from the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway into the lower part of the 24-Pergunnahs, with a probable extension to the river Hooghly, referred to your Committee for the expression of their opinion as to how far a line connecting Calcutta with the Hooghly at Diamond Harbour would benefit the mercantile community, and as to the amount of traffic such a line would be likely to draw from the shipping.

In answer to this inquiry the Committee said that any arrangement which improved the means of communication between Calcutta and Diamond Harbour, or any other point on the river, would be a benefit to the community ; but that as regarded the traffic to be drawn from the shipping they inclined to the belief that, as a rule, ships would prefer proceeding direct to Calcutta to remaining at Diamond Harbour, and that the occasions would be rare when the excessive draught and tonnage of a vessel would oblige her to moor off that station : even if railway transport was available from that place to Calcutta the Committee did not think ships would remain there, for the extreme inconvenience of being at so great a distance from Calcutta would more than

outweigh the economy which might result from terminating the voyage at Diamond Harbour.

**COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BURMAH AND THE
WESTERN PROVINCES OF CHINA.**

APPENDIX K.

Mr. Richard Snadden of Maulmain has addressed this Chamber on the subject of throwing open to British commerce and European civilisation the Western Provinces of China by means of communication through British Burmah and the intermediate native states within the dominions of the King of Burmah; he points out the vexatious obstructions thrown in the way of an expedition that had been organised by the Chief Commissioner in December last to explore the river *Salween*, and that the text and spirit of the treaty between the Government of India and the King had been systematically disregarded by the latter.

Mr. Snadden strongly urges that the fulfilment of the conditions of that Treaty should be insisted upon, and calls upon all commercial bodies to unite in adopting such measures as may seem proper with the view to press the matter upon the consideration of the Government.

To this representation the Committee replied that as the questions it involved appeared to be receiving the attention of the Chief Commissioner, who would doubtless report it to the Governor-General in Coun-

cil, it would be premature for them to interfere at present; but should no steps be taken by Government to vindicate the rights and privileges of the commercial community under the treaty, and there continue to be a systematic evasion of its text and spirit as is said now to exist, that the Chamber would support any well considered remonstrance to the Government of India which might be made on the subject by those connected with the trade of Burmah.

The correspondence will be found in Appendix K.

NEW ZEALAND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

The Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty for devising and carrying out an exhibition of the industrial products and manufactures of New Zealand forwarded to this Chamber copies of documents in connection with that purpose, and requested their aid in obtaining for the exhibition such articles and machines as would worthily represent the industry of Bengal and tend to promote that of New Zealand.

The Committee would have gladly co-operated in carrying out the views of the Commissioners, but they thought it better, in the first instance, to submit their communication to Government for such directions as might be considered expedient to give.

The entire correspondence has been published in the Government Gazette as the best means of drawing public attention to the proposition of the New Zealand Commissioners; and the Committee await the result.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following Members have been admitted into the Chamber subject to confirmation. :—

Messrs. Graham and Co.
 " Barry, Smith and Co.
 " Hormusjee Bomanjee Cama and Co.
 " Potter and Co., (re-admitted)
 Mr. C. Weskins.

Messrs. Pereira and Co. and Messrs. Purrier and Co. have retired.

The number of subscribing Members is now 84, being a larger number than at any former period.

FUNDS OF THE CHAMBER.

APPENDIX L.

The half-yearly balance of the funds of the Chamber amounts to Rs. 3,848-10 in the Bank of Bengal, in addition to the reserve in Government Securities of Rs. 7,500.

JOHN N. DULLEN,
President.

CALCUTTA,
 30th April 1864. }

APPENDIX A.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BY THE HONORABLE SIR C. E. TREVELYAN, K. C. B.,

7th April 1864.

I remarked in my last Financial Statement that, after a long Financial results of the series of Indian deficits, the year 1862-63 Accounts of 1862-63. opened a new era. The account of that year has now been completed, and the surplus of income over expenditure amounts to £1,827,345, which sum was added to the Cash Balances.

Compared with the Budget Estimate of the year, the improvement is £1,647,531, or, according to the Secretary of State's corrected statement, £1,183,631. The increase in the single item of opium was £1,755,476. Mr. Laing's estimate was £6,200,000. The actual receipts were £8,035,476.

The increase in the revenue of India during the last five years, corrected according to the actual accounts, Progress of the revenue. is as follows :—

1858-59	...	...	...	£36,060,788
1859-60	...	...	...	£39,705,822
1860-61	...	...	...	£42,003,234
1861-62	...	...	...	£43,829,472
1862-63	...	...	...	£45,143,752

The most important event of the current year, 1863-64, in its bearing upon the finances, has been the depressed state of the money market. The first symptoms of this appeared at Bombay in October, and, throughout the last six months of the year, the revenue has suffered from its injurious influence. Upon the opium revenue the effect

has been particularly marked. The average price of the Calcutta sales during 1862-63 was Rs. 1,429 a chest. The average price during the first six months of 1863-64 was Rs. 1,371. The average price of the five sales which have since taken place is Rs. 1,100. At Bombay, owing to the scarcity and dearth of money, which afterwards extended to China and caused a serious fall in the prices there, the taking out of opium Passes at the fixed rate of Rs. 600 a chest was almost suspended. Last year, in order to get the benefit of the high prices, every available chest was sent down to Bombay. This year, a large number of chests are held back, awaiting a better state of the money market, and the greater part of the receipts from the Pass duty will be thrown forward to 1864-65. The Budget estimate for Bengal will be rather more than realised; but there is an estimated deficiency of £1,150,000 on the entire produce of this branch of revenue in the two presidencies of Bengal and Bombay.

Two other sources of revenue show a small decrease owing to exceptional causes. "Customs" are £15,400 less than the Budget estimate, and £140,166 less than the actual receipts of 1862-63. The import trade, from which the greater part of the customs revenue is derived, has continued in a depressed state, owing to the high price of Manchester goods and the abnormal condition of the money market. The other item is "Salt," in which there is a decrease, compared with the Budget, of £124,100; but an increase, compared with the actual receipts of 1862-63, of £34,150. Owing to the unusually large quantity of duty-paid salt which came into the market in Bengal in 1862-63, the decrease there is £300,000, but there is an increase of £27,500 in the Punjab and of £61,000 at Madras.

The other sources of revenue show satisfactory improvement.

In land revenue the increase is general throughout India, amounting to £572,100 compared with the Budget estimate, and £710,835 compared with the actual receipts of 1862-63.

In "Forest," which is now separated from "Sayer," there is an increase of £41,900.

In "Alkharoo" there is an increase of £154,700 compared with the Budget estimate, and £42,920 compared with the actual receipts of 1862-63. This increase would have been larger, but for a falling off in the North-western provinces owing to the introduc-

tion of the Sudder distillery system in May last. The object of this system is to raise a maximum revenue from a minimum consumption. The loss of revenue is not to be regretted so far as it is caused by the cessation of the inducements to the intemperate use of spirits held out by the former contract system; but it is not desirable that there should be a virtual prohibition of the ordinary wine of the country,* which can only benefit the smuggler. The experiment is in safe hands, and the whole of India will gain by its being satisfactorily worked out.

The "Income Tax" shows an increase of £38,800 compared with the Budget estimate, of which £51,700 occurs in Bombay. Compared with the actuals of 1862-63, when the tax was one per cent. higher upon incomes above rupees 500, and the tax of two per cent. on incomes below Rs. 500 had still to be collected for three months, there is a decrease of £487,212.

"Stamps" show an increase of £205,600 compared with the Budget estimate, and of £242,562 compared with the actual receipts of 1862-63.

The other items are under heads the receipts of which accrue under no fixed rules, but vary with the circumstances of the time. They show an increase of £5,700 compared with the Budget estimate, and of £640,797 compared with the actuals of 1862-63. The falling off of £125,400 in "military receipts," compared with the Budget estimate, is chiefly caused by the cessation of the nominal receipts from cash payments between departments; and the diminution of £259,700 under Public Works arises, partly from the withdrawal, from this head of receipt, of funds which, although received by Public Works officers, were expended for, and had been finally appropriated to local objects; and partly from Public Works Receipts having been over-estimated.

The whole of the revenue of the year, including opium, is less than the Budget estimate by £217,700, and than the actual receipts of 1862-63 by £390,252. Excluding opium, there is an increase of £932,300 compared with the former, and of £815,224 compared

* This is made from the *Mora Bawa*. It is weak and portable, and stands in the same relation to the people of the country as beer does to the labouring classes in England.

with the latter. The temporary falling off in a branch of revenue which is peculiarly dependent upon the state of the money and produce markets, has, therefore, been almost compensated by the continued improvement of those branches which are the true index of the condition of the people. The increase of £710,853 in the land revenue, compared with last year, furnishes decisive proof of the prosperous state of the agricultural community. It must arise from extended and improved cultivation, for there has been no enhancement of rates. The increase of £242,562 in the produce of the stamp revenue, in like manner, shows the activity which has prevailed among the commercial classes and the increasing extent of their transactions.

Before noticing the expenditure, it is necessary to mention that the practice of dividing the charge for the same service among several departments has been discontinued, and the grants are now shown, according to the English method, under the departments which undertake the respective services. Therefore, although the aggregate sum of the estimate published with the financial statement of the 30th of April last, is the same as that of the Budget estimate now given, the details vary under most of the heads of expenditure from those which appeared in that estimate.

The increase under "Allowances, Refunds, and Drawbacks," £47,700, is nominal, the entire amount being on both sides, and the payments being claimable of right. Compared with the actuals of 1862-63, there is a decrease of £26,766.

The increase under "Salt," £56,475, arises in Bengal and Bombay. In the former Presidency reductions in establishments were not effected so early as was anticipated, and in the latter, the purchase of salt, which had previously been shown under a suspense head in the "Debt" account, is now shown as a charge against revenue. Compared with the actuals of 1862-63, there is a decrease of £164,511.

The increase under "Opium," £108,700, is caused by larger advances made to cultivators at the increased rates, and by the sums expended in buildings. Compared with 1862-63, there is an increase of £253,122.

The increase of £36,504 under "Mint" arises from the more full employment of the Mints at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

The increase under "Army," £150,309, is caused by the expenditure, estimated at £200,000, arising out of the Sitana expedition, and the movements of troops connected with that expedition and with the camp of exercise which was at one time contemplated. Compared with 1862-63, there is an increase in the military expenditure of £956.

The increase under Marine charges, £244,344, is caused by the Marine Establishments at Bombay not having been reduced to the extent intended. Compared with 1862-63, the decrease is only £193,390.

The sum appropriated for "Public Works" by the Budget of 1863-64, irrespective of the construction of railways, was £4,995,100, after which additional grants were made, which brought the total amount up to £5,408,575; but, according to the best information that can be obtained, at least £250,000 of this will not be expended previously to the termination of the financial year, because the available supply of labour is limited in many parts of India, and professional establishments cannot be suddenly expanded to meet additional demands upon them. The sum at which the expenditure for "Public Works" has been taken in the regular estimate is, therefore, £5,158,575. This is £165,475 more than the Budget estimate, and £757,943, more than was expended in 1862-63.

The Budget Estimate for "Education, Science, and Art" was £161,600, which was increased by additional grants to £562,300. Owing, however, to the late period at which most of these additional grants were made, and to the time occupied in the administrative arrangements to give effect to them, it is improbable that the sum expended within the financial year will exceed £502,300. This is an increase over the Budget estimate of £40,700, and of £101,939 over the expenditure of 1863-63.

The decrease under "Interest," £58,208, is caused, partly by the reduction effected in the public debt by the purchase of Government securities, and partly by the exclusion of unclaimed interest after a careful calculation of the average charge. Compared with 1862-63 there is a decrease of £106,680.

Under "net expenditure in England" there is a decrease of

£312,118, which arises from an increase of £132,662 in the Home receipts, and a diminution of £179,447 in the Home charges.

"Guaranteed Interest on railway capital, less net traffic receipts," is also less than the Budget estimate by £71,492, the net traffic receipts having been larger than was expected by £25,607.

According to the regular estimate, the net increase in the expenditure compared with the Budget estimate is £231,546.

The Budget estimate assumed a surplus of income over expenditure of £150,775. According to the regular estimate, the surplus will be only £31,522, being a difference against the Budget estimate of £449,216.

My own expectation, however, is that, when the accounts of the year are finally made up, the customary result of increased receipts and diminished expenditure will appear, and the surplus will be found to be as large as was originally estimated by me. Compared with the actual accounts of 1862-63, the regular estimate for 1863-64 is worse by £1,793,516. This is mainly due to the difference, amounting to £1,205,476, between the receipts from opium in the former and in the latter year.

In my last financial statement, I announced, on behalf of the Government, that any funds that could be expended with advantage on roads, on

works of irrigation and navigation, or on any other useful works, would be granted, during this financial year, in addition to the large appropriation for Public Works, amounting to nearly £5,000,000, made by the Budget, and to £4,000,000 more estimated to be required for the construction of guaranteed railways. I also said that if, in the course of this year, any well-considered plans for promoting education were brought forward which could not be provided for from the grant of the year, a further appropriation would be made. These pledges have been redeemed. No objection has been made to any proposal for Public Works or Education on the score of want of funds. The additional grants for Public Works have amounted to £413,475, and for education to £20,700. They will not all be spent within the year, as has been already stated; but the Government did all that was in its power.

I also showed how much a healthy state of the finances would be promoted if, instead of paying for Public Works out of the Cash

Balances, the whole expenditure of the year, including the great Public Works grants, were provided for out of ways and means raised within the year, and the surplus of the cash balances were employed in extinguishing debt. This policy has been acted upon. Including the public securities purchased from the currency deposits, which are held to meet a possible, but extremely improbable demand for the payment of an equivalent amount of Government notes, the net annual charge for interest here and at home has, within the last two years, been reduced by half a million. The operations alluded to are as follows:—

<i>At Home.</i>		£
East India Bonds paid off	...	256,200
Loans on Security of East India Bonds repaid	...	1,500,000
Debentures paid off	...	5,557,000

<i>In India.</i>		
Government Securities purchased out of the		
Balances at Calcutta	...	1,000,000
Ditto ditto out of the proceeds of the sale of		
West Lands and confiscated Estates	...	100,000
Ditto ditto out of the Currency Deposits under		
Act XIX of 1861	...	3,000,000
Tanjore Debt and Treasury Notes and Bills paid		
off	...	431,303
Loan repaid to the Rajah of Cashmere	...	60,000
Cancelled Government Securities of the Rebel		
Narain Sing after deducting £75,000 to make a		
provision for his brother by adoption	...	200,500

Total ...£12,105,003

On the other hand, non-transferable Notes have been granted for £669,067 for the investment of sums belonging to the Pension funds of different branches of the public service; but, as the Government has bound itself to receive the available balances of these funds, whether the money is wanted or not, and to allow rates of interest higher than the usual rate, they should be distinguished from the ordinary debt. These transactions have in them more of the nature of grants than of loans.

It must be remembered, that, as mentioned in my last financial statement, we borrowed, towards the close of the mutiny, five millions sterling more than we wanted.

According to the Budget estimate, the Cash Balance on the 30th April 1864 would have been £15,427,400.

Cash Balances. According to the Regular estimate it will be £14,533,834, or £893,566 less. This is the balance which remains in hand in India, after providing for the payment of the drafts of the Secretary of State to the extent of £9,000,000, and for payments to the several Railway Companies and the Irrigation and Canal Company, amounting to £3,873,567. The sale of the Secretary of State's Bills upon the Indian Treasuries has given great relief to trade, by obviating the necessity for the remittance of an equal amount of Bullion from England; and further aid has been afforded by gathering up our Indian balances, and sending to Bombay every available rupee to be exchanged for a portion of the Bullion which the Mint was unable to coin with the requisite speed. The working power of the Mint has been lately much increased by additional machinery.

At home, there are only two Treasuries—the Bank of England and the Bank of Ireland—and an annual expenditure of upwards of £70,000,000 is worked by a Cash Balance which seldom amounts to more than £6,000,000; and even this is exhausted by the payments of the dividends after the close of the quarter. In India, there are 211 separate Treasuries, which have to be kept in funds to provide for the payment of the troops and other current demands; and, with a total annual expenditure of only £44,000,000, including the payment of the Secretary of State's drafts, the average Cash Balances in India have been in 1860-61 £14,144,240; in 1861-62 £16,451,621; in 1862-63 £18,332,423; in ten months of 1863-64 £15,376,033; and in the whole forty-six months £16,103,907. This is in addition to the Cash Balance at the credit of the Secretary of State in London. Therefore, although the difficulties are great, there is still much room for improvement in India in this important branch of finance; and arrangements have been made, by a careful classification of the Treasuries, and a strict limitation of the amount to be retained in each, for keeping the balances in the Provincial Treasuries as low as possible, and for promptly

remitting all surplus funds to the General Treasuries at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, in order to their being utilised for the public service. These large accumulations of silver, under the name of Cash Balances, are one of the causes of the scarcity of that metal. Their amount for each month since May 1860 will be seen from the table in the Appendix, page i.

I now proceed to the expenditure for 1864-65.

Estimated expenditure of 1864-65. In "Allowances, Refunds, and Drawbacks" there is an increase, compared with the last Budget estimate, of £20,040, but as this item is incapable of strict regulation, it calls for no remark.

In "Land Revenue, Forest and Abkaree," there is an increase of expenditure amounting to £245,368 compared with the Budget estimate, and to £270,450 compared with the Regular estimate of 1863-64. The progress of improvement has given value to the forests, and exertions are making to save them from further dilapidation by a well-considered system of conservation. This is one reason for the increased expenditure; another is the employment of additional establishments in every province to revise the existing land revenue settlements, with a view to give to India, at the earliest practicable period, the advantage of a permanent limitation of the land tax, or, where the cultivation is in too backward a state to allow of this, of a thirty years' lease. The outlay upon this and upon the conservation of the forests, is of the nature of a reproductive investment. The financial results, direct and indirect, of the new permanent settlement, will be of the most important kind. One effect will be that the charge for the settlement and collection of the land revenue, which has become a very serious item, will be much diminished.

There is a reduction of £5,377 in "Assessed Taxes," and of £76,017 in "Customs" compared with the expenditure provided for in the Budget estimate of 1863-64.

In "Salt," there is an increase of £50,373 compared with the Budget estimate of 1863-64, which chiefly arises from the provision made at Madras for an increased quantity of salt for consumption in 1864-65; but there is a reduction of £170,614, compared with

the actual expenditure of 1862-63, caused by the cessation of the Government manufacture in Bengal.

In "Opium" there is an increased expenditure of £253,461 compared with the Budget Estimate, and of £144,761 compared with the Regular estimate for 1863-64. This also is of the nature of an investment to be reproduced in increased receipts. The increase in the rates of payment to cultivators has produced that extension of the cultivation which was pronounced by Mr. Wilson and Mr. Laing to be indispensable for the preservation of the opium revenue.

The expenditure on "Stamps" is substantially the same as in the Budget and Regular estimates, for 1863-64.

The expenditure on the three Mints of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay shows an increase of £59,869 compared with the Budget estimate, and of £53,365 compared with the Regular estimate of 1863-64. This arises from the necessary preparations for an increased coinage of silver and copper money during the ensuing year, the expected fruit of which is seen in the estimated increased receipts from this source, amounting to £78,500 compared with the Budget estimate of 1863-64.

Both "Post Office" and "Electric Telegraph" show a small decrease of expenditure, which, in the case of the Post Office, chiefly arises from the development of the Railway system.

There is a reduction of £50,458 on "Allowances and Assignments under Treaties and Engagements," and an increase of £40,481 on "Allowances to District and Village Officers" compared with the Budget estimate of 1863-64. These payments are made under positive engagements or fixed rules.

On "Miscellaneous," and "Contingencies, special and temporary" taken together, there is a decrease of £10,569 compared with the Budget estimate of 1863-64.

The actual expenditure on the army in 1862-63 was £12,764,325. The Budget estimate for 1863-64 was £12,614,972. The Budget estimate for 1864-65 is £12,663,189.

Under this aggregate, important increases and decreases are included.

The new scales of Staff salaries and Regimental pay cause an additional annual charge of £90,000.

Increased pay to native officers and improved rates of good conduct pay to privates of the Native army, £30,400.

The transfer of the two remaining Military police corps from the Police to the Military establishment, £27,400.

Two years arrears of compensation for extra clothing recently granted to the European troops, £60,000.

Additional compensation for dearth of provisions to the Native troops in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, £45,000.

Increased expenditure in the Bengal Ordnance and in the Madras and Bombay Commissariat, caused, partly by the necessity of bringing up reduced stocks, and partly by the present enhanced prices, £110,000.

On the other hand, £50,000 has been saved by reduced stock, and diminished price of beer; and £69,000 by the decrease and better regulation of the pension list. After deducting the cost of gratuities and extra pensions to the Madras Native Artillery, to four Regiments of Madras Native Infantry, and to the East Indian Regiment, which are to be disbanded, there will be a reduced expenditure of £35,000 in 1864-65, and a prospective reduction of upwards of £60,000. A transfer has been made to the civil departments of the charge for the pay of officers employed by them, amounting to £63,700.

It will be seen from what I have said that, while, on the one hand, reductions of permanent charge have been made; on the other, a considerable additional outlay has been authorized for improvements which will promote the fidelity and efficiency of the Native, and the comfort of the European army. But for the heavy additional charge arising from this, and from the increase of prices, especially in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, there would have been a reduction in the military expenditure. Order has been re-established in the administration of the Army after the great convulsion through which it passed, and all that relates to the accounting, and auditing of the expenditure, is worked up closer than before. At the same time, the tendency to increased expenditure, arising from enhanced prices and the demand for improvements of various kinds, continues, and will be productive of embarrassing results if it is not met by corresponding measures of economy. The entire estimated cost of the Indian army for the year, including the payments to be made at home, is £14,596,201.

The incidental receipts of each department are credited in the Balance Sheet on the opposite side from the expenditure. It will be seen that the sum expected to be received in connection with the Army in 1864-65 is £961,300; so that the net charge for the Army in India is £11,991,889.

"Marine Charges" are £231,924 more than the Budget estimate for 1863-64, which was taken on the supposition that the marine expenditure would be much diminished by the abolition of the Indian Navy. Subsidies to Steam-boat Companies, amounting to £46,800 per annum, which had previously been divided among several departments, will, for the future, be entirely charged to this head. "Marine Charges" are still in course of reduction as the arrangements for the royal navy performing the same duties in the eastern seas as in other parts of the world are carried into effect.

The grant for works of public improvement for the current year was £2,330,000, with a reserve fund of 10 per cent., or £233,000, for any works which it might afterwards be determined to commence, and which could not be provided for out of the proportion of the £2,380,000 allotted to the several local Governments and Administrations. The additional sum actually granted exceeded the reserve fund, but the expenditure will fall a good deal short of the grants.

It has been determined to appropriate a consolidated sum for works of public improvement next year, equal to the grant of this year, with the addition of the reserve fund, or £2,618,000 in all; and to allot it among the different Governments and Administrations in about the same proportions as the original grant of this year. The sum for civil buildings and ordinary military works will be the same as last year, i. e., £370,000 for the former and £650,000 for the latter.

The proportion of the three preceding grants assigned to the Bombay Presidency is £630,000. This is reported by the Governor in Council to be insufficient. The development of that part of India and the harbor and fortification works in progress, undoubtedly require a large expenditure; but the works carried on at the same time ought to be kept within such limits as will not violently disturb the labour market. "The price of all materials and labour has so greatly increased, that 60 lakhs of rupees will

not now do more than that which 30 or 40 lakhs would have effected three years ago.*" From this it may be inferred what would be the consequence of a largely increased expenditure. All things considered, the Governor-General in Council has determined to increase the assignment for Public Works at Bombay by a special grant of £200,000. This will be irrespective of £204,330 estimated to be required in 1864-65 for public buildings at Bombay, balanced by a sum of £350,000 expected to be realized by the sale of lands on the Esplanade.

The sum appropriated this year for building new barracks for the European troops and for other special military works is the same as last year, or £300,000. This will be divided among the local Governments, including Bombay, according to their respective requirements.

The sum taken in the Budget estimate for 1863-64 for railway supervision and cost of land was £182,500. This year it will amount to £309,500.

The loss by Railway exchange in 1863-64 was estimated at £204,600. In 1864-65 it will be £256,900.

The one per cent. appropriated from the Income Tax in aid of local works was at first roughly estimated at £350,000 a year. The continuance of this rate of advance would exceed the proportion applicable by law to the object; and, as the Act will expire soon after the termination of 1864-65, the appropriation for that year has been limited to £250,000, subject to a settlement of account after the Tax shall have been fully realized.

While, therefore, the aggregate grant for 1863-64 was £4,995,100, the grant for 1864-65 is £5,358,730, besides about £35,000 appropriated in the educational estimate for grants-in-aid of building schools, and £4,185,420 which will be advanced for the works of Railway and Irrigation Companies, or £9,579,150 in all. All this is in addition to a further large sum which will be expended upon works of public improvement from local funds. The details of the grant will be seen in one view in the statement in the Appendix, page ii.

Under "Salaries and Expenses of Public Departments," the

* Letter from the Government of Bombay to the Government of India, dated the 26th February 1861.

Budget and Regular estimates of 1863-64, and the Budget estimate for 1864-65, are much the same. This arises from the care which is taken to reduce unnecessary offices, while others, suited to the wants of the time, are established.

Under "Law and Justice" there is an increase of £106,225 compared with the Budget, and of £175,611 compared with the Regular estimate of 1863-64. This is caused by the appointment of additional Judges, and by the grant of increased salaries to the inferior Judges with a view to secure a more complete administration of justice.

Under "Police" there is a reduction of £62,754 compared with the Budget, and of £51,760 compared with the Regular estimate of 1863-64. The beneficial effect of the revision of the Police expenditure, which has been for some time in progress, and of collecting under this head the charges for Treasury, Jail, and personal guards, which used to be scattered through the different departmental estimates, is very apparent. The Bombay Government has ordered the disbandment of the Guzerat Horse, the cost of which, amounting to £105,000 per annum, was included in the Police estimate of that Presidency.

The grant for "Education, Science, and Art" has been increased in reference to each of the local Governments and Administrations, the aggregate grant for 1863-64 having been £361,600, and that for 1864-65 being £561,175. This is in addition to large appropriations from local funds and to school fees which last have been placed on an equal footing with local subscriptions as a basis for grants-in-aid. There is no subject to which the administrative freedom of the local Governments is more applicable than that of education. Instead of the Supreme Government jealously insisting on adherence to a particular code, the local Governments are left to adapt the regulations to their respective wants. It is evident, from the general movement in this direction, that the time has arrived for extending education, from the upper and middle classes, to the body of the people; and the impetus

* In the North-Western Provinces and Madras a foundation has been laid of a really national system of Education; but the general position for the whole of India is that we have succeeded in establishing a system of public instruction for the upper and middle classes, but have as yet made no impression upon the body of the People. Numerous examples, even in Christian countries, show that a high state of cultivation in the upper classes does not necessarily lead to the cultivation of the lower.

sion is gaining ground that the last English improvement of the grant-in-aid system—the plan of paying by results—is even more applicable to India than to England. It furnishes a simple, elastic, intelligible rule, which is capable of easy adaptation to every circumstance, whether the difference be between the scholars in normal, and those in ordinary schools; between boys or girls; or between children in advanced or backward parts of the country. Care should be taken that the funds applicable to education are not bestowed upon institutions which are already self-supporting.

There is an increase, compared with the Budget estimate of 1863-64, of £13,400 for "Political Agencies and other foreign services," and a larger one, amounting to £71,597, under "Superannuation and Retired Allowances, and gratuities for charitable and other purposes." This last arises from the transfer of the Marine pensions to this head.

"Miscellaneous," and "Civil Contingencies," taken together, are less than the Budget estimate of 1863-64 by £7,937.

Under "Interest" there is a reduction of £137,951 compared with the Actuals of 1862-63, and of £129,479 compared with the Budget estimate of 1863-64. This is caused by the repayment of the sum lent by the Rájah of Cashmere during the mutiny; by the cancellation of the Government securities belonging to the rebel Madhu Rao; and the purchase of Government securities from the proceeds of the sale of Waste Lands and of lands belonging to rebels. The average sum annually disbursed for the payment of interest has also been more accurately ascertained.

The net expenditure in England, amounting to £4,929,924, is £13,504 less than the actual expenditure of 1862-63; £417,376, less than the Budget estimate of 1863-64; and £105,258 less than the Regular estimate of 1863-64. This favorable result is chiefly due to an extensive payment of debt.

"Guaranteed Interest on Railway capital less net traffic receipts" is £1,622,916 in 1864-65 against £1,617,825 in 1863-64 or £5,091 more. While the guaranteed interest payable in England has increased from £2,445,825 to £2,700,000, a set-off has been obtained by the increase in the net traffic receipts in India from £235,000 to £1,077,084.

The total estimated expenditure for 1864-65 is £45,340,582, which shows the following increase —

Compared with the Actual expenditure of 1862-63...	£2,024,175
“ with the Budget estimate of 1863-64 ...	850,157
“ with the Regular estimate of 1863-64 ...	618,611

I will now make such remarks as appear to be called for upon

Estimated revenue of the estimate of the revenue for 1864-65.
1864-65.

I observed that in “Land Revenue” the increase in the current year has been general throughout India, amounting to £372,100 compared with the Budget estimate, and £710,553 compared with the actual receipts of 1862-63. I estimate the Land Revenue for 1864-65 at £20,265,000. This is £16,000 less than is expected to be realized according to the Regular estimate in the current year. Considering the steady increase of the land revenue for several years, and the stimulus which the prevailing high prices give to the extension of cultivation, this is a very moderate estimate. The land revenue is justifying its old reputation as the staple of our financial system. Only one-third of the cultivable area of India is cultivated; and as it is evident that the prices of agricultural produce cannot recede to their former level, the increase of cultivation, and, with it, if proper steps are taken, the accretion of the Government share of the rental, must go on for an indefinite time to come.

“Abkarees,” in like manner, has shown a steady annual increase in spite of the falling off in some parts of India arising from the introduction of the Sudder Distillery System. The increase of the Budget over the Regular estimate is £90,680. Effectual steps have been taken to remedy the defects of the Sudder Distillery System which led to a falling off in certain districts.

Under “Assessed Taxes” the estimate for 1864-65 is £207,340 less than the Regular estimate for the current year, which is chiefly owing to one-quarter of the full rate of four per cent. having been realized in the current year, whereas 1864-65 will be entirely at three per cent.

“Customs” are estimated at £13,140 less than the sum expected to be realized in the current year according to the Regular estimate. There is a falling off to the extent of £61,000 by the abolition of

the Transit duties under the treaty with Burmah; and, although a revival of the general trade may be expected in the course of next year, it is safer to take the estimate on the supposition that trade will continue in the depressed state in which it has been for the last two years.

The revenue from “Salt” is estimated at £5,442,510, against a Budget estimate this year of £5,402,400, and a Regular estimate of £5,275,300. This revenue shows a general growth in all parts of India, and the local causes which led to its falling off in Bengal in the current year are passing away.

Last year the Pass duty was realized upon 51,228 chests of Malwa and Guzerat opium, which was nearly the entire crop of the year. This year, at least 20,000 chests will be held over the expiration of the year, and must be added to 25,000 chests, which is the lowest estimate that can be made of the Malwa crop, and to 5,000 chests expected from Guzerat, making 50,000 chests in all. The produce of the Pass duty upon this number of chests is £3,000,000. As only 21,730 chests of Malwa and Guzerat opium were sent forward to Bombay in eleven months of this year, against 48,454 chests in the same period of last year, or 26,724 chests less, the stocks in China must be low.

The number of chests to be brought to sale in Bengal in 1864-65 is 50,516. The lowest average rate per chest which was obtained at the period of the greatest scarcity of money in December last was Rs. 963. The average price at the five sales which have taken place since the depression in the money market commenced is Rs. 1,100. It is extremely improbable that, under any state of things that is likely to arise during the ensuing year, the average price will fall below Rs. 1,000 a chest, and I have, therefore, taken it at that amount. On 50,516 chests this gives £5,051,600.

The remaining £200,000 is the sum which will be credited to the opium revenue for 3,000 chests of opium to be supplied to the Abkaree and Medical departments during the ensuing year, and for the miscellaneous receipts of the opium department.

In a branch of Revenue which depends so much upon the state of the produce and money markets, there must, of course, be great

uncertainty, and I have, therefore, framed my estimate at the lowest rates admissible according to the facts before us.

"Stamps" have been taken at £12,070 more than is expected to be realized in the current year according to the Regular estimate, which, considering the general activity in business throughout the country, and the consequently growing nature of this branch of revenue, is less than may be expected to be realized.

Mint, Post Office and Electric Telegraph show a moderate but satisfactory increase. A large profit will be derived from an extensive coinage of copper money. The convenience of the body of the people is more concerned in an abundant supply of copper money for carrying on their countless small transactions, than in a gold or paper currency.

The increase in the Public Works receipts arises from £230,000 expected to be received from the sale of building allotments on the Esplanade at Bombay, against an estimated expenditure of £204,330 for new public buildings at that place.

The increase of £83,400, over the Budget estimate of 1863-64 under receipts from "Interest" is caused by additional investments of Currency deposits, and the dividends upon additional shares held by the Government in the banks of Madras and Bombay.

The total estimated Revenue is £46,163,870, which exceeds the Actual receipts of 1862-63 by £1,020,118, and the Regular estimate of 1863-64 by £1,410,370.

As the estimated expenditure for 1864-65 is £45,340,582, there is an estimated surplus for that year amounting to £823,288.

The estimated surplus of income over expenditure in 1864-65.

So far as it is possible to form a judgment of the future, I consider this an assured surplus.

The ordinary sources of revenue have steadily increased for several years, and have not been materially checked even by the late extraordinary embarrassments of the money-market; and if this growth continues for another year, the receipts will be carried much beyond the figures at which I have taken them. The receipts from opium are at the lowest rate at which it was possible to estimate them. On a view of all the probabilities, the estimate of the Government of Bengal, which was at the rate of Rs. 1,122 2

chest, will be nearest the truth, but I have taken it only at Rs. 1,000 a chest.

On the other hand, the estimates of expenditure are at a maximum, and in some important respects beyond a maximum. If the appropriation for Public Works, amounting to £4,095,100, which included a large sum for local funds, could not be spent in 1863-64, it is still less likely that £5,358,730, irrespective of local funds, can be spent in 1864-65. At any rate, the ample provision which has been made for the ensuing year will prevent any extra demands. The estimate for the rest of the expenditure has been taken on the basis of the full sanctioned scale for all fixed charges payable within the year, with an ample margin for contingencies.

At this point it becomes necessary to review our position.

The Income Tax will expire on the 31st July 1865. Its annual Considerations to be produce, at the present rate of three per cent., is estimated at £1,187,660. Of this

£237,532 is applicable by law to local funds; and a further deduction of £46,513 has to be made for the cost of collecting the tax. The remaining £903,615 forms part of our ordinary ways and means; and, in order to meet the annual charge, an equal sum must be forthcoming from some other source.

On the other hand, we have to provide for a large additional expenditure arising from two distinct causes.

The first of these is the great and general rise in prices and wages. This swells the expenditure through the Commissariat contracts; through the rates of compensation to the native troops for the dearth of provisions; through the enhanced cost of labour and material for every kind of work; through the demands made upon the Government for an increase of the pay of entire bodies of native civil and military servants to save them and their families from severe distress. Earnest endeavours are made to combine increased pay with diminished numbers and improved efficiency, but the augmented charge will, notwithstanding, be very heavy. We are in the midst of one of those social changes which mark the progress of nations. A general increase of prices and wages must be followed by a general elevation of the standard of the public expenditure.

The other cause is the strong and growing demand for improved Administration. This could not be fully described without going the round of the Public Departments; but I may particularly allude to the many different ways in which it is proposed to improve the condition of the European troops, most of which are attended with great cost; to the admitted necessity for strengthening the Judicial system; to the urgent demand for a large expenditure for the improvement of the jails; and to the heavy liabilities before us connected with the sanitary reform which has been commenced. The annual expense of the commissions which have been established for the three Presidencies is £20,000, which, of course, bears a small proportion to the cost of the work which has to be done. Some of these demands are of such a nature, that, although they are certain to arise in the course of the year, the amount that will be required cannot be correctly estimated.

On both grounds, therefore—to be prepared for the expiration of the Income Tax in the early part of the following financial year, and to have the means of meeting demands for improved administration which cannot be postponed—it is more than usually necessary to have a large available surplus of income over expenditure.

Our proceedings must also have reference to a state of things which has begun to show itself in an unmistakable manner.

India was already rich in indigo, opium, saltpetre and other staples of her export trade, when the demand arising from the Russian war gave a great stimulus to fibres and oil seeds, and the American war has since raised the inducement to cultivate cotton to an unprecedented height. But India has a great population to feed; and, as the breaking up of new land is a gradual process, the increased demand for exportable produce could only be met by diverting to its production a large proportion of the land which had been previously employed in raising grain.

Simultaneously with this, Railways and Public Works have been prosecuted at the rate of ten millions sterling a year; where the industry of the people has been largely diverted from immediate production to increasing future production.

Consumption has also been greatly stimulated by the abundant means placed at the disposal of the cultivators by high prices, and

of the labourers on Railways and other Public Works by high wages.

The result of these combined causes is that there is a serious strain upon the springs of society in some parts of India, like that which took place in Ireland in 1846 and in England in 1847, when such a large number of labourers were employed upon Public Works and Railways. The price of every description of produce, whether for exportation or home consumption, has gone up. Exporters complain that prices are often as high here as in England. Consumers complain of the greatly enhanced cost of every necessary of life; and, as they have so much more to pay for the means of subsistence, they are obliged to stint themselves in every thing else. This is the true explanation of the continued stagnation in the demand for Manchester goods, notwithstanding that the native manufacture is still falling off. A man must feed himself and his family before he can buy clothes; and, at the present high prices of food, the body of the people, in several parts of India, are barely able to subsist. A fall in the price of Manchester goods would not have much influence in promoting their sale under such circumstances.

The effects upon the labour market are very striking. Although population is congregated in some parts of India, there is, in others, a scarcity of labour. For a long time complaints have been received from several extensive provinces that the progress of Public Works and industrial undertakings is seriously impeded for want of labour. New roads and tea and coffee plantations are chiefly in thinly inhabited and unimproved parts of the country. Even if the population of India could be equally spread over the whole surface of the Continent, it may be doubted whether the supply of labour would, under present circumstances, meet all the calls that would be made upon it; but, as it is, the obstruction in several important districts is positive and decisive.

Owing to the suitableness of the greater part of the Bombay Presidency for growing cotton, this state of things is at its height there. An artificial famine has been created. The price of labour and materials has doubled, and Public Works are conducted at a greatly enhanced cost. The most serious symptom of all, however, is that the Government of India has been called upon to

sanction a general increase in the pay of the public establishments of the Bombay Presidency, with the certainty that, if the same causes continue, a similar necessity must soon arise for a further augmentation. On the one hand, we are urged to supply funds, without limit, for the prosecution of Public Works; and, on the other, we are told that the dearth of every necessary of life, which arises, in great degree, from this large expenditure, must be compensated by a corresponding increase of pay to the Public establishments. The economical system is almost as much deranged in the Bombay Presidency as it was in Ireland in 1846-47. The rural population in that country was employed upon Public Works to an extent which threatened a disastrous neglect of the ordinary tillage, and 734,000 able-bodied men, representing, at a moderate estimate of the average extent of each family, upwards of 3,000,000 of persons, were struck off the labour lists by successive instalments. We are moving at Bombay in the same circle; and we should take warning in time to avoid the necessity for having recourse to like strong remedies.

The most essential point of all is to observe some moderation in Public Works; to finish what we have begun; and not to crowd the work of several years into one. Works, which, when spread over a reasonable period, would be attended with general benefit, may, if they are all put forward at once, convulse society, and fail, after all, owing to their excessive cost, to attain the end intended.

Next to this, our object should be to remove, as far as possible, every obstruction to the freedom of trade, as was done in the analogous case at home. The great embarrassment of the trade of India has always been the want of imports to meet the vast quantity of exportable produce which the country is capable of sending forth. If we desire to relieve the trade of India, and to give free scope to its further extension, we should give all possible encouragement to her imports.

There will be found in the Appendix, pages ii to v, in illustration of these statements—

First.—A comparison of the exports of merchandise from India in 1810-11, 1811-12 and 1812-13, with those of the three subsequent decennial periods;

Secondly.—The raw cotton exported for the first eleven months of 1862-1863 and 1863-64;

Thirdly.—The prices of grain in the Bombay Presidency from 1823 to 1863;

Fourthly.—Extract from a report from the Collector of Khandeish, dated 18th September 1863; and

Fifthly.—Extract from a report from the Commissioner of Police at Bombay, quoted in a letter from the Government of Bombay to the Government of India, dated the 30th January 1864.

Previously to 1859, the import duty was, as a general rule, five per cent. ad valorem. With the exception of certain specified articles, it is now ten per cent. The Governor-General in Council has determined that this import duty of ten per cent. shall, after to-day, be reduced to seven and a half.

Tobacco is at present chargeable with a special import duty of twenty per cent. As foreign tobacco has to compete with the untaxed produce of this country, it has been determined to reduce the duty to ten per cent.

The loss of revenue arising from these reductions of duty will be balanced by increased receipts from another source. Of the piece goods and yarns imported into India, about five-eighths were included in the Table of valuations published in November 1860, while the ad valorem rate continued to be assessed on the current market price of the remaining three-eighths. Since that, the price of all these goods has greatly increased; and the consequence is, that the owners of one portion of them pay the full duty, and the others less than one-half. In order to remove this inequality, the valuation will be re-adjusted to the prevailing prices, with a liberal allowance for a possible fall.

The estimated surplus, amounting to £223,258, will not be diminished by these arrangements, and the whole of it will be held to meet the exigencies of 1864-65 and 1865-66, including the expiration of the Income Tax on the 31st of July of the last mentioned year.

But, after all, it is impossible that all the wants of this great Continent, according to the continually rising standard of the public requirements,

Local funds.

can be provided for out of the Imperial Revenue. Local agency and local resources, which are as multifarious as they are inexhaustible, must be increasingly drawn upon; and the Imperial expenditure must be gradually confined to such objects as are of common interest to the whole of India. The growth of habits of self-government is to be sought for in the same direction. It is time that the people of this country should cease to be helplessly dependent upon the Government, and should learn, by the example and aid of their English fellow-subjects, to raise and spend their own money in maintaining the roads, improving the sanitary state of the towns, assisting education, and promoting every other object of local interest.

A commencement was made by Lord Canning's Government towards reducing this part of the public income and expenditure to order, which was followed up last year by directing that an annual local fund estimate should be prepared by each Government and Administration, according to the same rules as the Budget estimate of public Income and Expenditure, except that the balance at the end of each year was to be carried on to the next; and that an annual account of the expenditure should be rendered under the same heads; and it was again explained that the object in requiring this estimate and account was, not to exercise any interference with the expenditure of funds which were entirely at the disposal of the local Governments, but merely that the Government of India should be kept informed of the progress of the income and expenditure for financial and other general purposes. Some receipts and payments, which had been improperly included in local funds, have been re-credited to revenue and charge; while others, to a much larger amount, have been finally transferred to local funds. Of this last description are the tolls upon the Nudda rivers and Calcutta Canals, the tolls taken at ferries upon Imperial roads, the receipts connected with travellers' bungalows, and the *Jailbar* or revenue derived from the fisheries in Bengal. A balance of local fund receipts due to the Government of Bombay, amounting to £64,208, has been paid, as a similar balance amounting to £58,700, was last year to the Government of Bengal. They have both been made especially applicable to the construction of Railway

The following is an abstract of the Local Funds Estimate for 1864-65:—

	Estimated Balance on the 30th of April 1864.	ESTIMATES OF 1864-65.		Estimated Balance on the 30th of April 1865.
		Receipts.	Charges.	
	£	£	£	£
Bengal,	459,785	471,796	556,116	375,465
British Burmah,	99,179	58,049	46,776	110,449
North-West Provinces,	276,670	443,175	430,000	289,845
Oudh,	97,520	107,600	105,000	100,120
Madras,	72,598	93,375	192,373	43,600
Central Provinces,	49,800	76,560	80,289	46,071
Berar,	71,917	79,691	89,857	61,751
Bombay,	371,089	350,132	347,601	382,620
Punjab,	97,186	180,378	208,062	60,512
Government of India,	132,908	48,262	20,091	161,079
Total £...	1,728,640	1,918,018	2,006,155	1,640,512

The large unexpended balances arise from the same cause which checks the expenditure of the Budget grant for Public Works; that is, the difficulty of extemporising professional agency.

One item of receipt, arising from the appropriation of 20 per cent. of the Income Tax to local objects, will, of course, cease with the Tax itself.

A large sum is derived from the cesses, in the shape of a percentage upon the land revenue, which are levied in the North-Western Provinces, the Punjab, and some other parts of India, for the maintenance of the roads and for education.

Municipal receipts form another increasing item. The mode of raising the Municipal funds depends, of course, upon the Municipalities. In the Punjab and North-West the favorite mode is by an Octroi or Town duty. Such duties were formerly levied on behalf of the Government; and were abolished thirty years ago, in the wake of the Transit duties, because they interfered with the free course of the general trade through the principal marts. Since their re-introduction in the shape of a Municipal tax, the same symptoms have re-appeared. The principle that Town duties are a tax on the consumption of the Towns for whose benefit they are levied, and that they should, on no account, be extended to any article belonging to the transit or general trade, ought to be jealously guarded.

The other items of Receipt are educational and charitable endowments; Toll on roads, Ferries, and Canals; Cantonment and bazar funds; Port funds; Proceeds of houses and lands which have been transferred to Municipal bodies; and others too numerous to be described.

As it is impossible that a complete view of the Finances of India can be given without including that portion of the public funds which is locally administered, it is desirable that the local fund estimate and account should, in future, be appended to the Budget Statement. This year, all that it has been possible to do, has been to call attention to the existence of this supplementary Budget, and to furnish a rough general estimate.

Last year I announced that the Government had finally withdrawn from the manufacture of salt in Bengal. The great increase in the export trade of India has caused extremely low rates of freight from England, and this has resulted in cargoes of Cheshire Salt being delivered at Calcutta at unprecedentedly low prices. In pursuance of the plan which has been so successful at Madras, a siding is to be made from the Calcutta Terminus of the East Indian Railway into the Salt Depot at Sulkea, so that the salt may be laden at once upon the trucks for transmission into the interior.

Owing to the low prevailing market price, the sales from the Government stock of salt, in the current year, actual and estimated, are only 12,34,678 maunds compared with 19,13,978 in 1862-63. The remaining stock belonging to the Government is estimated to amount, at the close of the present financial year, to 67,55,622 maunds or 249,378 tons. The necessity of disposing of this large stock of salt, both in the interests of the trade and of the Government, has been generally admitted; and, in order that merchants, knowing beforehand, when the Government sales are to take place, and to what extent on each occasion, may make their arrangements accordingly, it has been publicly notified that fifteen lakhs of maunds, or 55,102 tons, are, after a full year's notice, to be sold to the highest bidder in 1865, in such proportions and at such times as may be most convenient to the trade, and the remainder in the following years at the rate of 20 lakhs of maunds, or 73,469 tons, in each year.

I also said that the foundation of a sound financial system, on the English model, had been laid broad and deep by my predecessors, and that what remained was to extend the application of these principles through the whole field of income and expenditure, so as to remodel the entire system into one consistent whole. This work has since been in progress in different quarters.

The Military Finance Department has been consolidated with the Military Secretary's office as its account branch. The Public Works system of account and audit has been fully enquired into, and every practicable improvement will be made. The English plan of office organisation, which combines annual increase of pay within each class, with promotion by merit from class to class, and proper securities for the admission only of qualified candidates, has been introduced into the Financial, Military, and Public Works Departments. The Police establishment of the N. W. Provinces and the N. W. Frontier Preventive Line have been investigated by Colonel Bruce, who is now engaged on an inquiry into the Bengal Police; and the subordinate civil establishments of the Bombay Presidency

have been ordered to be revised, by the ablest officers who can be selected for the purpose, with immediate reference to two principles—

1st. To ascertain by a careful scrutiny, how far the work itself is capable of being simplified and curtailed, by omitting duplicate and unnecessary processes, consolidating official forms, and, generally, by expediting and abbreviating the transaction of business; and

2nd. To ascertain what is the smallest number of persons by whom the work can be properly done after it has been so revised; what rates of pay are necessary to secure the services of competent persons; and what arrangements should be made in order that the public may have the benefit of a selection of the best candidates for employment.

Steps have been taken to give effect to the recommendations contained in the valuable report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Commissariat, and a Committee has been appointed to investigate and report upon the entire subordinate establishment, European and Native, of the Commissariat, and to propose such measures for its re-organization as may appear to them best adapted to promote the efficient and economical administration of the department.

The East Indian Railway, in the economical management of which the financial interests of the Government are as much concerned as in that of any public establishment, has been carefully investigated, in all that relates to its system of account and audit, by Mr. G. N. Taylor, who was afterwards deputed to conduct a similar inquiry into the Great Indian Peninsula and Bombay and Baroda Railways. Mr. Taylor's recommendations have been cordially accepted by the Directors and Officers of the East Indian Railway, and great practical improvements have been made.

The most important work of all, is the revision of the general system of Account and Audit. The existing system was established by the East India Company on the good old, mercantile, double entry principle, but it has since been overlaid and confused by a variety of obsolete entries, irrecoverable balances, and, above all,

by a vast number of complicated and unnecessary inter-presidential and inter-departmental advances and re-payments. In the course of the past year, the main principles, whereby regularity and exactness have been established in the accounts of Her Majesty's Government, have been introduced into the Indian Accounts; such as the rule that the estimates shall be taken for expenditure coming in course of payment within the year, and that every thing shall be debited or credited to the accounts of the year in which the amount is received or paid; that the gross receipts shall be credited to revenue and the gross expenditure shall be debited to charge; that expenditure shall be provided for, as a *final charge*, in the estimates of the department responsible for the general head of service, and so forth. The good effect of this has already appeared in the increased uniformity and correctness with which the estimates now submitted have been prepared. The two Financial Officers who were deputed to India by Her Majesty's Government, are now making a searching investigation into all the details of the system of account and audit, and it may be hoped that, on the receipt of their report, the last finish will be put to the reform of our financial machinery, which has now been for several years in progress.

I have alluded to the commercial crisis through which the country has passed only so far as the finances have been affected by it. The Government Note Currency has stood the trial in a very satisfactory manner. So completely is its identity in value with silver established in people's minds, that, even at the time of the greatest scarcity of coin at Bombay, rupees continued to be sent to the Currency Department to be exchanged for Notes. The general stock of specie has been economised by the investment, in Government securities, of £3,000,000 of deposits on a Note circulation of £3,350,000. Arrangements are in progress for the formation of three new Currency Circles,—one for the North-West Provinces and Oudh, another for the Punjab, and the third for the Central Provinces. The introduction of a gold currency has been recommended by the Chambers of Commerce of Calcutta and Bombay, and the subject will occupy the serious attention of this Govern-

ment in communication with the Secretary of State. The difficulties are great, but there can be no doubt of the advantages of the measure if it can be satisfactorily effected. It would bind together England, Australia, and India in a triangular trade of a highly beneficial kind. The manufactured goods exported from England to Australia, would be paid for by sovereigns sent to India to pay for Indian produce exported to England; and the convulsive efforts by which gold is periodically abstracted from the Bank of England, to sweep the Continent of silver for transmission to India, would be sensibly mitigated. The depreciation of gold would be arrested by bringing to bear upon it the power which India has of absorbing the precious metals; and, besides the advantage of a convenient currency suited to the increasing wealth of this country, the chronic embarrassment of the Indian trade arising from the great excess of the exports over the imports, would, as far as possible, be diminished by the firm establishment of an article of import of which there is an unlimited supply, and for which there would be an unlimited demand.

Cash Balances in India.

	1860-61.	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	Average of four years.
	£	£	£	£	£
May, ...	17,115,239	15,030,024	18,462,707	17,810,603	17,112,148
June, ...	17,197,399	16,530,040	19,659,926	18,341,401	17,932,093
July, ...	16,202,481	16,238,214	19,451,935	17,069,267	17,240,462
August, ..	14,880,527	15,328,160	18,222,267	16,712,584	16,065,891
September ...	14,026,772	15,192,756	17,266,458	14,502,773	15,247,190
October, ...	15,375,159	14,267,702	16,949,937	13,199,490	13,945,078
November, ...	12,090,698	15,345,554	16,845,980	13,508,180	14,448,339
December, ...	12,522,587	17,073,511	18,333,034	14,028,581	16,714,653
January, ...	12,070,274	18,015,403	19,746,715	14,615,979	16,414,343
February, ...	12,807,904	18,225,524	19,548,209	14,011,466	16,155,846
March, ...	13,545,920	17,684,550	18,504,139		16,544,872
April, ...	14,286,918	17,787,078	17,874,386		16,649,660
Average of the 12 months	14,144,240	16,451,621	18,222,428		
Average of the 10 months	.....	.....	.....	15,376,063	
Average of the 46 months	....	.....	.....	.....	16,103,907

Average of three years.

	1863-64.	1864-65.
Works of Public Improvement,	2,618,000	2,618,000
Additional Grant to Bombay,		200,000
Grant for Public Buildings at Bombay,		204,330
Twenty per cent. appropriated from the		
Income Tax,	380,000	250,000
Civil Buildings,	570,000	570,000
Ordinary Military Works,	650,000	650,000
Extraordinary Military Works,	300,000	300,000
Railway supervision and cost of Land, ...	182,500	300,500
Loss by Railway Exchange,	294,600	256,900
	£4,995,100	£5,358,720

Exports of Merchandise from British India in 1840-41-1841-42, and 1842-43; and in the two subsequent corresponding decennial periods.

Equal to an average of

1840-41.....	£ 13,455,584	Equivalent to an average of £13,610,842
1841-42.....	13,825,217	
1842-43.....	13,531,824	
Total.....	£40,812,625	
1850-51.....	£ 18,164,149	£19,502,645
1851-52.....	19,879,203	
1852-53.....	20,464,033	
Total.....	£38,508,035	
1860-61.....	£ 32,977,173	£38,750,577
1861-62.....	33,585,128	
1862-63.....	47,069,431	
Total.....	£116,251,732	

Rare Cotton exported from Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, in eleven months, from the beginning of May to the end of March, in 1862-63, and 1863-64.

	1862-63.		1863-64.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£
Calcutta,	263,854	1,390,110	401,663	2,152,128
Madras,	506,785	2,143,400	597,995	4,103,000
Bombay,	3,010,503	13,256,807	3,225,468	25,177,690
	3,881,202	16,799,317	4,325,121	31,432,818

NOTE.—The Return from Madras for March 1864 does not include the exports from the out-ports.

Prices of Grain in the Bombay Presidency from 1823 to 1863

The following table for the district of Ahmednuggur is given as a fair average of the prices of grain in the Bombay Presidency since 1823.

AHMEDNUGGUR.

NAMES OF ARTICLES.	Prices paid for the preceding years.										Average for three years.	1862.
	1823.	1825.	1827.	1829.	1831.	1833.	1835.	1837.	1839.	1841.		
	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.	Tons per Rupee.		
Rice	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
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Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Chace	912	1025	925	955	1176	1150	1050	810	912	1176	765	650
Bayles	912	1025	925									

KUEPDALLA.

The 25th Nov. 1863.

R. H. SHOFFELT

Secretary to the Commission for Inquiry into Prices, &c.

Mr. Hart, the Revenue Commissioner, reports the prices of grain in the markets of the Canton District of Bhavnagar on the 1st of December to have been as under, and he remarks of them that they "must render it impossible for sepoys and other persons who have to subsist on low money salaries even with the addition of the established compensation given in consideration of the high price of grain, to provide sufficient food, to say nothing of clothing, for themselves and their families."

NAMES OF GRAIN.					Number of Tola (for Rupee's Weight) sold for One Rupee.
Bajree	...	...	...	...	595
Jowarree	...	...	...	...	595
Rice, 1st sort	...	...	...	...	286
Rice, 2nd sort	...	...	...	...	325
Wheat	...	...	...	...	542
Mung	...	...	...	...	580
Gram	...	...	...	...	596
Toor Doll	...	...	...	...	474
Ongeel	...	...	...	...	679
Musoor Doll	...	...	...	...	378
Coolee	...	...	...	...	740

*Extract from a letter from L. R. ASHMEYER, Esq., Collector of Khambhat, to B. H. ELLIS, Esq., Revenue Commr., N. D.,—
dated 18th September 1863.*

The wages of unskilled labour twenty years ago were two annas per diem, or Rs. 2-12-0 per mensem. Agricultural labour, in districts at a distance from large towns and stations, was usually paid in grain, and perhaps a turban or a pair of shoes

at the Dewali. The services of an unskilled field labourer could then have been obtained for about Rs. 24 per annum. These prices continued till about twelve years ago, when the operations of the Railway Companies began to affect the labour market. From that time the wages of labour have steadily increased, and unskilled labourers now receive from 4 to 7 annas per diem, or from Rs. 7-2-0 to 13-2-0 per month. There are many causes in operation to have produced this change. The construction of Railways and other Public Works created a demand for labour, and withdrew a large body of labourers from the production of the necessaries of life. At the same time, throw a large amount of wealth into the hands of the lower orders, who had not yet acquired a taste for the luxuries or secondary wants of life; they spent all their money in food, and what are usually considered the necessaries of life; the prices of these articles began to rise, and then came the American war, which raised the price of cotton and linseed. The cultivation of grain was abandoned for the more profitable crops, and the prices of food rose still higher.

Extract from a Report from the Commissioner of Police at Bombay, quoted in a letter from the Government of Bombay to the Government of India, dated the 30th of January 1864.

"The common labourer of Bombay, and a Callasse of ordinary ability in the Harbour, in whom intelligence is not generally deemed to be a desideratum, is able, I beg to state, to earn daily, the former from 6 to 7 annas a day, or more than rupees 11 per mensem, and the latter 8 annas a day, or rupees 15 per mensem."

General Abstract Statement of the Revenues and Charges

REVENUES AND RECEIPTS.	Actuals, 1861-62.	Actuals, 1862-63.	Budget Estimate, 1863-64.	Regular Estimate, 1863-64.	Budget Estimate, 1864-65.
	£	£	£	£	£
Land ...	19,684,670	19,576,147	19,705,930	20,281,000	20,265,000
Forest ...	460,728	529,580	250,000	291,900	320,150
Abkaree ...	1,786,167	1,951,050	1,839,300	1,994,000	2,087,650
Assessed Taxes.	2,054,606	1,883,212	1,306,200	1,385,500	1,187,660
Cutaneous ...	2,876,130	2,464,366	2,539,600	2,324,200	2,311,660
Salt ...	4,563,081	5,244,150	5,462,400	5,278,300	5,442,510
Opium ...	6,359,269	8,055,476	8,000,000	6,850,000	8,200,000
Stamps ...	1,693,217	1,489,638	1,523,600	1,732,200	1,744,270
Mint ...	389,715	371,116	350,000	390,000	423,500
Post Office ...	402,135	425,928	439,000	430,000	455,410
Elec. Telegraph ...	72,452	75,532	85,000	85,000	102,450
Law and Justice ...					
and Police ...	511,513	491,842	680,200	737,000	660,740
Marine ...	153,723	189,046	350,000	350,000	350,000
Public Works ...	588,858	413,559	600,000	319,200	617,610
Tributes and Contributions ...	780,162	723,763	744,000	744,000	744,000
Miscellaneous Civil ...	465,500	409,057	420,000	710,000	375,200
„ Military ...	956,219	802,300	622,000	696,600	661,200
Interest ...	54,218	31,364	90,000	115,000	178,400
Deficit ...	43,829,472				
£ ...	43,880,100	45,143,762	44,971,200	41,753,500	46,163,870

of India, for four years from 1861-62 to 1864-65.

EXPENDITURE.	Actuals, 1861-62.	Actuals, 1862-63.	Budget Estimate, 1863-64.	Regular Estimate, 1863-64.	Budget Estimate, 1864-65.
	£	£	£	£	£
Allowances, Refunds, and Drawbacks ...	541,538	541,906	267,000	315,300	257,410
Land Revenue, Forest and Abkaree ...	2,639,489	2,657,950	2,665,900	2,346,500	2,611,250
Assessed Taxes ...	121,041	124,056	21,800	42,700	46,215
Cutaneous ...	2,850,517	178,704	250,770	176,560	171,112
Salt ...	1,100,911	201,511	209,425	336,900	370,197
Opium ...	1,414,965	1,566,272	2,000,000	3,169,000	2,254,161
Stamps ...	62,508	98,097	95,000	95,000	68,884
Mint ...	186,688	186,223	146,500	185,800	216,163
Post Office ...	481,378	411,136	528,000	535,400	492,699
Elec. Telegraph ...	358,423	359,689	341,200	350,100	335,778
Allowances and Advances under Treaties and Engagements ...	1,649,460	1,755,665	1,761,000	1,714,900	1,704,132
Allowances to District and Village Officers ...	139,693	558,616	518,200	577,300	588,631
Miscellaneous ...	29,743	30,621	49,100	45,700	45,216
Contingencies, special and temporary ...		9,783	7,500	11,600	1,218
Army ...	13,611,003	12,761,322	13,611,977	13,765,231	13,685,189
Naval Charges ...	684,129	744,200	206,555	504,250	528,739
Public Works, including 1 per cent Income Tax Fund and Loss by Exchange on Railway Transfers ...	4,742,183	4,403,652	4,306,100	5,195,670	5,558,730
Scholarships and Expenses of Public Institutions ...	1,136,749	1,209,405	1,165,637	1,172,200	1,167,695
Law and Justice ...	1,051,217	2,974,146	2,514,000	2,172,700	2,361,811
Police ...	2,115,146	8,147,509	5,411,200	5,416,300	7,500,000
Education, Science, and Art ...	543,608	490,501	460,000	567,300	560,175
Political Agencies and other Foreign Services ...	210,670	241,614	215,200	185,800	256,697
Syncommodation and Relief Allowances and Gratifications for charitable and other purposes ...	703,227	749,550	725,767	741,660	736,761
Miscellaneous ...	229,762	225,465	251,450	278,560	279,789
Civil Contingencies ...	251,723	165,165	71,000	141,300	41,000
Interest ...	3,134,897	3,561,659	3,344,200	3,245,600	3,712,129
Expenditure in India ...	37,245,756	56,800,888	37,625,000	58,340,400	58,787,248
Net Expenditure in England ...	5,209,164	4,945,428	5,447,969	5,935,182	4,929,914
Guaranteed Interest on Railway Capital less Net Traffic Receipts ...	1,435,000	1,572,374	1,637,823	1,616,339	1,622,916
Total Expenditure Surplus including Railways ...	43,880,100	45,143,762	44,971,200	41,753,500	46,163,870
£ ...	43,880,100	45,143,762	44,971,200	41,753,500	46,163,870

Estimate of Cash Balances in the Indian Treasuries on the 30th April 1865.

RECEIPTS IN INDIA IN 1864-65.		£	DISBURSEMENTS IN INDIA IN 1864-65.		£
Revenue .. .. .	.. .. .	46,163,370	Expenditure in India .. .. .	.. .. .	35,757,142
Duties (Receipts on account of) .. .. .	.. .. .	11,759,645	Debt items included in above .. .. .	.. .. .	351,601
<i>Receipts in India of Payments in England.</i>			Stores from England .. .. .	.. .. .	77,000
Funds, Family Pensions, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	1,255,500	Loan Treasury .. .. .	.. .. .	30,480
Net Railway Earnings .. .. .	.. .. .	1,377,684	Miscellaneous .. .. .	.. .. .	65,281
Estimated Cash Balance on the 30th April 1864 .. .. .	.. .. .	11,335,824	Debt (Payments on account of) .. .. .	.. .. .	38,172,441
			Payments in India on account of Exgr .. .. .	.. .. .	10,945,285
			Railways .. .. .	.. .. .	5,905,250
			Other Payments .. .. .	.. .. .	136,621
			<i>Refinances to England on account of</i>	.. .. .	4,224,041
			Guaranteed Railway Interest .. .. .	.. .. .	2,750,000
			Other Payments .. .. .	.. .. .	5,653,317
			Undisputed amounts between Presi .. .. .	.. .. .	7,235,947
			Estimated Cash Balance on 30th April .. .. .	.. .. .	250,000
			1865 .. .. .	.. .. .	13,819,697
			Total .. .. .	.. .. .	474,797,351

THOMAS WILLIAMS,
FISHERMAN, & CO.,
The 1th April 1864.

E. H. LUSHINGTON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

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Home Charges in 1864-65.

	DEBT.	£	£
Dividends to Proprietors of East India Stock	629,976	
Interest on Loans contracted in England .. .. .	.. .. .	1,243,317	
TOTAL DIVIDENDS AND INTEREST			1,873,293
	CIVIL.		
Charges General, Home Establishments, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	176,000	
Amount payable under the Postal arrangement .. .. .	.. .. .	62,000	
Red Sea and India Telegraph—Charge to India .. .. .	.. .. .	15,000	
Persian Gulf Telegraph Cable .. .. .	.. .. .	7,000	
Mission to the Court of Persia—Charge to India .. .. .	.. .. .	12,000	
Her Majesty's Establishments in China—Charge to India .. .. .	.. .. .	15,000	
Miscellaneous, including India Office, site and building .. .. .	.. .. .	216,825	
Pensions and Retired Allowances, viz. .. .. .	.. .. .	242,000	
Civil Pensions, including late St. Helena Establishment .. .. .	.. .. .	4,800	
Annuitants of the Madras Civil Fund of 1813 .. .. .	.. .. .	4,800	
Furlough and Absence Allowances .. .. .	.. .. .	8,000	
TOTAL CIVIL CHARGES			897,625
	MILITARY.		
	Effective Charges.		
Imperial Government for Troops serving in India .. .. .	.. .. .	729,900	
Ditto on account of cost of education of Officers .. .. .	.. .. .	9,412	
Passage of Troops .. .. .	.. .. .	50,000	
Passage and Outfit of Officers .. .. .	.. .. .	39,200	
Furlough Allowances .. .. .	.. .. .	175,500	
Total Effective Charges .. .. .	.. .. .	1,005,512	
	Non-Effective Charges.		
Imperial Government for Troops serving in India .. .. .	.. .. .	255,600	
Retired Pay, including Colonels' Allowances .. .. .	.. .. .	780,000	
Pension, Lord Clive's Fund .. .. .	.. .. .	111,000	
TOTAL NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES .. .. .	.. .. .	1,146,600	
TOTAL MILITARY CHARGES			2,202,112
	MARINE.		
Pensions and Retired Allowances, Indian Navy and Bengal .. .. .	.. .. .	45,000	
Furlough Absence Allowances .. .. .	.. .. .	2,000	
TOTAL MARINE CHARGES			47,000
TOTAL CHARGES IN ENGLAND			4,919,924
	Debit—		
Miscellaneous Home Receipts	50,000	
NET EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND			£4,979,924

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APPENDIX B.

SALT SALES.

No. 180.

NOTIFICATION.

It is notified for general information that it is the intention of the Government to dispose gradually of its stock of salt remaining undisposed of at the several depôts after the expiration of twelve months from the date of this notice.

The salt will be sold periodically by public auction at an upset price, to be calculated with reference to the prevailing market price, and to be declared before each sale. Due notice will be given of the quantity and particular kinds of salt to be offered for sale.

Not more than fifteen lakhs of maunds altogether will be put up for sale in the first year. The remainder of the stock will be sold in 1866, and the following years, at the rate of twenty lakhs of maunds in each year.

This arrangement will not of course interfere with sales at fixed prices under existing rules.

T. BRUCE LANE,

Junior Secretary.

BOARD OF REVENUE,
FORT WILLIAM,
The 3rd March, 1864.

APPENDIX C.

GOLD CURRENCY.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Calcutta, 19th February, 1864.

E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQUIRE,

*Secretary to the Government of India,
Financial Department.*

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to forward for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council a copy of a Resolution passed at a general meeting of the Chamber on the 17th instant.

2. The Resolution records the opinion that the introduction into India of an auxiliary Gold Currency would be attended with great benefit, and directs the Committee to address the Government of India on the subject, and pray for the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the best mode of introducing such an auxiliary currency.

3. In compliance therefore with that direction the Committee have the honor to submit for the consideration of His Excellency their recommendation of the introduction of gold as an auxiliary currency, and their prayer that a Committee be appointed to inquire into the means best adapted for the introduction of such a currency.

4. The introduction of a Gold Currency into India is almost universally admitted as a positive necessity demanded by various circumstances which have been gradually developed within the last few years: and the time appears to have arrived when that necessity should be at once recognised by the State, and measures promptly adopted for such a modification of existing monetary legislation as will best promote the commercial and social interests of the country.

5. The opinion of the Committee and of the meeting was strongly in favour of the introduction of gold as an auxiliary currency, and as a tentative measure which they believe will gradually but surely lead to the adoption of gold as the general metallic currency of this country, with silver as the auxiliary; but they are opposed to any sudden change being attempted fearing that any such attempt would prove unsuccessful and be likely to cause great derangement in the commerce and finance of India, and probably also in the money markets of Europe if a large quantity of gold were suddenly required to carry out such a change.

6. For convenience of reference the Committee beg leave to append to this letter the correspondence which took place on this subject between the Government of India and the Chamber of Commerce in 1859: and they respectfully invite the attention of the Governor General in Council to the representation then made, and to the replies given to the several objections which had been raised to the proposed measure.

7. In placing these papers before His Excellency the Committee consider it unnecessary at this moment to enter into a further discussion of the question, for in the event of His Excellency being pleased to appoint the Committee applicant for a separate report will be presented and every point in connection with the scheme will no doubt be prominently noticed.

I have, &c.,

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

Resolution adopted at a Special General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, held on the 17th February 1864.

Resolved,—That this meeting is of opinion that the introduction of gold as an auxiliary currency into India would prove very beneficial; and that the Committee be instructed to address the Government of India on the subject, and pray for the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the best mode of introducing such an auxiliary currency.

To

THE COMMITTEE OF THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.

Financial Department.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your Secretary's letter of the 19th February 1864, forwarding copy of a resolution passed at a general meeting of the Chamber on the 17th idem, regarding the introduction into India of an auxiliary Gold Currency, I am directed to state that His Excellency the Governor General in Council has this important subject under consideration; but it is not deemed necessary to appoint a Committee to enquire into the best mode of introducing such an auxiliary currency.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

THOMAS PEACHEY,

Principal Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

PORT WILLIAM, }
The 20th February 1864. }

APPENDIX D.

OFFICIAL PAPERS REGARDING NATIVE COTTON MANUFACTURES.

CIRCULAR.

From E. C. BAYLEY, Esquire.

SIR CHARLES TREVELYAN has requested me to get together quickly any available information as to the effect which the high price of cotton has had upon *Native manufactures*.

He is anxious to have this information as to *all its effects*—that is, whether it has induced the Native manufacturers to mix any, and if so, what cheaper material with their cotton; or if it has checked the extent of manufactures, whether it has any effect on what may be called the domestic manufactures—such for example as are made up in each house or each village strictly for the use of the village.

But Sir Charles Trevelyan wishes more particularly to know what has been the effect on the manufacture for general sale at fairs or marts &c., &c., and also whether, if any cessation or diminution of manufacture has taken place, it has been the cause of material local distress among the weavers, dyers, and similar classes.

May I ask you to assist me in this matter, and to give me such information as you possess on these or similar points at your earliest convenience.

The 24th January 1863.

From P. CARNEGIE, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Fyzabad in Oudh.

Your demi-official about cotton has just reached me. This is a great place for weavers, and I don't suppose you could have applied

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to a better for information; but it will take a week to collect it: so I write this note to let you know of this probable delay.

In the meantime I may say that the result of the high price of cotton is the ruin of most of the local weavers. They can't raise the price of their cloth, because it could not then compete with English cloth, so their profits all go in the purchase of cotton at enhanced rates.

Fyzabad District, the 31st January 1863.

From the same.

On receiving your note of the 24th ultimo, I at once proceeded to Tanda, the Head Quarters of weaving in these parts, and I have much pleasure in submitting the result of my enquiries for Sir Charles Trevelyan's information.

Fyzabad, the 5th February 1863.

Tanda, the 3rd February 1863.

Assembled the heads of the weavers and mahajans to make the enquiries required by Sir Charles Trevelyan regarding the effect of the increase in price of cotton. Not fewer than 50 weavers were present, and oddly enough more than half the clothes worn by them are not made of Tanda cloth, but of European manufacture. It seems to be a sort of point of honor with them not to wear home-made cloth.

Two sorts of cloth are made here—1st of English-made thread, 2nd of Native-made thread.

1st.—The price of English white thread used to be rupees 5 for 3½ seers of 24 gundas before the rebellion. This time last year it was rupees 7 for the same quantity; within the last year it has gradually risen to rupees 14. These statistics are of No. 40, which is the staple white thread. Green thread is now rupees 15, and red is rupees 19. They have risen in the same proportion. Notwithstanding this rise in the price of thread, there has been no rise at

all in the price of the cloth turned out from the European thread; and in some descriptions the tendency is downwards rather than otherwise. This cloth is taken over from the weavers by dealers by a system of credit advances, and they send it to Cawnpore, Lucknow, Patalghur, &c., where there is a regular wholesale trade in it with the mahajans of those places.

2nd.—Cotton before the rebellion used to be rupees 14, 15 and 16 a maund (27 gundas to the seer)
2nd sort. After re-occupation it rose to rupees 20 and 21. Since last year it has risen gradually, till it is now selling at rupees 31 and 32 a maund.

The spinner having bought the cotton, (N. B. at the 22-gunda seer which the dealer bought at the 27-gunda seer) spins and sells it. Before the mutiny they sold it at 1½ seers (23 gundas) per rupee. After re-occupation they sold it about 1½ seers per rupee, and now it sells at one rupee per seer.

When the thread has been woven into sillum (coarse duster cloth), it formerly sold at rupees 1 and 12 annas a thin. After re-occupation it rose to 2 rupees 8 annas, it now sells at 2 rupees, having again fallen off; this falling off in the price appears to be due to several reasons.

Many of those who used to weave English thread now weave Native; but it is chiefly because there has been a great falling off in the demand for the manufactured cloth. All the cloth made of

Cases affecting the ma. this Native thread is printed and dyed
manufacture twofold.

here and taken by the stampers themselves, or by dealers who come for it, to Bhootwal, whence it is carried into Nepal. The Hill people prefer it for its durability and in fact decline English cloth or English-thread cloth. As already shown, the weavers themselves don't care to wear the indigenous cloth, nor indeed do any of the natives of these parts who can possibly afford *muslin*, as they call the European article. So it comes to this, that the indigenous cloth-weavers of this district, and they are very willing, are kept alive by the trade with Nepal. But in addition to the difficulties with which the weavers have to contend at present, from the rise in cotton, there has also been a great falling off in the demand for cloth from Nepal.

Before the rebellion these cloths used to sell at Bhootwal for rupees 22, 23 and 24 the score. After re-occupation they rose to rupees 29 and 30, and since last year have
Violent fluctuations of price again fallen to 23 and 24 rupees. Before

the mutiny as much as a lac and a half of rupees worth of cloth went to Bhootwal in a year; it fell off to a lac after re-occupation, and last year and this year not more than 70 and 75 thousand rupees worth have gone. The cloth stampers, who were also exporters, have been ruined by this, and
Their effect. many of them have left this place.

When the looms were counted for the Income Tax two years ago, there were over 1,000 here; since cotton became dear a fourth of them have been closed, and these were all for English thread. There has been a small increase in country thread weavers by reason of those who wove the former taking to the latter, because of the high price of English thread. After much conversation, it is admitted both by weavers and dealers that the absolute profit on both descriptions of cloth is as nearly as possible the same, viz., for 16 annas spent 18 annas are returned; but the reason why the country thread weaving is most popular is, that besides being easier, there is also a ready demand for the country cloth, and cash is at once realized for it, either from the dealers from other places who come to buy it up, or from the stampers; whereas, in the case of English-thread cloth, it is made over to dealers for export, and not till a Hoondee is received for the price do they get their money, and even then half an anna is deducted from the two annas profit, as interest, not to speak of the delay in being paid.

Native weavers have not yet found out the way of mixing any
No mixture of materials. thing with cotton.

One loom turns out four tans of English-thread cloth in a month, and twice that quantity of Native cloth, provided there are three people to work it. If there is only one person, the out-turn will not be half.

In Mobaruckpore there are say 250 looms, in Aakberpore; Shazulpore 300, in Jubulpore 5 to 600, in Nagpore 100, in Bunkhoree and Kihonda 150, and in Ilifaigunj 150.

Besides these there are many villages with a few looms in each. In all there were 5,601 looms in the District; a fourth of these

units consumed, which at three persons per loom has thrown a different aspect on the subject.

The remarks given above apply to all the localities named. All cloth of Indian thread brought to Nepal, made in these places, is brought to Tunda or sent to Mithra-Dubai in the Garum-pore Division to be spun into cloth and then exported. There are the only great spinning places.

Dyes and printers have both declined of late; but more in consequence of the decrease in demand from Nepal than from the rise in price of cotton. The power of some of these wholesale dyers and printers may be imagined when I mention that at this moment there is scarcely demand for more than 50 printers.

There is no sale of English thread is not brought to Tunda, but exposed to the North-West by the dealers themselves of the places above named. There has been a rise in the price of imported cotton equal to nearly 50 per cent. within the last year or so.

It is asserted that there has been an exodus of weavers, &c., from three parts in consequence of the cotton famine towards Bombay. They have gone, either in the hope of finding employment as mechanics, or, failing that, on pilgrimage to Haj. Of the weavers present to-day one has made that weary pilgrimage, and has no wish to repeat it, were it commendable, which it is not. He was two months on board-ship going, and one returning, and there were 300 of them.

In conclusion, it is curious to reflect that the fratricidal war in America should have made itself felt even in the peaceful wilds of Oude, where the Native weaver suffers, in the matter of English thread, with his English fellow-laborer. While in the case of the former he has to contend with a diminished demand for Native cotton cloth in addition to the rise in price of the raw material.

P. CARNEGIE.

From D. SIMON, Esquire, Commissioner of the Fyzabad Division in Oude.

For the purposes of your enquiry, I divide our weavers into two classes, viz., those who inhabit the larger marts and towns, and depend entirely upon their trade for their livelihood; and those who reside in villages and unite agriculture with their

proper trade, either by cultivating themselves, or having members of their family who do so.

The effect of the high price of cotton can never be very disastrous to the latter, so that the former is much the more important in connection with the present subject; but I shall speak

of the village-weavers first, as I had to obtain my information about the town-weavers by second hand through the Deputy Commissioner of Fyzabad, as I have been across the Gogra town since your letter reached me, and they are only to be found in this Division in any considerable number in his district.

The village-weaver works on two systems: either he buys the thread and sells the cloth which he weaves therefrom on his own account, or he receives the thread from his customers and weaves it into dhotees, &c., &c. for them at certain fixed rates. The first branch of the trade, I am told, has almost ceased for the present, because the rise in the price of cloth has not as yet equalled the ratio of the rise in the price of cotton. This was not felt to any great extent in this part of the country till about two months ago. I fancy when the roads opened for traffic after the rains, and our dealers began to buy their new stock from Calcutta, &c., &c., when it suddenly doubled—the quotation of price is only half as much again; but they say that the quality is so bad, that the refuse is much greater and justifies the rise in the price of thread to above double the former rates. Holders of stocks of cloth can obtain a considerable profit on them, and yet sell them at lower rates than cloth manufactured now, and the competition of English cotton goods is also more severe than ordinary, as it is well known that their prices have not risen much till very lately, owing to the large stocks in hand in Calcutta. The village-weavers, therefore, say that it won't pay them to weave on their own account at present.

The second branch of the trade seems to be much as before. Agriculturists are never troubled with superfluous clothing, and they will buy all the cotton they require for their own use, and their women will spin it into thread, whatever the price be, as before, and the village-weaver who works according to an established tariff, is not affected by the price of the material.

I have just received Mr. Carnegie's reply about the town-weavers, to which I need not refer at any length, as he tells me that on your requisition he has already sent you the original direct. The conclusions he arrives at are not very definite, but I quite concur in a remark he makes towards the close of his letter regarding the dyers, which I would also extend to the weavers, that the decrease in their trade which they complain of is chiefly owing to the dullness of their trade with Nepal. It is true that they work up English thread for export to the North-Western Provinces to some extent; but the competition of English cotton goods, without reference to the present state of prices, has been gradually extinguishing their trade for years past, and you cannot converse with a dealer or weaver in Tanda and such like towns without ascertaining at once that they look to the Nepal trade as their main

Crucial of the falling off of the cotton trade with Nepal.

stand, &c. Mr. Carnegie does not explain to what the falling off in the Nepal trade is attributed, and I have no means of ascertaining here; but I suppose it is partly owing to prices not yet having adjusted themselves, owing to the suddenness of the rise, and partly owing to the displacement of native cloths by English cotton goods, which, as above remarked, have not yet risen in the same proportion as cotton. At former prices, it is clear that the Nepalese preferred native cloths made with native thread to English American sheetings and long-cloths; but it does not follow that they would still continue to do so when the prices of the two stood no longer in the same proportion to each other. As the stocks in Calcutta diminish, the proportion will re-adjust itself, and it will not be till then that we shall be able to tell the probable effect of the present dearth of cotton, should it indeed last so long.

I am afraid Sir C. Trevelyan will find the above remarks to be very crude, and the information I can give of little value in comparison with that from many other sources which are open to him; but should he desire further explanation on any point which I have referred to, I need hardly say that I will be glad to endeavour to afford it.

Camp Fyzabad, the 7th February 1863.

From Lieutenant-Colonel E. Thomson, Deputy Commissioner of Setaapore in Oudh.

The information contained in this Memorandum is authentic as far as it goes. I have taken pains to ascertain the truth, not in one place only, but in the whole district. If my reply is a little late, that is my excuse.

Camp Setaapore, the 9th February 1863.

MEMORANDUM.

1. The average price of cotton in ordinary years in the Setaapore district was 5 annas a seer; it is now 9 to 10 annas; rise 100 per cent. About 90 per cent. of the cotton comes from across the Ganges; the rest is from here.
2. English long-cloth and shirtings have risen 25 per cent. Prints and dyed cloth 10 or 15 per cent.
3. English yarn has ceased to arrive.
4. Country yarn has risen 75 per cent.
5. Country coarse cloth has risen 50 per cent.
6. The manufacture of country cloth has very much diminished.
7. No fibre or substance is used to mix with cotton.
8. The manufacture of country cloth for home use has fallen off about 1/2.
9. The sales in bazars and markets have fallen off to about the same extent.
10. A large number of weavers have been driven to leave their looms and work at field labor, &c. There is no great and widespread distress.

The greatest rise in price of the raw material is in country yarn, which has of late years become scarce from other causes. The wives and daughters of sepoys and matchlockmen used to produce large quantities as a slight addition to their family income. These people, since the fall of the native army and the disarming of Talookdars, have to work at more laborious and remunerative duties. Hence the production of yarn is such smaller and the price is higher. I cannot, however, find any satisfactory explanation of the difference in the rise of yarn and country cloth, which is 20 per cent.

The small rise in English cloth, as compared with Native cloth, is due to the difference in weight. The Cause of comparatively small rise in English cloth. English cloth has gradually been supplanting the Native for some years in virtue of its superior fineness at the same price. But the Native cloth being coarser and heavier, and consequently containing a large quantity of raw material, feels a rise in that material just in proportion to its greater weight.

There are no special manufactures of interest in this district in the shape of coarse cloth of common use among the people generally.

SEETAPORE,
The 9th February 1863.

E. THOMPSON, *Lieut.-Col.*

FROM CHARLES CURRIE, Esquire, Commissioner for the Revenue Settlement in Oudh.

I have delayed answering your demi-official asking for information as to the effect which the high price of cotton has had upon Native manufactures with a view to make enquiries in different parts of the Province. Although I have not yet received replies from one or two Officers whom I addressed on the subject, nor has Thompson from Seetapore sent me a copy of his reply to your letter as he promised, yet I think the information I have obtained is sufficiently accurate to authorize my sending you the result of my enquiries without further delay.

The general effect of the high price of raw cotton has been the natural one of raising the price of manufactured cloth. This latter has risen from 25 to 50 per cent., but the weavers have not to any considerable extent been thrown out of employ, nor is there such an amount of distress amongst them as to attract notice. In some places I find that English thread has entirely supplanted Native, but this is not generally the case in Oudh. The English thread is used in the older Provinces and in such parts of Oudh as have easy access to the marts of those Provinces. I sent for some cloths from a Bazaar in the heart of the Roy Barilly District well off any main line of road, and some I found manufactured from Native and some from English thread; the latter was said

to have been brought in Azimghur and not to have been of local manufacture. In this place, where my camp is now pitched, there are a number of weavers, both Mussulman and Hindoo. I have been talking to them, and they tell me that about 20 per cent. of the weavers have been thrown out of employ and taken to daily labour. The price of Gára cloth, from which the poor women make petty coats and men dhotees, has risen from rupees 1-12 the piece to rupees 2-4; the piece contains 10 yards of cloth 11 inches broad. Onseley wrote me word from Fyzabad District that in his neighbourhood cloth which used to sell at 19 annas the piece was now selling at 23 annas, but that the weavers had clipped both the length and the breadth. On enquiring into this here I am told that the length and breadth have not been altered, but that the closeness of the weaving has; so that what required a seer of thread formerly is now made with $\frac{1}{2}$ of a seer. This is the only kind of adulteration that I have been able to ascertain. The weavers know of no cheaper material to mix with their cotton. Doubtless the cheapness of grain and the demand for labour has materially mitigated if not entirely counteracted the distress which would otherwise have been caused by the high price of cotton.

My Jemadar informs me that in the neighbourhood of Zammiah in the Gazeepore District, where he lives, the weavers have emigrated to the Mauritius with their wives and families in very large numbers. This is not the case in this part of the country.

At Tanda in the Fyzabad District on the Gogra there is a very large Native Cloth Manufactory. The weavers there make Gára dyed dark colors, and stamped like floor cloths. This cloth finds ready sale in Nepal, and is in fact manufactured for the Nepal market. The dye used is not lasting, but the dealers say that is of no matter as the Hill people never wash!

CAMP HYDERABAD,
The 14th February 1863.

FROM C. B. THORNHILL, Esquire, Commissioner of Allahabad Division.

In reply to your Circular of the 24th, I write a few lines to let

you know the result of such local enquiries as I have been able to make.

Hereafter, when I get information from other places I will write more fully.

The present high price of cotton has led to the mixture of old cotton, which had been used as wadding — no other material. for Rezaes, &c., &c., with the new crop; but I cannot hear of any adulteration with any other material than old cotton.

At present the effect upon domestic manufactures has been the almost cessation of spinning cotton into thread by the producers. All is sold, and the thread when made is done by professional spinners. The manufacture of dhotees and coarse cloths, gharna, guzzen, &c., has not, as far as I can learn, been diminished in sale, but the weight is less than it used to be. Fewer threads are used in each inch of the cloth, so that a two-rupee dhotee is lighter, more flimsy and less durable than it used to be, though its length and breadth are as yet unchanged.

The cloth-merchants seem to think that the reduction of existing stocks of English cloths has not reached a point where it would produce any marked effect. English unbleached cotton cloth known as Markin is almost universally worn as dhotees in this part of the country. It used to sell 6 yards for the rupee; the price has now gone up to 4 yards for the rupee; but it still is bought at this price in preference to the Native manufactures.

Long-cloth has risen barely an anna per yard and consequently in those parts of the country where Manchester goods have for years supplanted the products of the Native looms, the high prices of raw cotton has not as yet produced any greatly disturbing effect upon the articles most in demand.

What the effect may be when stocks are exhausted and the cost of Manchester goods comes to be ruled by the present prices of cotton it is difficult to foresee.

I will write again soon.

Cuttack, 2nd February 1863.

MEMORANDUM by C. T. MITCALFE, Esquire, Joint Magistrate of Tirhoot.

In replying to the queries contained in the private circular issued at the request of Sir Charles Trevelyan, it must be understood that the facts as represented refer only to the districts of Tirhoot and Champarni, the former perhaps the largest in Bengal Proper.

On entering upon the enquiries in connection with cotton, I have found a considerable difference of opinion between the *mahajans* and the *gobadars*, (the latter) whose business it is to watch the state of the market on the part of the merchants.

The price of cotton a few years ago averaged some 10 to 13 rupees per maund. The present market price at Patna is between 26 to 28 rupees per maund.

The high price of cotton has affected Native manufacturers in this way, that whereas the manufacturers have chiefly small capitals to work upon, and they cannot buy the same quantity of cotton that they used to, do for the same sum, their manufacture has in quantity declined, and hence a number of hands (weavers) have been thrown out of employ. Now, although the manufacturers have raised the price of their manufactured cloth in proportion to the rise on price of the raw materials, yet they have found this a losing speculation in retail business, for the agricultural class, who chiefly employ Native manufactures to meet this high rate of cloth, have grown larger quantities of cotton for home consumption, which is woven on their own looms by their families under the superintendence of manufacturers who have been dismissed by the master manufacturers.

The effect of the high rate of cotton upon domestic manufactures so far from checking has increased to a considerable extent, and the weavers who formerly found employment with the master manufacturers have been called on to assist the village communities in their domestic manufacture, and some few have found employment in other occupations, such as in service as cooks and syces, and others in tilling the soil.

The great Manchester cry of "cotton," "cotton" has struck me all along as being in great part due to the English manufacturers themselves. Cotton there is in India beyond English demand. *There is no want of it.* It can be met with in every village, in every mart of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, and in the Central Provinces.

I propose to show the causes why the English market does not draw Indian cotton.

Cotton that is drawn to England from India is returned to this country in the shape of long-cloth. The price of this averages from 4 annas to 7 annas per yard, a sum far above the reach of

Altered by the Natives
prevail disadvantages,—
Long-cloth.

9-10ths of the population of India. Long-cloth dirties too soon; the thread is too fine; it absorbs the oil quickly; the oil eats the fine thread; it will not bear being hammered on rough boards and beaten in soap suds, so the 1-10th of the population buy and are clothed in English fine cloth, while the 9-10ths prefer, both for its durability and its cheapness, the native cloth.

2. For the manufacture of Native cloth the greater part of the cotton of India is expended. If the English cotton looms would condescend to manufacture and export *desec* cloth at rates averaging 2½ annas per yard, the raw material would find no market among the Native Jallahas (for the English cloth would be cheaper than the Native) and the Calcutta market price being higher than the Mowseet market, would draw the raw material.

I trust I have rendered this clear.

Let England give, as says the Behar man, cloth suited to our pockets and our habits, and they shall have the raw material.

The Bengalee dresses for the most part, rich and poor, in tissue of the finest quality, and almost transparent.

Their objection to English long-cloth is more against the non-transparency of the article than against its non-durability.

I give the calculations of the cost of home Native manufacture. The amount of cloth required for the consumption of a family consisting say of a man, his wife, son and two daughters. The quantity required would be about 6 thans. The cost would be,

including labor, rent and manufacture, 6 rupees. This will give the actual price per yard of annas 2-9.

The question here arises—Can Lancashire afford to manufacture and sell at this price the coarse material in demand?

The removal of the import duties on cotton cloth appears most essential in order to relieve the present distress in England.

There are several fibres which I believe to be suited for the looms

Fibres.

—first, the fibre extracted from the liased plant (tesee.) There was a manufacturer of the name of Broom some 50 years in Monghyr, who successfully employed this fibre.

There is also the fibre of the plant called 'Ushack,' but is too coarse and harsh.

No fibres, as far as I have been able to gather, are used by the natives.

The high price of cotton has lessened here the manufacture of cloth for public sale. But it has increased in proportion the domestic manufacture.

Summary.

It has caused no distress among the weavers and dyers, for they have taken to other occupations; that there are fibres of which only few are cognizant; that while we attend to our Civil and Military Administration we entirely neglect to enquire into the commercial capacities of the country; that if we want cotton we must get it from the Native manufacturers, for no European capitalists will cultivate cotton when he can Indigo, (except on a soil unsuited for Indigo).

The English manufacturers at Home want information which they cannot get. Let them send a constituted Agent to this country, and let the Government form a Commission of Enquiry, two-thirds being Natives, and with that Commission let the Agent be associated, clear information will be obtained in one month than through a year of desultory correspondence.

C. T. METCALFE.

MOZUFFERPORE,
The 2nd February 1863.

From C. T. BUCKLAND, Esquire, Commissioner of Dacca Division.

I have but a very brief reply to give to your letter of 24th January, regarding cotton, which arrived during my absence at Burisal. The manufacture of cotton cloth is almost extinct in Dacca. The very fine sorts are never made now except to order and as a matter of fancy. The few men who still make cloth use only English thread; but I am told that, in consequence of the rise in price of thread, there is less than usual going on in local manufacture. Thread which sold at rupees 3-4 per bundle of 5lbs. in 1861 sold for rupees 4-8 in 1862, and is now as high as rupees 6. In country-made thread the price per seer was 9 annas in 1861, 12 annas in 1862, and is now Rupee 1-1. The price of English cloth has not yet risen very much, say from 5 rupees to 7 rupees, but the market is rising. But the country-made cloth has more than doubled its price, having risen from rupees 1-2 to rupees 2-6 a thán. But as a manufacture it is on such a small scale that there is nothing like distress, and probably, as there has been a general rise in prices, the cause of the dearthness of cotton is not understood by the country people yet. There does not appear to have been any attempt made to grow cotton in this district on account of the increased price. The whole Pergunnah called Kapassye is now a jungle full of tigers who have become very mischievous of late, so much so that I am going to try to abate the nuisance.

I fear that Sir Charles Trevelyan may be disappointed at this meagre reply. But Dacca has learnt the lesson which Manchester is now learning, of the mutability of the cotton trade.

Dacca, the 5th February 1863.

From C. B. DENISON, Esq., Magistrate and Collector of Mirzapore.

I am out in Camp in a wild part of my district south of the Soane, and can, therefore, only imperfectly reply to your note of the 24th January.

I have been obliged to refer to my Tehseeldar at Chunar, who has the best means of knowing what is doing amongst the weaving class.

His statement is enclosed.

There is no doubt, I believe, that the rise in the price of cotton has already made itself severely felt amongst the weaving classes.

The first persons to feel the pressure are the old women and widows who spin the twist.

They don't ordinarily pay in cash; they receive a certain amount of cotton to be paid for in twist, and what remains to them over and above the dealers' demand is their profit.

The enhanced price of cotton twist has, of course, raised the price of all country cotton manufactures, and caused a diminished demand for them in the country markets.

As far as I can reliably ascertain, the price of country goods is enhanced one-fourth.

There has been no attempt at mixture of other materials, nor do I think it likely that such attempts will be made.

Speaking generally, I should say that any circumstances which combined to raise the price of country-made goods one-half dearer than their ordinary price would be immediately followed by a general cessation of manufacture.

There is already ostensible pressure; but not to my knowledge distress. Country piece goods, as you know, are valued by the peasantry for their greater strength, warmth, and durability. They will, therefore, always command a market so long as the price is within a labouring man's capacity to purchase.

Ordinarily such a man will purchase annually.

Annually.

		Rs.	As.	P.
a.	2 Dhotees, value	1	2	0
b.	1 Meerzale	0	6	0
c.	1 Dokur or Sheet	1	2	0
Total		2	10	0

The above used to be the ordinary prices. Now--

				Rs.	As.	P.
a.	cost	...	...	1	8	0
b.	"	...	...	0	8	0
c.	"	...	...	1	8	0
Total				3	8	0
Difference				0	14	0

But the use felt.

The difference to a labouring man is already severe.

I will make further enquiries in detail, and let you know the result.

Camp Singroette, the 5th February 1863.

From SYUD MAHOMED ALI, Tehsildar.

In obedience to your orders, I instituted enquiries in Chumaro, Ahroora and other places, and have learned from the weavers thereof that, in consequence of the rise in the price of cotton, the poor people and villagers are subjected to great distress, for, owing to the increase of the value of cotton, there is but a very little demand for thread, which the widows and other poor women spin, and from the sale whereof they earn their livelihood—hence they are thrown into difficulty. On account of this rise in the price of cotton, a great difference is perceptible in the quantity of thread used in weaving a piece of cloth, and the weavers ascribe the cause of this difference to the scarcity of thread, as well as assert that they cannot purchase it because it sells at a high price. Though the price of cloth has also increased by one-half, yet there are a very few persons who buy-country-made clothes on account of the high rate at which they sell. Owing to the rise in the price of cotton, a decrease is visible in the number of cloth dealers, and several men have been ruined. In many places the weavers have abandoned their own trade, and followed another profession; some live on charity, some have taken employment under the railway, while others have turned day-laborers. It is now difficult for a person to buy one piece of cloth in the year, who formerly used

to purchase two, and on this account such people as ploughmen and others suffer.

The clothes of the best description which are woven in this country are made of cotton exported from the North-Western Provinces. The cotton which grows in this country is called "Mmooa," and fine clothes are also made of the same. But this cotton, "Mmooa," grows very little here, and the persons who grow it usually appropriate it to their own use, and never deal in it.

In short, the price of thread, cloth, &c., has already increased by one-half, and is also daily increasing.

The 3rd February 1863.

(True Translation.)

FROM R. SIMSON, Esq., Officiating Collector of Booldundshulur.

I now reply to your letter of the 24th ultimo, regarding the effect which the high price of cotton has had on Native manufactures.

I cannot ascertain that the Native manufacturers in this district have discovered any cheaper material with which to mix their cotton; they uniformly disclaim having done so, and the inquiries were made privately and in an unofficial manner.

As regards the domestic manufactures, some of the very poorest of the weavers, those who live from hand to mouth, have suffered from the rise in the price of thread; but the weavers generally do not seem to have been distressed, as they of course met the rise in price of thread by a corresponding rise in the price of their cloth.

As to the manufacture for general sale, there has, no doubt, been a diminution, but not as yet to any very great extent, nor has it resulted hitherto in material local distress among the weavers, dyers, &c.

The great advantage which has resulted to the Zemindars from the rise in price of cotton has counterbalanced any evil. The present state of things much more than counterbalances such partial distress. This is not, however, a great manufacturing district, and there is no town with more than twenty thousand inhabitants. The case may be very different in large cities.

The 10th February 1863.

From J. BAX, Esquire, Magistrate and Collector of Benares.

I am afraid I can afford you but meagre information from this part of the world regarding cotton manufactures. But I have taken all the pains possible, without creating the sensation among the weavers, who would be apt to think that something "was in the wind" regarding them.

"Manufacture of cotton-cloth for general sale in the markets is not carried on in this district. The effect of the high price of cotton has been felt in domestic manufacture, inasmuch as the work of the weavers in the villages has diminished by three-fourths of what it was before. Many of the weavers, who had no capital, have left off cloth manufacturing altogether, and earn their living in other ways. Nothing has come to my knowledge to lead me to suppose that the high price of cotton has induced manufacturers to mix any other cheaper material with cotton.

The price of Native Cotton Piece Goods has, I understand, become almost equal to that of English cloth of a similar quality, and the latter is beginning to be more generally used even by villagers.

Native cloth has risen to level of English cloth. Domestic manufacture has fallen off. There is no doubt that weavers are reduced to straitened circumstances, but no such material local distress is apparent as to call for special notice."

Distress exists, but not severe. *The 10th February 1863.*

From J. RYECROFT BIST, Esq., Magistrate and Collector of Muttra.

The results of enquiries made, with reference to your letter of 24th January, on the subject of cotton, is as follows:—

1st.—That the rise in price has caused the Natives to mix up with it the refuse cotton and Bunnoula or Cotton seed.

2nd.—That it has affected Native manufacture to the extent of one-half or thereabouts.

3rd.—That less than one-half the usual quantity of Native manufactures has made its appearance at the usual marts.

4th.—That while the weavers have suffered, the dyers have suffered more, (purchasers having to pay more for their cloth and being less willing consequently to incur extra expense).

The above is the abstract of the replies sent in by my Tehsildars. I cannot find any mention of any cheaper substitute for cotton being used anywhere in these parts. I am sorry my information is so meagre.

MUTTRA,
The 14th February 1863.

From T. D. FORSYTH, Esq., Commissioner of Lahore Division, Punjab.

I have delayed answering your letter about cotton hoping to hear from Mr. Cope, who is an authority on this subject, but he has not replied.

No distress. However, I have gathered information from various sources, and do not learn that there is any actual distress. In fact, as yet, people only talk of profits. It is customary for the zemindars and others who grow cotton to keep a certain quantity back from the market for village consumption; and as you know, the village Jullahars make up the clothes, the cotton having been prepared by the women.

Next we have to consider the weavers in towns and small qushahs. They would be supposed to suffer; but I learn that a demand for their fabrics has sprung up at Sukkur and Kurrachee,

and they are actually exporting their goods by the rivers of the Punjab. The high prices they got for their manufactured goods more than pay the high price of raw cotton.

This is the case as regards Wuzcerabad and Goojranwala.

In Umritsur and around Lahore, where English piece goods are more used, I believe the weavers are not so well off; but there is no distress sufficient to attract any notice.

When Mr. Cope replies, I will forward his information.

Lahore,
The 9th February 1863.

From J. S. CAMPBELL, Esq., Commissioner of Saugor Division, Central Provinces.

Saugor is not a place from which I can send you much information as to cotton, &c. There is but little produce in the neighbourhood; there are no great trade marts, and there is little manufacture of cloth. However, I have made strict enquiries on the points mentioned with the following results: The native manufacturers of this part of India mix nothing with the cotton. Ahmorah is the only place I hear of in which the practice

No mixture of other material in Saugor.

is said to exist, and of course I can say nothing on that point.

Taking 1860 as the standard, the quantity of native manufacture of cloth is said in 1861 to have diminished about 12 per cent., and in 1862 as much as 50 per cent. The weavers have suffered considerably, but

Native manufacture has fallen 50 per cent. since 1860.

manage to keep going. They stick to work in the towns, but in the villages have taken to out-door labor, of which abundance is to be had. The dyers have felt the change a little, but not much, as their work is not confined to the cotton-cloth produced in the country.

Since the general introduction of English cotton cloths into India, the native manufacture has come down to one-third of the quantity, and half the price it used to be. This does not bear on the present high prices, but comes in as 'information on similar points.' I don't know that I can tell you more. Of course, the

result is general dearthness of all cotton manufacture, and consequently a smaller consumption.

Saugor,
The 9th February 1863.

From H. CORN, Esquire, Merchant, Commission Agent, and Silk Exporter, Umritsur.

In reply to your note of the 5th instant, with enclosure from Mr. Bayley of the 24th ultimo, I have the pleasure to state, for the information of Sir C. Trevelyan, that the high price of cotton has led to immense exports, exceeding in all probability more than half of the produce of the whole country. The price has risen locally from 8, 9 and 10 rupees per maund to 17, 18 and 19. I should say not a maund of the autumn crops of 1862 has been sold under 15 rupees in the villages whose rates ruled from 6-8 to 8 previous to the demand. The inference is that on some 8,00,000 maunds, the estimated produce of the Punjab, above 40 lakhs of rupees have been added to the Agricultural and Commercial wealth of the Province.

I have heard of no material being as yet added to cotton beyond the proportion hitherto used, and I do not think it likely such will be the case; as though prices have not doubled on wool, sunn, &c. they have risen simultaneously, in wool on account of European demand; in sunn on account of the additional amount of bugging required for cotton bales, and also for export. The domestic manufactures have risen in price about 25 per cent., and as a good deal of English thread is used by local manufacturers, and that is rising daily in price, a further enhancement may be expected, especially if cotton maintains its present enormous price. I believe that, in some parts a diminution of local manufacture has taken place, but not to any great extent; and that although the weavers may suffer, no other class will be affected injuriously. My impression is that, after the Agricultural revolution the demand for cotton will create, if it continues, the home manufacturer will be the one to benefit most largely from the crisis, as Piece Goods must take the place of local manufactures.

UMRITSUR,
The 13th February 1863.

From H. DASHWOOD, Esquire, Magistrate and Collector of Banda.

In reply to your letter of the 24th ultimo, I beg to state that I have enquired into the condition of the weavers in this district and find—

First,—That they do not mix any foreign substance with their cotton thread. There is nothing that they could mix but wool, and that is too scarce and too dear for this purpose. No doubt old cotton taken out of "rezaes," padding of clothes, &c. may now and then be used, but it would be difficult to mix any foreign substance without detection.

Second,—Work is not so abundant as it was; but still the weavers find employment to a fair extent, and they are not in distress. They have increased the price of cloth in proportion to the rise in the price of cotton; cloth which used to sell for 8 annas and 1 rupee per "thán," now sells for 14 annas and rupee 1-8.

CAMP KHUNDH, BANDA DISTRICT, }
The 16th February 1863. }

From ALONZO MASTY, Esquire, C. B., Commissioner, Bhangulpore Division.

I cannot learn that the high price of cotton has had any effect upon the quality of the Native manufactures, though it has raised their price considerably. I delayed answering your note because I wished to have enquiries made by the Collector of Monghyr at Sheikpoora, where there is a good deal of manufacture.

BHAGULPORE,
The 19th February 1863. }

From MONSIEUR MONTERRON, to the Hon'ble R. S. ELLIS,—dated Pondichéry le 19 Février 1863.

Nous avons deux filatures à Pondichéry. L'une qui appartient à un natif fait, en temps normal, 130 paquets de fil de 5 lb. chacun par jour; l'autre, en action, produit, en temps ordinaire, 500 paquets par jour.

Le premier effet de la rareté et de l'élévation du prix des cotons, a été de jeter une véritable perturbation dans ces deux Etablissements. La petite filature, appartenant à un seul et riche spéculateur qui transforme le plus souvent les produits de son établissement en toiles qu'il expédie en Europe, la petite filature a beaucoup moins souffert que la grande. Mais celle-ci surprise par la crise avec un approvisionnement très faible, n'osant pas le renouveler aux prix élevés que les cotons avaient atteints, dans la crainte d'une réaction; ne pouvant pas, d'un autre côté, augmenter proportionnellement le prix de ses fils, dont l'incertitude de l'avenir aurait empêché l'écoulement à des taux élevés; la grande filature s'est trouvée presque désorganisée. A partir de la fin de 1861, elle a tantôt chômé d'une manière complète, tantôt réduit son travail à 2 ou 3 jours de la semaine seulement. Au milieu de 1862, de grandes réparations sont devenues nécessaires; la filature a été alors de nouveau arrêtée complètement pendant plus de deux mois, puis elle a recommencé à marcher mais avec une de ses trois pompes seulement. Elle fait ainsi depuis lors, c'est à dire depuis environ quatre mois, 150 paquets de fil par jour pendant six jours de la semaine.

La qualité de ces fils est moins bonne qu'avant la crise des cotons. La filature afin de diminuer le prix de la matière première qu'elle emploie, s'est mise à filer 2-3 de cotons western (exclusivement employés autrefois) et 1-3 de cotons Boar dont la qualité est de beaucoup inférieure. On essaie en ce moment de ramener ces proportions à la moitié pour chacun de ces deux sortes de cotons.

Le prix des fils n'a pu s'élever aussi rapidement que celui des cotons et le suivre toujours proportionnellement. Vous savez que les toileseries sont restées très long temps à monter en Europe, par suite principalement des fortes réserves qui existaient partout au moment où la crise a éclaté. D'un autre côté, on n'a eu que très tard la durée de la crise Américaine, et tout le monde craignait qu'une paix soudaine n'amènât une réaction désastreuse. La hausse du prix des fils a donc été très lente à se faire, mais elle est faite aujourd'hui et la filature, après avoir perdu environ 1 per cent. dans la période qui s'est écoulée du 1 Juillet 1861 au 30 Juin 1861, vend les toiles qu'elle fait confectionner, et vend ensuite son adjudication publique les fils qu'elle coule en nature à un prix qui doit lui laisser en moyenne un bénéfice de 10 à 12 per cent.

Pour le moment, les fils reviennent (par paquet 5lb) à environ Rupees 3-7 et se vendent à un prix de Rupees 3-12. L'équilibre se trouvant ainsi rétabli, la filature n'attend que d'avoir réparé toutes ses machines pour reprendre la fabrication de 500 paquets par jour de travail. En 1860, le prix moyen du paquet de fil était de Rupee 1-14.

From Mr. S. D. BURN, Accountant and Auditor, Bombay.

I had hoped to have sent you, long ere this, the information required regarding the Native looms and the factories established in Bombay under European Agency. I am, however, yet without the reply to my enquiry from Mr. Ellis, the Commissioner of the Northern District. Mr. Hart, in the Southern Division, has sent me a letter on the subject, which I think it advisable to transmit to you in original instead of giving any abstract of it, more especially as it touches upon other points, which will interest you.

Those concerned in the factories established in Bombay under European Agency do not naturally take the same depressing view of their prospects that others who can form a tolerable opinion on the subject do. They were mostly projected when the value of cotton was rupees 130 the Canby and Mule Twist No. 50 was 6 A. The present price of raw cotton and the manufacturers show so great a difference, that they cannot possibly pay. A friend of mine, largely interested in one of the best conducted factories, estimates 10 per cent. as his return; but from the casual glance I was allowed of the figures upon which this estimate was based, it struck me that he had under-estimated the cost of cotton, wool, &c., and had put the highest value on his Twist and Piece Goods. I have since been told that our Native dealers have highly approved of the work turned out by this Mill.

When Mr. Ellis's reply reaches me, I shall do myself the pleasure of communicating further on the subject.

Bombay, the 20th February 1863.

From W. HART, Esquire, Revenue and Police Commissioner,
Southern Division.

I have put off answering your letter of 15th ultimo from day to

day in hopes of being able to give you some statistics in illustration of my reply to what you ask about the effect of the rise of the price of cotton on the local manufacture; but after all I must be content to send you *generalities*, as the replies I get to my statistical questions are in their detail evidently untrustworthy, as all Indian statistics are.

It seems strange that, though from the enormous influx of money into this cotton-growing part of the country all produce has risen vastly in price, cotton fabrics should not have risen in price in a similar proportion with most other things. Loosely speaking, in Nowlgoond, one of the great cotton marts, where raw cotton is five or six times the price of two years ago, coarse cotton cloths are not more than about double, while timber is about eight times as dear, fire-wood, grain and forage about four or five times, laborers' hire three to four times. I am told that the consequence is that small hand-loom weavers, who used to weave on their own account, have ceased to do so, and now work only as laborers or hired servants in weaving for capitalists. I cannot, however, understand why country-woven cloths have not advanced in price more than they have. The quantity manufactured is certainly decreasing.

The people don't seem to know what to do with their money, but play with it like children, or the Californian gold-finders in the early days of the "diggings." I have heard instance of as much as rupees-600 and 700 being given by ryots at the Nowlgoond market for *single* bullocks to which they had taken a fancy, or because they wished to show off. I am told that several pairs of bullocks have been lately sold for more than rupees 1,000. Earthen vessels seem to have disappeared, and copper and brass are common in every house; and women who never set their affections above brass ornaments now wear gold and pearls. The importation of gold and pearls from Bombay is said to be very great, more than tenfold what it was two years ago.

If I can, I will get some more particular information for you on the point about which you have specially inquired.

DHAKWAR DISTRICT, }
The 4th February 1863. }

From Col. Sir H. B. EDWARDS, K. C. B., Commissioner, Umballa Division.

In compliance with the request in your printed note of 24th January, I now send you the reports of the Deputy Commissioners of Umballa and Loodiana, which I believe truly describe the extent to which, *hitherto*, the drain of native cotton to England has disturbed manufacture. But if the drain goes on, there must needs be more to tell. Still I do not anticipate that anything like even class distress would ensue. There is a vast deal of general prosperity in the country from reduced assessment of land and activity of trade; and as the weavers are distributed over the whole country in small batches and not massed into Lancashires, their demand for employment will, I believe, be readily taken up by the community at large in other shapes. It would be well if we could settle down into India giving its cotton *always*, and taking English fabrics! I fear there will come an ebb tide.

UMBALLA,
The 20th February 1863. }

From the Deputy Commissioner of Umballa,—No. 87, dated the 14th February 1863.

In reply to your docket No. 23, dated 31st January 1863, I have the honor to state that no foreign material appears to be used for mixing with cotton, but old cotton previously used for stuffing quilts, &c., is more or less used for mixing with new: particularly in durries or cotton carpets.

2. Some inconvenience is undoubtedly felt by the classes concerned in the preparation of cotton fabrics, and some of them have been driven to other occupations; but the difficulty there is in procuring labor for some large public works in progress shows the distress is not very great, as during the late famine the weavers eagerly sought for other employment.

3. The greatest distress is probably felt by old widows, who depend in a great measure for their support on spinning.

From the Deputy Commissioner of Loodiana,—No. 87, dated the 11th February 1863.

In reply to your Circular No. 23, dated 31st ultimo, I have the honor to state that though the high price of cotton has undoubtedly checked to some extent the employment of village looms in this district, yet the class so affected being small, and the suspension of work being partial, nothing approaching distress has ensued. I understand that many Zemindars, who would ordinarily give their cotton to be spun and wove into coarse fabrics by the village weavers, have of late found it pay better to dispose of their raw material for export and supply their own wants in British Piece Goods.

2. The only place, however, in the District where cotton cloths are largely manufactured is Loodiana itself. Here no effect seems yet to have been produced by actual scarcity of the fibre, though the rise in price has necessarily been followed by slackness of demand. It is not said that any adulteration of a cheaper material is taking place.

From W. GORDON YOUNG, Esquire, Officiating Commissioner, Chittagong.

I regret that I have not received all the information I wished to have in order to reply fully to your note of the 26th ultimo; but as I am just about to start for a distant part of my Division I do not like to keep your note any longer unanswered. From what I have heard, I am inclined to think that the high price of cotton has not yet produced such marked effects upon Native manufactures as many expected; nor has it led, in this Division at least, to any general substitution or intermixture of inferior material in the manufacture. The rise in the price of English-made thread and cloth has given an impetus to the Native manufacture from local cotton, and though the price of this latter has risen, it has not risen in nearly the same proportion. The rise generally has, of course, led to the people in many instances contenting themselves with fewer and worse clothes than formerly. And this slight decrease of demand has generally, I think, about counteracted the advantages which the weavers would otherwise have derived

from the impulse given to the local manufacture as compared with the foreign one.

On the whole, the weavers are in some places rather better off, and in some places rather worse off than formerly; but many of those that are worse off, have a second string to their bow in the shape of a little land, so that it cannot be said that there has been any "material local distress" as yet at least.

CHITTAGONG, }
The 23rd February 1863. }

From A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esquire, Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

The following is an abstract of the replies I have received to my enquiries as to the effect of the high price of cotton on the Native manufacture :—

Godavery.

The high price of cotton and of Twist has affected the native manufacture in this district unfavourably, and the weavers, as a body, are worse off than they were before. Many are compelled to gain a subsistence by working as day-labourers, some from time to time emigrate to the Mauritius.

Krishna District.

The high price of cotton has had an almost paralysing effect on native manufacture. The price of a maund of cleaned cotton, which was two rupees four years ago, is now six rupees. Cotton, with the seed (uncleaned) has risen in price from eight annas a maund in 1859 to one rupee and three-quarters in 1862, and for the last month it has been selling at two rupees and a quarter. Country yarn cost two annas six pie per skein four years ago, it now costs five annas. More than 50 per cent. of the weavers in this district have abandoned their trade and taken to cultivation and other means of obtaining a living. Some have emigrated to the Mauritius. The price of country cloths has increased 50 or 60 per cent. Tents which used to be made here for rupees 350 now cost rupees 550.

Madras District.

The high price of cotton is not made up to the Native manufacturers by the increased price of their goods, which, though enough to deter many purchasers, is by no means at the ratio of the increase in the price of the raw material. Consequently very many of the poorer weavers have ceased working their looms, while the profits of the more wealthy among them are materially diminished, and in some instances have ceased altogether. At Chingleput the demand for the Jail manufactures is increasing, but these are chiefly purchased by Europeans.

Madura District.

An immense number of the weavers in Madura and Dindigul have been thrown out of employment in consequence of the dearth of thread; but they have been able to find other employment, and there is not any very great distress amongst them. English thread is still procurable in limited quantities, not so country thread, the price of the raw cotton putting it beyond the means of the women who spin it. Consequently the weavers who used country thread are the worst off. The Collector had just been through all his cotton country. He reports that the crop is a failure, owing to too much rain. More land was sown with cotton than last year, and it came on famously at first, but the rain caused too great a growth in some parts of weak branches, which withered up without flowering. In some places the excess of rain stunted the growth of the plant. Some of the American varieties are looking well.

I have not yet been able to obtain any definite information regarding the Pondicherry Spinning Establishment. The Collector promised it, but has not yet furnished it. I understand, however, it has suffered, like the rest of the weaving trade.

MADRAS, }
The 25th February 1863. }

From Major J. W. BRISTOW, Deputy Commissioner of Jhelum.

Mr. Brandreth left me copy of your demi-official letter dated the 24th ultimo, requesting me to communicate with you on the subject of its contents, and to inform you that I did so at his request.

I have placed the points on which you desire information in the shape of question and answer, and I hope I have not omitted any thing in my replies.

You are aware that the Jhelum District is not a cotton-growing district; but, after a careful enquiry, I find matters stand as I have set forth.

If I can be of any further use in this way I shall be very glad to be so.

I.—Has the high price of cotton had any, and if so what, effect upon Native manufacturers?
I.—It has had the effect in this District of raising the price of the web by one-third, but it has not diminished the quantity of manufacture.

II.—Amongst those effects has it induced the Native manufacturers to mix any, and if so what, cheaper material with their cotton; has it had any effect on what may be called the domestic manufacture—such for example as are made up in each house or village strictly for the use of the village?

No admixture.
No effect on manufacturers?
No diminution of manufacture.

III.—Especially, what has been the effect of high price of cotton) on the manufacture for general sale at fairs or marts?

III.—There has been a great increase in demand of the coarse fabric call *guzze* in the direction of Scinde and large exports down the river have been made of this material, but it is not known certainly here what has led to this result, probably the dearth of new cotton in that quarter. It is the common wear of the poor-classes.

IV.—Has it been the cause of material local distress amongst the weavers, dyers and similar classes?
Distress not felt by weavers but some by dyers and cleaners.

IV.—None in regard to weavers, but it has had an effect on cotton-cleaners on this account; that the weavers have continued their trade, using thread previously in store, which is not all expended. On account of fresh cotton having been bought up by traders and exported, the cleaners have suffered.

As to the dyers, they have suffered also on account of the extensive manufacture of the fabric call *guzze* mentioned above. This being undyed and unbleached.

The 27th February 1863.

From Captain W. G. DAVIES, Deputy Commissioner, Shalipore.

Mr. Brandreth sent me before leaving Rawul Pindie copy of a letter addressed to him by you on the 24th January last making certain enquiries as to the effect which the high price of cotton had had upon Native manufactures, asking me to make enquiries, and if I could collect any information worth imparting to communicate it to you direct, this I have now the pleasure to do. I will answer your questions in the order in which they are put.

1st.—Native manufacturers have not mixed any cheaper material with their cotton, simply I believe because there is nothing of the kind to be found fit to mix; but it is universally stated that the high price of cotton has had a repressive effect on domestic manufactures; the poor have found it necessary to economize their clothing, less has, therefore, been made up, but this effect is only now beginning to be felt.

2nd.—The effect on the manufacture for general sale at marts, has been far more marked; for instance the Chongee contractor at Griôt has been nearly ruined by the almost total cessation of the trade in cloth

between that place and Cabul. The Poonindah traders were formerly in the habit of purchasing large quantity of the common coarse cloth called "Gura" on their way back to Cabul and Candahar. This last year the trade in this article here and in other towns, such as Khoshab, Futtelghur, Shah Gornuf and others has nearly come to a stand still. No great distress has yet been experienced by the weavers, cleaners of cotton, &c., but it is generally believed that, if the cotton famine produced by the great demand in England continues much longer, such a result is inevitable, and these classes will then find employment in the Public Works of which there are always plenty going on.

SHANPORE,

The 16th March 1863.

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. HAMILTON, Commissioner, Mooltan.

I have received your note of the 26th January, and have been endeavouring to procure the information required by Sir Charles Trevelyan. Cotton manufactures are carried on to a very limited extent in this Division.

I find, however, that Native manufactures in cotton have decreased considerably, possibly to the extent of one-half. This, however, does not appear to have caused distress, for the weavers thrown out of employment have found ample employment from the increased cultivation of cotton, nor have those who adhered to their ordinary occupation of weaving suffered. The high price of the material of course increased the price of the manufactured article, but at the same time it allowed the weaver to obtain a higher price for his labor. Say the material cost one rupee and the manufactured article two rupees. The material now costs two rupees and the manufactured article not three rupees, but three-eight or four rupees. These, however, are not the actual rates, but are given for illustration.

Dyers and other classes connected with cotton manufactures do not appear to have suffered. The increased cultivation of cotton

its cleaning, picking, &c., &c., have afforded full occupation to the laboring classes. Something also may be ascribed to the abundant harvest of last year, and a similar prospect for the coming season.

It cannot be doubted that cotton for exportation and for domestic

Cotton adulterated but use has been adulterated. Cotton has been chiefly with old cotton. extracted from old quilts, old robes have been untwisted, and the decayed material mixed with the new cotton. I cannot find, however, that any other material has been used for adulteration. I cannot ascertain that any other material

Blankets used were in has been substituted for cotton in manufacture of cotton quilts. Blankets are now more used than formerly from the great cost of cotton stuffed quilts.

Delhi, the 16th March 1863.

From R. TEMPLE, Esquire, Officiating Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.

I have now the pleasure to forward under a separate cover the information required in your letter of the 24th January. If there has been a little delay it must be excused because I had to refer to Nagpore. I now forward Memorandum of conversations held by Mr. Bernard, the Secretary, with the best informed Native merchants. I think that the information will be found to be both complete and interesting. It will speak for itself.

I should add that I learn from a Reverend Missionary on his tour, Distresses among weavers, that there is distress among the village but not seen. cotton-weavers in some places. But any distress of that kind which might arise would be soon mitigated by the abundant employment afforded by Public Works in that part of the Central Provinces.

CAMP SUMBULPORE, }
The 13th March 1863. }

MEMORANDUM.

The high price of cotton has not led the dealers or growers in

No adulteration of cotton. the Central Provinces to adulterate or mix any foreign substance with cotton sold for exportation. And for this reason there is scarcely a single dealer or grower in these Provinces who exports cotton himself. Agents of the great Bombay houses and of one European house at Mirzapore buy up from dealers of these parts all their cotton and carry it to Bombay. Obviously the dealers will not take from growers adulterated cotton, and the Agents of Bombay houses will not adulterate cotton from dealers. The Bombay Agents re-pack the cotton they buy and despatch it by country-carts to Bombay. These Agents have their offices at all the cotton marts of these parts. The cotton comes to them in torn, ill-sown bags; they turn it out, sift it, weigh it, and then re-pack it in good sound gunny. Whether these Agents mix any foreign substance with the cotton in the bales they pack cannot be known till they are opened at Bombay.

Reasons for this. The high price of cotton has not led Native weavers in these Provinces to substitute any other material for cotton fibre. This is the unanimous opinion of all Natives acquainted with the matter. They have not even tried to substitute hemp fibre for cotton. Dealers here are aware that such an attempt has been made in England, but they say it has not been tried in the Central Provinces. They do not know any fibre that could be substituted for cotton fibre, and they do not believe that any weavers of these parts have thought of looking for any such fibre.

No substitution of other materials in the room of cotton. The manufacture of fine fabrics goes on just as it did before. Effect of prices on the fabrics. The call for the finer textures of Nagpore cloths has of course risen, but scarcely one loom has been compelled to be idle owing to high prices.

Coarser cotton cloths are still woven, but the dealers believe that Coarser Cotton Cloths. where a weaver used to weave ten pieces he only weaves five now. Still there is no scarcity of cotton cloths in the bazars of these parts. It would appear that the price of coarse cloths has not risen at all in proportion to the rise in raw cotton. The explanation being, that individuals or families, who used to weave cotton stuffs, and whose

fathers and grand-fathers wove cotton stuffs before them, still continue to weave. They buy their raw cotton from the same peasants who supplied them and their families perhaps for centuries. Peasants who have raised their price, perhaps cent. per cent. to cotton dealers, let their regular customers, the village weavers, have cotton at a small advance at the old prices. Again the women and children of certain castes do nothing but spin yarn, they will not cease spinning yarn even though they could get more for their raw cotton than they could for their yarn. They take their cotton to the village weavers, who give them back perhaps half the weight in woven cloths, keeping the other half as cost of weaving.

Provide Explanation.

do nothing but spin yarn, they will not cease spinning yarn even though they could get more for their raw cotton than they could for their yarn. They take their cotton to the village weavers, who give them back perhaps half the weight in woven cloths, keeping the other half as cost of weaving.

Provide Explanation.

Moreover the excessive rise in prices of cotton has occurred since last cotton crop was sold, and has not yet taken effect on country fabrics.

Women must spin.

Some men say that if prices rise higher or continue another year at their present figure, country weavers will have no work as they cannot afford to pay these high prices for the raw material.

But up to date, be the reason what it may, the supply of country stuffs has not fallen off as it might have been expected to do, and the rise in price of country fabrics and Europe grey shirtings has not been any thing like proportionate to the rise in price of raw cotton.

Excessive speculation at Bombay may have raised the price of raw cotton, and not affected proportionately the price of shirtings here.

When I was in Mirzapore on 1st December last, I learnt that the price of raw cotton was 2½ seers a rupee.

Disproportion between rise of price and raw cotton or woven stuffs. When I reached Nagpore about the 12th December, it was from 1½ to 2 seers a rupee; on the 15th January it was 1½ seers a rupee; to-day, (the 6th February) it is 1 seer a rupee, i.e. a shilling a pound in Nagpore. There can be no doubt that stuffs have not risen in any thing like this proportion.

Dealers say they think it possible that some of the former class of weavers have taken to working in the woods instead of weaving. But this is

Weavers will take to roads.

because they and their whole families, men and women and children, all can find employment and receive a daily wage on the roads.

Had it not been for the roads and Railway works in progress throughout these provinces, it is probable that the high price of corn and the rise in cotton might have reduced some weavers to starvation. But, as it is, no one believes that any of those also who formerly lived by weaving cotton, are now in distress from the high price of the commodity they used to weave.

(Signed) C. BERNARD.

NAGPORE,
The 5th February 1863.

Memorandum of Conversation with Brunsford Rai Rahadcor.

So far as Bunssee knows no one in these Provinces purposely adulterates cotton for export from Hingun Ghāt or elsewhere. The people are poor, and cultivators had not yet learnt any evil ways of this kind. Rich audacious dealers in Dharwar may do this sort of thing. In cotton for export there is no doubt a residue of coarse unginnet cotton, of leaves and perhaps a little mould or small gravel, but this is because the cotton is not well cleaned or ginned, and not the consequence of wilful adulteration on the part of cultivators or dealers. Still compared with other places Hingun Ghāt cotton has a good name for cleanliness.

Up to date no decrease has taken place in the manufacture of fine fabrics, such as Nagpore diotees and pugherries. In coarse fabrics there is a falling off, and the poorer classes of weavers have taken to working on the road and Railway works to get a living.

The price of all fabrics has of course risen. But up to date the market is fully supplied with fine Native fabrics. Coarser textures are not brought for sale quite so much as in other years when cotton was cheaper.

Conversation with Booteah.

There is scarcely one Native dealer of these Provinces that sends his cotton to Bombay for export. The usual course of business is for dealers of these parts to buy cotton from Koonbees, or other cultivators by weight and sell it by weight to the Agents of Bombay houses (Booteahs) at Hingun Ghāt, Arvee, Deolee, &c., &c. The Koonbees are simple folks and do not adulterate their cotton; the dealers of these Provinces cannot adulterate because they give cotton by weight to Bombay Agents, who will not take adulterated cotton. What the dealers do Booteah cannot say. He believes the real history of stones, &c., being found in cotton is this: A hundred cart-loads of cotton go off to Bombay under the care of nobody but the carters. The bales are neither pressed nor packed, wastage occurs. Flakes of cotton fall out every moment. The carters in order that the bale of cotton may be full on delivery at Bombay, put stones into the packages to make up for what has dropped by the way. It may be that when they find how easily this is done, some dealers do it for their own profit. Booteah believes this will cease when Presses are established at Hingun Ghāt, where cotton is packed in bales just as it is received from the Koonbees, and is never unpacked till it reaches the looms of Manchester.

Up to date there has been no decrease in the amount of cotton fabrics of the finer kind woven at Nagpore.

Of coarser fabrics such as "gurals," &c., less may perhaps be manufactured. He does not know that, as yet, weavers have begun to introduce any other material into their looms to make the cotton go further. Now that cotton is getting dearer and dearer, Booteah anticipates that this year the coarser kinds of manufacture will almost cease. The weaver class will not, however, starve as they will find employment on the numerous roads and railway works that are in progress. Cotton growers will still keep back some of their cotton for home manufacture and home use; but they will manage with less than they used in former years, and will doubtless make their cloths last longer.

Memorandum of conversation with Kishen Dyal.

No adulteration takes place. Koonbees sell their cotton to dealers. Dealers to Agents of Bombay Merchants. These Agents take it out of the open torn bags in which it comes to them and pack in new strong gunny bags, sewn at the top. The carters too, who take the bales to Bombay, give spare pieces of guiny cloth and materials to carters in order that holes in bags may be mended as they are made.

Kishen Dyal thinks it possible that one in a hundred of the Bombay Agents adulterates the cotton from these Provinces; but he is sure that such adulteration is exceedingly rare.

He is sure that as yet no other material has been used in the place of cotton in fabrics of these parts. Manufactures of cotton cloths of the coarse kind have declined, but fine fabrics come into the market in undiminished quantities.

Weavers are out of work, and would starve in numbers were it not for the Public Works and Railways.

Memorandum of conversation with Tej Ram.

Believes no adulteration is practised, as the "Booteahs" would not take adulterated cotton. Does not know that any substitute for cotton has been found.

Cannot say whether "Booteahs," when they pack cotton for Bombay, put any foreign substance into bales—thinks it unlikely.

Thinks the high prices of cotton have had little or no effect on the manufacture of the fine Nagpore fabrics. Possibly poor weavers in the interior weave five pieces of cloth where they wove ten before. Has not heard of any distress among the weaver class. Apprehends the weavers out of work will find employment on the roads.

N. B.—Letter has been written to Mr. Mclean of H. B. & Co. on the subject of adulteration.

Answer is not yet received. But I anticipate it cannot but confirm the accounts given by their men; so I do not wait for it.

From V. H. SHAMCH, Esquire, Commissioner of Nuddea Division.

I have delayed replying to your demi-official of the 26th January until I had completed my Mofussil tour and received information from the local Officers in addition to what I was myself able to gather as to the effects which the high price of cotton has had upon the Native manufacture.

Taking my Division, consisting of the 24-Pergunnahs, Jessore and Nuddea, as a whole, I gather that—

1st.—No admixture of any other substance with cotton has been caused by the present high price of the latter article.

2nd.—But it has led to a very decided and general check in the manufacture both for domestic use and for the trade.

Little cotton is grown in this division. The weavers, therefore, use cotton imported from other districts or English-made thread. The former I am assured has risen 50 per cent. in price, and the use of the latter has consequently largely increased.

In the country immediately beyond Calcutta, the price of the common Native manufactured cotton fabrics has risen from 30 to 50 per cent. over that prevailing in the past year (1861).

3rd.—There has been an undoubted diminution in the quantity of cotton goods of Native manufacture brought for sale to fairs and markets throughout the Division, but I cannot say that it has been clearly shown that there is much material distress amongst the weavers and others engaged in the trade, though such is alleged to be the case in some localities, for the diminution in the quantity sold has been compensated in a great degree by the higher price realized on the article.

Camp Kishanpore.

From Major E. T. DALTON, Commissioner, Chota Nagpore.

I have been on the move since I first received your note of the 24th January, asking for information in regard to the effect produced on weavers and others by the high price of cotton; and though I immediately entered for statistics from the different districts, I thought it best to postpone my reply till I had myself visited several cotton marts falling within the line of my tour.

I do not find that the demand for clothes of Native manufactures has much diminished in consequence of the increased price of cotton, nor do I find that it has been the cause of distress amongst Natives of the weaver class. The only place where this is said to have taken place is the Hazareebagh district, which I have had no opportunity as yet of visiting. The Deputy Commissioner Captain Doddan reports that in that district the price of Native cloth is just double what it was a few years ago. The district lies on the Grand Trunk Road, and its cotton finding a readier exit than from the other districts, the weavers find it difficult to procure the material at any price that they can afford to pay for it; but still having agricultural pursuits to fall back upon, they are not represented as being in great distress. This is not borne out by the result of my own enquiries over a large area including our best cotton districts. I have generally been informed by the weavers themselves that their sales have not diminished, and as they have increased the price of the clothes they sell in proportion to the increase in the price of cotton they have not suffered. The loss falls on the agricultural population who are the purchasers, who in consequence of the rise in the value of other produce are in a better position to meet it than they ever were before.

In many parts of the division as in Singbhoon the traffic between the villages and the village is one of barter. The villager gives at the rate of about 16 seers of uncleaned cotton for a cloth of six yards. The selling price of the cloth would, a year or two ago, have been from twelve annas to one rupee. It is now rupee 1-4. The rate of barter does not appear to have changed, so here the weaver has an advantage, as the surplus cotton that he gets for his labor has so considerably increased in value, and the statement appended will show that when he purchases the cotton he increases the price of his cloth in proportion to the increased value of the material.

No attempt has been made to mix up any other cheaper material in making up country cloths, and I do not find that the dyers have at all suffered from the altered state of things.

CAMP SHAHPORE IN PALAMOW, }
The 12th March 1863. }

Comparative Statement of prices of uncleaned Cotton and Country Cloths at different markets in the Chota Nagpore Division.

District.	RAW COTTON.		COUNTRY CLOTHS.	
	Former years.	1861-62.	Former years.	1862-63.
Singbhoon	12 seers for the Re.	8 seers for the Re.	5 seers for the pes.	12 ays for Re. 1-4 for the pes.
Lohudugga	18 seers for the Re.	8 seers for the Re.	6 seers for the Re.	5 yds for the Re.
Palamow	50 seers for the Re.	10 seers for the Re.	5 seers for the Re.	9 yds for the Re.

(Signed) E. T. DALTON, Major,

Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

From Daboo GUNGA PERSHAD, Principal Sudder Ameen, Kondh, to C. B. DENISON, Esquire, Magistrate and Collector of Mirzapore.

"In reply to your honor's favor of the 5th instant, I have the honor to bring to your kind notice the circumstances of the weavers and their doings in Bhoudaloe. The accompanying Table may show the rates of cotton, thread and cloth, &c. It had been the custom in this Pergunnah, that spinners, called Ruttees who are especially old and widows, take cotton from carders and give thread in its exchange $\frac{1}{2}$ less than cotton. The weight of seer used among weavers, spinners and carders is 20 rupees for a seer. According to this seer 4 seers 2 chittacks cotton is gained for a rupee, deducting $\frac{1}{2}$ of the same 2½ seers of thread of first kind is gained for the cotton; referring to the attached Table of price it is clear that $\frac{1}{2}$ of a seer or 4 chittacks of thread is only the saving of the carder worth 1½ anna per rupee, deducting $\frac{1}{2}$ anna for the loss of cotton wasted in combing or carding the cotton one anna per rupee is saved. Formerly the cotton was $\frac{6}{11}$ seers for a rupee, deducting $\frac{1}{2}$ of it 4½ seers of thread of first kind was gained; as the price of thread was 4 seers per rupee so the saving of the carder was the same, 4 chittacks per rupee as now. It would appear from the attached Table that the price of Native cloth has also been raised as the cotton got dearer, that is cotton got dearer six annas per rupee, and the price of Native cloth raised from three to five annas per rupee.

The circumstances which have caused distress among weavers of this Pergunah are as follows :—

1st.—The dearness of cotton is not equivalent to the dearness of Native cloth, that is, what is lost in cotton not exactly gained in cloth.

2nd.—It is well known that country cloth, on account of its rough manufacture, and being dearer than of English, had very little regard among Natives ; now the price of cloth being dearer than before it has further lessened the demand.

3rd.—The poorer class of weavers having very small capital in their hands ; the dearness of the cotton required more capital than used before, they cannot go on with their work.

4th.—The people think the dearness temporary, and they deter purchasing cloth under a hope of further cheapness ; consequently when a poor weaver prepares a country piece according to the little capital in his hand, the cloth not being immediately sold in market he eats up the capital and becomes destitute. The supply of kuyas has been decreased at a rate of 80 per cent. that is only 20 bullocks out of 100 bullocks of cotton are brought in market for sale.

The demand is also decreased in this Pergunah about a half, that is out of the supply one moiety is sold here and the rest carried away.

The yearly expense of a peasant's clothing is as follows :—

	Rs.	As.
For a single woman's clothing, English manufacture	8	0
Ditto Country cloth	6	14
For a single man's English manufacture	6	7
Ditto Country cloth	6	10

That is for a family of one man and one woman's clothing of English manufacture is 14-7 and country cloth 13-8.

Kuyas is very seldom produced in this Pergunah Munwán or Rurhia is sown but very little. If cotton remains dear as it is, I think a subscription will be necessary for the weavers of this place too.

Price of Country Cloth per piece.

Name of piece.	Ordinary.	Present.
	Rs. As.	Rs. As.
A piece of dhothee for men, 17 hands } long	1 4	1 8
Ditto ditto for women, 22 hands long	1 12	2 4
Ditto ditto ditto kinaradar	0 14	1 2
Ditto ditto khelma	0 14	1 0
Ditto gázee for dohur, &c., 32 hands } long	1 4	1 8
Ditto gádhá ditto, 30 hands long	1 12	2 2
Ditto ditto ditto of 3 yard wide	1 4	1 8

Table showing the rates of Cotton thread, cloth, &c., and price of one year's clothing of a peasant.

NAME OF GOODS.	R A T E S.								REMARKS.
	ORDINARY OR LAST YEAR'S RATE.				PRESENT.				
	Amount per Re. at 80 Rupees a seer weight.		Amount per Re. at 29 Rupees a seer weight.		Amount per Re. at 80 Rupees a seer weight.		Amount per Re. at 39 Rupees a seer weight.		
	Seers.	Chts.	Seers.	Chts.	Seers.	Chts.	Seers.	Chts.	
Raw Cotton or Kupas	7	.....	.....	.....	4	8	.....	.....	In Kupas there is 1 seed, &c. and 1 Cotton.
Cotton	2	6	6	8	1	8	4	2	Cotton is bartered for thread 1 less than Cotton.
THREAD.									
1st kind	1	7	14	.....	.....	14½	2	8	In Cotton of one Rupee 2 Seers 12 chittacks of first kind of thread is gained, and as the rate of first kind of thread is 2 seers 8 chittacks per Rupee, 4 chittacks are the saving of carders.
2nd kind	1	13	5	.....	1	.....	2	13	
3rd kind	2	3	6	.....	1	2¾	3	4	

Estimate of Peasant's clothing for one year.

NAME OF CLOTHING.	Price of Country cloth.		Price of English manufacture.		TOTAL.
	Rs.	As.	Rs.	As.	
<i>For a single woman.</i>					
2 pairs or 4 Dhotees	4	8	5	12	
1 Puchhouree or Sheet	1	2	1	0	
1 Koorta or Shirt	0	4	0	4	
1 Doga or Razae.....	1	0	1	0	
<i>For a single man.</i>					
1 pair or 2 Dhotees	2	4	2	4	
2 Mirzaes.....	0	12	0	10	
1 Dohar	2	0	2	4	
1 Doputta Garha	1	0	1	2	
2 Angouchas, 5 hands each	0	10	1	5	
Total.....	13	8	15	9	

Doputta is often made of country cloth, therefore 14 rupees 7 annas the total of English cloth.

The 20th February 1863.

(Copy.)

No. 7 or 1864.

FROM

G. H. M. BATTEN, Esq.,

Secretary to the Sudder Board of Revenue,

N. W. Provinces.

TO

R. SIMSON, Esq.,

Secretary to Government in the General

Department, N. W. Provinces.

Dated Allahabad, the 6th of Jan. 1864.

Revenue,
Present,
W. Muir, Esq.,
Senior Member.

Sir,—Having laid before the Sudder Board of Revenue, N. W. Provinces, the Despatch of the Home Department No. 7550, dated 1st December 1863, with enclosure from the Chamber of Commerce dated 13th October, (but only received on the 2nd instant), I am directed to intimate that a circular has been addressed to the District Officers calling for the information desired by the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

2nd.—Meanwhile it may be of service to the Chamber to be informed that, so far as the Board are aware, there is no reason to believe that there has been any increase in native weaving, or other indigenous manufacture of cotton. On the contrary, notwithstanding the extraordinary rise in the price of cotton goods manufactured in the country, the manufacture is said to be steadily declining, those hitherto employed upon it being attracted by the higher rate of wages obtainable in other departments of industry.

3rd.—This is the more remarkable as the price of the coarser stuffs manufactured in the country is said to have increased in a greater ratio than that of English stuffs;—the increase in the former being 200 or 300 per cent., that in the latter only 150 to 200 per cent.

4th.—As a rule, the cotton crop is destined entirely for exportation; no material proportion of it being reserved for Home consumption.

5th.—The cause of the diminished demand for Manchester goods would seem to be that the capital of the province formerly available for this traffic has been entirely diverted into a different channel by the eager speculation in cotton for export to England; and perhaps also the marked rise in the price of those goods has affected the demand. The necessity under which the people labour for cotton cloth, however much they may economize its use and diminish their dress, will eventually cause the demand to revive, so soon as the first of the above-named causes ceases to operate.

6th.—Referring to the Board's report on the last cotton crop No. 769, dated 29th October, I am directed to intimate that the season subsequent to that date has been generally favorable to the secondary flowering and belling of the plant; and that the actual outturn of the harvest will probably in some degree exceed the estimate formed two months ago by the Board.

7th.—More detailed information upon the questions raised in Mr. Wood's letter will be submitted in a few weeks on the receipt of the Collectors' replies. Meanwhile a copy of this report will (to save time) be furnished direct to the Chamber of Commerce.

I am, &c.,

(Sd.) G. H. M. BATTEN,

Secretary.

Sudder Board of Revenue,
N. W. P., Allahabad,
The 6th January 1864.

(True copy.)

M. WITTENBAKER,

Asst. Secretary, Sudder Board of Revenue,

N. W. P., Allahabad.

FROM

G. H. M. BATTEN, Esq.,

Secretary, Sudder Board of Revenue,

TO

R. SIMSON, Esq.,

Secretary to Govt. N. W. Provinces.

Dated Allahabad, the 16th March 1864.

PRESENT:
W. Muir, Esq.,
Senior Member.

Sir,—In continuation of my letter No. 7, dated the 6th January

last, I am now directed by the Sudder Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces, to submit the result of the information received in reply to their Circular Order A., dated 12th January, in reference to the apprehension, expressed by the Chamber of Commerce, that the present slackness of demand for European cotton goods has been occasioned by increased indigenous manufacture.

2. The general conclusions stated in anticipation by the Board in my former address, are amply confirmed by the returns now received to the above Circular.

3. These returns have brought to light a great mass of information, showing the causes, varying sometimes in different districts, which have affected the demand for European goods, and also for Native fabrics. The general results will be stated briefly in this letter, but in order to preserve the valuable details contained in the district reports, a copious Appendix has been added containing abstracts and extracts of the same.

4. First, then, it may be stated decidedly, that the diminished demand for English cottons has not been caused by increased Native manufacture. With few exceptions there has been nowhere any such increase. On the contrary there has, speaking generally, been a marked and distressing contraction of local manufacture. This, from causes explained below, is less observable in the western districts; where perhaps from a sixth to a fourth of the looms in the cities and towns (though not in the outlying villages) have stopped working. But in the eastern districts, the trade has altogether decayed; and within the last two or three years the falling off is shown to have reached a third, and in some districts a half, of the looms; and even of the remainder a large portion are only worked occasionally. The weavers have betaken themselves to agricultural or other labor, to menial service, emigration to the Mauritius and elsewhere, and even to begging.

5. The fact is, that the extraordinary rise of price has affected, though unequally, the demand both for Native and for European stuffs. The same money only buys half, and often less than half, the quantity of cloth it used to. Among the higher classes, somewhat more money may be now devoted to the purchase of wearing apparel; but the poorer classes (and upon these the market mainly depends) have no reserve funds, and consequently cannot appropriate more money to the purchase of clothes. They are forced to content themselves with less, and to buy the coarser and cheaper

sorts of Native manufacture. It is true that the greatly enhanced price of cotton has enriched its cultivators, but these are merely one class amongst the people; and (as will be shown below) this class clothe themselves from cotton of their own growth.

6. The enhanced prices, as said above, have diminished the consumption both of English and of Native pieces; but, at least in the western districts, they have affected the English more than the Native. This is remarkable seeing that as explained in my former letter, the Native goods have advanced in price in a higher ratio than the European;—the increase in the former being cent. per cent., and in some cases rising even to near 200 per cent.; while the latter have risen only from 50 to 100 per cent. One chief reason for this difference is, no doubt, that the Native fabrics are heavier, and contain more cotton;—the cost of production remaining the same, the rise in price is of course greater in the heavier than in the lighter stuffs.

7. In some of the reports this has been overlooked, and it has been assumed that the rise in price of the manufactured article, should have been in the same ratio as the rise in the price of the raw material.

8. The cost of cotton fabrics may be resolved into two elements: 1st, price of the raw material; 2nd, cost of production, including labour, machinery, carriage, &c. The effect of the rise in the price of cotton will tell differently on the cost of fine light fabrics, and of coarse and heavy fabrics, thus:—

First, in the case of light stuffs. Suppose a piece of English and of Native cloth of the same size, and the same weight of cotton; the value of the raw cotton in each case being 8 annas, if the cost of labor, &c., by the Native method were 8 annas and by the English 6 annas, then the price of the Native piece would be 16 annas—that of the English 14 annas. But if the cost of the raw material be trebled, then the price of the Native piece will be two rupees, and that of the English 1 rupee, 14 annas. The English piece is still cheaper by 2 annas; but its price has increased 114 per cent., while the Native piece has increased only 100 per cent. The supposed results are tabulated for greater clearness.

Comparative table of price of a fine fabric, same size and weight.

	1859.			1861.			Increase per cent.
	Cost of cotton.	Cost of labor, &c.	Price.	Cost of cotton.	Cost of production.	Price.	
English fabric,	5 3s.	6 3s.	14 3s.	21 3s.	6 3s.	1-14	114
Native fabric,	5 3s.	8 3s.	1 R.	24 3s.	8 3s.	2 Rs.	100

Suppose, again, that the fabric is of a cheap coarse texture in both cases, but that the Native is twice as coarse and heavy as the English, thus:—

	1859.			1861.			Increase per cent.
	Cost of raw cot- ton.	Cost of labor, &c.	Total cost price.	Cost of raw cotton.	Cost of labor, &c.	Total cost price.	
English stuff,	8 3s.	4 3s.	12 3s.	1 R. 2 3s.	4 3s.	1 R. 12 3s.	123
Native stuff,	1 R.	4 3s.	1 R. 4 3s.	6 Rs.	4 3s.	3 Rs. 4 3s.	109

That is, the increased value of raw cotton adds to the price of coarse stuffs in a much greater ratio than to that of fine stuffs, both because the cost of labor is less, and because more raw material is used. A very important addition must also be made to the price of the Native article, for the profit required to cover the exorbitant interest of the capital which the weavers must borrow to provide for this new expense.

Hence, it is easy to understand why the prices of the heavy and coarse Native cottons have doubled and trebled themselves.

9. What is strange is that while they have increased in price so much more than English goods, they should still maintain themselves in the market better than English goods can do. Yet the tenor of the evidence contained in the returns leaves no doubt on this head. The consumption of the Native goods has diminished in consequence of the increased price; but the consumption of English

goods has diminished in a far greater measure. In this view the Native goods have to some extent, and in a certain sense, taken the place of the English; yet this has been not in consequence of increased, but in spite of very considerably diminished, production.

10. The reasons assigned are various. It is alleged that notwithstanding the relatively greater increase of its price, the cost of the coarse Native article is still considerably less than that of any English stuffs that would answer the same object*. It is held that the Native article is more durable, thicker, warmer, and better suited to the wants of the people in these Provinces; and that Lancashire must produce a coarser, thicker, and cheaper article than it does at present, before it can compete in this department of manufacture with the Native weaver. It will be seen that there are also other opinions at variance with the above; but the balance of the evidence is against them.

11. An important point strongly brought out in these reports is, that English yarns, which used to be extensively used by Native weavers for their finer fabrics, are going out of use, and in some places have disappeared,—either through the stoppage of the looms or supplanted by thread locally spun. The trade can no longer afford to advance the large capital required for the purchase of English thread. The weaver is reduced to work from hand to mouth upon local material. It corresponds with this, that the importation of yarns has largely fallen off within the last two years (see figured Statement below).

12. Another reason of the slack demand for English goods, is, as stated by the Board in their former letter, the tightness of the money market, and the diversion of all available capital in the more profitable speculation of exporting cotton.

13. It is also asserted that the markets were already overstocked by the too brisk trade of preceding years. The following tables abstracted by Mr. W. G. Flouren, from figures given in the *Times*, City Article of January 8th, would appear to bear out this assertion. They even show that (omitting the abnormal years of 1855, 1859 and 1860) the shipments to Calcutta and Bombay are not under, but above the averages of the shipments from 1853 to 1857. It must here be noted that the Chamber should not lose sight of the imports *via Bombay* which find their way into Jhansie, Gwalior, and Rajpootana; and which, with the progress of the Bombay railway, will continue daily to push their way up more and more, and displace those from Calcutta.

* From the various reports in the Appendix, it will be seen that heavily even made of Native clothing can be produced cheaper (though coarser and heavier in texture) of local than of English manufacture.

Statement showing in millions and thousands (hundreds omitted), the trade in plain Cottons and Yarns to Calcutta and Bombay.

	1853	1854	1855	1856	1857	1858	1859	1860	1861	1862	1863
Plain Cottons shipped in Calcutta in yards, Bazar yards, Yarns shipped to Calcutta, Ditto to Bombay in lbs.	147,653 113,258 45,259 6,549	247,663 170,647 15,422 7,436	244,331 117,319 16,001 7,665	246,727 113,696 15,104 4,559	290,705 111,569 10,688 2,838	377,847 221,823 18,345 8,536	459,722 205,307 20,019 12,896	303,233 222,373 16,392 4,530	387,285 232,221 13,933 5,278	246,045 148,964 9,301 4,811	109,009 101,490 10,394 5,302

Similar Statement—the returns for Calcutta and Bombay being shown together.

	1853	1854	1855	1856	1857	1858	1859	1860	1861	1862	1863
Plain Cottons, yards, ...	261,101	418,277	3,61,604	3,59,753	3,11,274	5,59,499	3,95,000	3,91,009	14,403	15,956	
Cotton Yarn, lbs.	22,108	23,100	24,327	10,063	13,328	10,211	14,403	15,956			

14. It has been noticed above that the trade of weaving has decreased less in the Western than in the Eastern districts. In the former, cotton is extensively cultivated ; and the cultivators, as well as those who receive cotton from them, by payment in kind, find it more economical to expend a portion of the crop by home manufacture for their clothing, than to purchase ready-made cloth. The women employ themselves in spinning the thread, and a weaver is hired to make up the pieces ; or the work is given out to him by the job, and he is paid in cotton. It seems to be in this way that a large portion of the population in the western districts are supplied with clothing. Hence, also, while the weavers in the larger towns, unable to provide the capital required to purchase material for their trade, are forsaking their looms those in the country and outlying villages are in many cases prospering.

15. In the Benares division, and Goruckpore, however, where hardly any cotton is produced, and in other quarters, as Allahabad, where it is sparingly cultivated, the same facilities for employment are not afforded to the weavers. Where no cotton is grown, there can be no home manufacture without the purchase of cotton ; and the present rates are almost prohibitive. Consequently the manufacture languishes ; and the production of indigenous fabrics has greatly diminished, both in towns and villages. Hence, in the Eastern districts the consumption of European goods must be materially greater than in the Western.

16. The proportion of the crop which is retained for domestic use is variously estimated at from one-fourth to one-sixth. Taking the produce of those Provinces at 8,000,000 lbs.,* it may be assumed that at least a million and a half to two millions of lbs. were consumed in the several districts which produced it, and about six millions exported.

17. By far the greatest portion of this, as well as of the cotton grown in the adjacent States of Bundelkhand and Rajpootana, is transmitted *via* Allahabad to Calcutta, by boat, steamer, cart, or rail. It was noticed last year that a despatch was sent from Hattiras *via* Delhi to Umritsur for exportation from Kurachee. The experiment does not appear to have been repeated in the present year, and was probably not found to answer.

18. It was also stated that last year cotton was exported from Hattiras and Agrā to Bombay. The exportation in this direction has considerably increased in the present year, and it has taken a variety of routes. From Hattiras 5,700 maunds, or about 450,000 lbs. have been despatched *via* Indore: and from the Mattra district 7,550 maunds, or above 600,000 lbs. From Mirzapore about 1,300 maunds (100,000 lbs.) were exported partly by Indore and partly by Oomrawuttee. From Calpee about the same quantity was sent *via* Jhansie and Indore.* A considerable amount is said to have been despatched from the southern parts of Bundelkhand *via* Jubbulpore and Oomrawuttee to Bombay: which circuitous route, it is alleged, is taken to avoid the exactions of the Gwalior officials. This is the first year in which the tide of cotton has set in this direction; it used before invariably to flow *upwards* from Central India to Mirzapore and Calcutta. Now it takes the opposite direction. No doubt the return carriage will be laden with cotton stuffs and other goods, and bring Bombay into closer competition with Calcutta for the supply of Central and Upper India. Some details of the cost of the route to Bombay, which at present is far more expensive than that to Calcutta, are given in the Appendix.

19. It will be observed that no substances are used for admixing. The produce of the *Sann*† or cotton tree is occasionally employed for quilting coverlets, padding clothes, stuffing pillows, &c., but it is not suited for the loom.

20. Other substitutes are resorted to for clothing. Even hempen stuffs are mentioned as used for this object. The woollen trade has received an impetus, and blankets have greatly advanced in price:—Indeed the extreme scarcity of clothing is every where

* This venture was met by Mr. Muli on the Calpee road near Jhansie, when on about 800 canals. These belonged to a Calcutta merchant, who, after selling his suits, was never known to take this route before. It was despatched on account of a Mirzapore merchant to meet an engagement at Bombay. The whole quantity of cotton from Calpee this year was about 25,000 maunds which, with the above exception, went to Mirzapore. In the Calpee district the merchants contracted with the cultivators at the sowing seasons for cotton at Rs. 20 a maund, helping them with advances.

† A curious indirect result of the cotton famine has been to encourage *furne* of sheep; see the report of Mr. H. D. Robertson for Scherampore.

attested; a curious evidence of it (as well as of the perverse fancy of the people) is adduced by Mr. Ousely in the rumour that the Government were withdrawing the cotton crop in order to substitute clothing of leather which would injure their caste!

A copy of this report has been sent, as on former occasions, direct to the Chamber of Commerce.

I have, &c.,

G. H. M. BATTEN,

Secretary.

ALLAHABAD,

SUBDER BOARD OF REVENUE,

The 16th March 1864.

APPENDIX.

ABSTRACT OF REPLIES TO THE SUBDER BOARD OF REVENUE CIRCULAR ORDER A., DATED 12TH JANUARY, ON THE MANUFACTURES OF NATIVE COTTON CLOTH.

N. B.—The information is arranged territorially from North-West the cotton-producing quarter, to South-East the non-producing.

MERCEUR DIVISION.

Delhra.—Little or no weaving.

Scherampore.—Looms at work in 1860,	...	10,118
Ditto ditto, 1863,	...	8,883

Of 7,383 weavers, 1,560 are said to have betaken themselves to other employments. The total crop of the district is about 36,000 maunds, of which it is estimated that 8,650 maunds, or about one-fourth are retained for domestic use.

Mr. H. D. Robertson writes—

2. "When the price of the raw material first increased considerably, there was a general panic amongst the weavers, and most of the looms in this district secured little work, the general impression amongst Natives being that English manufactures would drive the country cloth entirely out of the market. The weavers had for many years been using English thread for the manufacture of all

the finer kinds of cloth ; and when prices first rose, this description of manufacture almost ceased to exist, and it was sometime before the Native weavers perceived that with the rise of prices the tastes of the people would change. There seems to be little doubt that imported cloth is now purchased in very small quantities, and its use confined almost entirely to the wealthy classes. Though the demand for country-made cloth has diminished by about one half, this half represents nearly the whole of the cotton cloth that the residents of this district can at present afford to purchase. Country cloth made from country thread, though quite as expensive (or perhaps more so) as English cloth, is found by the large mass of the population to last longer and to be more economical than English cloth, and hence the preference given to country manufactures. English cloth will doubtless possess greater advantages over Native manufactures in districts which are not so far removed from the Sea.

3. "The rise in the price of cotton has not, as far as it is possible to judge, been the cause of any serious amount of suffering to the weaver population, though for several months at first the weavers seem to have been very generally without work, and unwilling to engage in other occupations, till all their former savings had been expended. But hardly had this necessity arisen, when the Native purchasers showed a preference for country cloth, and the weavers began to secure regular employment, though to a limited extent, in their ordinary occupation. Land for cultivation is easily secured in this district, and weavers frequently became cultivators on a small scale, though carrying on their regular trade as opportunity offered. I found considerable numbers of weavers during the rains of 1833, working on the district roads as coolies, but their attendance was evidently of an uncertain character, depending entirely upon some temporary pressure of no very great consequence.

4. "In conversation with weavers, I noticed that one rather remarkable change had been effected in their social position, in consequence of the rise in the price of cotton. Formerly the weavers in this district generally purchased the thread on their own account, ultimately realizing the profits derived from the sale of the manufactured article. Since the rise in the price of the raw material, it appears that the weavers have as a general rule been

unable to do this, and that they have consequently now assumed the position of daily laborers employed by shop-keepers and merchants who supply the thread and make their own profits on the cloth. The zemindars and even cultivators are also turning their attention to this new source of profit by engaging the weavers as laborers for the manufacture into cloth of a portion at my rate of their cotton crops. The weavers naturally feel this change has rendered their position by no means so independent as was formerly the case, and I generally found that they viewed this as more serious than the loss of income which has undoubtedly been considerable.

5. "The high price of cotton cloth has caused a corresponding increase in the value of native woollen manufactures, which are now more generally used and have more than doubled in price. The consequence is that sheep are becoming a favorite description of property amongst the better class of villagers, and hence one cause of the difficulty at present experienced in this part of the country in securing sheep for the use of our European troops. Though the Natives are unwilling to acknowledge it, enquiry has convinced me that the stock of sheep is increasing rather than diminishing in this district ; but at present the anxiety to possess this description of stock on account of the value of the wool, checks their introduction into the market, though eventually this will doubtless not be the case."

Mozzurruncuttee.—Mr. S. N. Martin reports :—

1. "Slackness in demand for Manchester cotton manufactured goods is due purely to the high prices of these articles. The chief seller in this market tells me, that goods which cost him last year Rs. 100 now cost Rs. 130, and Brown-holland Rs. 150, or 50 per cent more. Whereas a year previous his monthly sales amounted to Rs. 200, he now sells only Rs. 100 worth of goods.

2. "The deficiency in the consumption of Manchester goods is not supplied by extra consumption of country manufactured cloth, because the price of cotton is too dear to admit of much profit to the manufacturer. The Joolahs or weavers finding the trade so unprofitable, have largely taken to daily labor on roads, canals, &c., and for the present have deserted their looms. Other weavers, I fear, are joining the criminal class of thieves. The number of

weavers in this district amount to 10,000 and taking the average of one to a loom, there will be as many looms; but as I have said above, there is reason to believe many looms are not working; for instance in the town of Mozuffernugger when prices are favorable there are 100 looms at work, but since the great rise in prices, 40 looms have been abandoned. So also in the villages of Amer-nuggur and Chirthawal. Of this district there are 400 looms, at present about half are at work. Nor is there any reason to suppose that manufactures from country-made blankets of sheep-wool have supplied the wants of the people in the cold weather. Wool has become far too expensive also, and thus the high price of cotton is reacting beneficially upon this trade, for although more blankets may not be manufactured, still the artificially high prices have immensely benefited the shepherds who weave blankets. When I joined this station in March 1862, a country blanket cost 1-8 to 1-12, the same article now costs 3 Rs., and is rising in price.

3. "The price of cotton has recently fallen from Rs. 28 per munda to 20 Rs. per munda, and it is anticipated that if the price should continue to fall, not only will the weavers return to their looms, but the demand for manufactured goods will also become more brisk. Just now people are wearing out their old clothes, but as soon as the prices are lowered there will be fresh purchases;

* 5,60,474. they cannot go on wearing rags; and taking the total population of this district

at "5,60,474 souls, or 354 to the square mile, it is clear the country looms cannot meet the wants of this population."

"P. S.—Besides the regular weavers who pursue no other occupation, there are others who make their living partly by labor and partly by weaving at so much a *thán* for private parties. It is difficult to ascertain the number of this latter class without making a more elaborate enquiry than the limited time will admit of. I am told that in many villages weaving is thus done privately through a domestic at four annas per *thán* of 16 yards, the material being supplied by the employer. When there is no call for country cloth by the resident families, then these weavers revert to agriculture or to daily labor.

MEMENT.—Mr. W. A. Forbes, C. S., who has displayed the deepest interest in the new phases of the cotton trade consequent on

the convulsions in North America, and in experiments for the growth of a better staple in India, writes as follows:—

2. "The delay which has occurred in the submission of this report, was owing to the difficulty in obtaining replies on various points from the Tehsildars, who on their part have gone into the subject with zeal, and were anxious to get the most correct data in their power.

3. "The result has certainly astonished me. It happened that, when the Circular reached me, I was in Camp, at a town named Furzedunggur in the Tehsil of Ghazeeabad, and it happens to be almost the only town in which the number of looms have greatly decreased. The facts there found existing, seemed to confirm my pre-conceived impression that the weavers, in consequence of the extraordinary rise in price of cotton, were like their Lancashire brethren, suffering from a cotton famine. But as I moved about the district, making personal enquiries, I found that such was not the case, that the depression of trade at Furzedunggur was caused by some local influences, not affecting other towns in the same degree, if at all. The returns and reports from my Tehsildars now show satisfactorily that things are not so bad with them as had been expected.

4. "The statistics are thus shown for the whole district in the form prescribed.

NUMBER OF LOOMS AT WORK.

1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
10,755	10,256	10,529	10,544

5. "On receipt of your circular, I forwarded to each tehsildar a form in the above shape, and the following five questions, to which they were to confine their attention, and reply briefly but clearly, with instructions to go in person through the larger towns and collect information from the headmen of the weaver class.

The questions and the substance of the information acquired are shown opposite each other marginally thus:—

6. Before the price of cotton became so high, how many looms were engaged at work? The number of looms have slightly increased, but to no great extent.

Have they decreased by reason of rise in cotton. If so, what employment have the weavers taken to?

In fact since 1861, the weaver classes have been recovering themselves from the famine year, which fell particularly heavily upon them; and the rise in cotton has not affected them to any extent, so as to retard their improving condition, where looms have been working at short time, the weavers have taken to field labor in some instances, but their looms are not stopped altogether.

7. What change has taken place in the price of the different kinds of native cloths by reason of the high price of the raw material?

The price of every kind of Native cloth has been exactly doubled. English manufactured cotton goods have also increased in price; but not in the same proportion.

Is there a smaller or larger manufacture of native cloth?

The finer cloths have increased one-third in price only; whilst "Markoon," which was chiefly in demand, being stouter and warmer, has been doubled in price like the native.

Has English cloth risen in price and to what extent?

The manufacture of Native cloth has to a certain extent diminished, so that the looms are working short time in some instances.

For the market—it has enormously decreased.

To order—for home consumption, it has largely increased.

The native does not understand that, from the greater profits he makes on his growth of cotton, he should be ready to meet the increased price of his clothing.

The price of raw material and manufactured cloth rising equally, he pockets the profits on the one hand, and at the same time reduces his Draper's bill.

Even for his necessary requirements, he reserves from the market a small portion of his cotton produce—his family makes it into thread, and he then takes it to the weaver, who to order and at certain fixed rates of labor, makes it for him into cloth.

This custom, which is now followed by all the agricultural classes, helps to keep the looms at work; but keeps buyers from the market.

Again, of those wearing English cloth, 80 per cent. clothed themselves in what is called "Markoon," which like the native manufactured article has been doubled in price, at least 50 per cent.; cannot afford to pay the double price, and fall back upon the native article, which, though costing twice what it did, is still far cheaper than the English.

Natives also of the better class, who were in the habit of clothing

themselves and their families in English fabrics, now fall back upon the Native article for their children at least, if not for themselves. One of this class said to me—"Instead of giving my children new clothes at fixed intervals, I now only give them when the old ones are shabby and worn out."

All these circumstances tend to reduce the demand for English goods, and though they perhaps do not quite make up to the trade for the reduced consumption (undoubtedly the result of the high price of cotton), yet it keeps the looms in work.

8. Since the price of cotton has risen, has the consumption of English or of native cloth increased the most; for the Chamber of Commerce report upon the diminished demand for the former. What is the cause?

Is the consumption of cotton cloth less, or has the demand for the Native manufacture increased?

This has been answered above. There has been a decreased consumption of both English and Native cloth, more especially of the former,—the consumers of English goods having fallen back upon the Native, whilst the consumers of the latter use less and restrict their wants within stricter limits.

Another reason given for the diminished demand for English cloth is this, that the dealers had a considerable stock in hand. When the prices rose, they determined to sell off this stock at the enhanced rates. The reduced demand, and the hope that prices would soon go down in Calcutta, prevented their making the usual inducements; hence the diminished

demand from the Upper Provinces noted by the Chamber of Commerce.

9. Of this year's growth of cotton, what proportion was exported, and what retained for home consumption?

About one-fourth was retained for home consumption, and three-fourths sold for export.

Every one is clear upon this point.

10. What change has taken place in the quality of Native cloth manufactures by reason of high price of raw material?

The thread does not contain the same amount of cotton nor the cloth the same amount of thread.

The Native manufactured cloth is now much thinner, and for the market has a large amount of old refuse cotton mixed with it. There is neither the same warmth nor wear in it.

11. From the above we may form the following conclusions:—

"1st,—That the consumption of cotton goods, both English and Native manufactured, has diminished since the great demand for, and extraordinary rise in price of, the raw material.

"2nd,—That from various causes, notwithstanding the increased price of Native manufactures, the looms find a fair amount of employment; and that the high price of cotton has reduced the number of consumers of English manufactures, thereby in a great measure making up to the Native weavers for the smaller consumption of cotton goods.

"3rd,—That as yet the amount of cotton required for home consumption has been kept back to meet the system of manufacturing *to order*,—and

"4th,—That if Manchester wishes to compete thoroughly, and drive the Native manufacturers out of the field, it must send to India a thicker, coarser, warmer, and cheaper article than it has hitherto done. The poorer agricultural community do not want our fine long-cloth, and in order greatly to increase the demand for Manchester goods, a coarse, warm, cheap cloth must be supplied. At present the wealthier and higher classes of Natives only purchase the English article. To tap the demand amongst the lower

classes, we must bring something to them adapted to their wants and means."

BOONESHUNUR.—Mr. H. G. Keene says—

"It appears that the numbers of the weaving population have undergone a diminution from 5,400 to 4,600. But it is probable that this by no means represents the actual falling off in the consumption of cotton; since it is a matter of notoriety that not much more than one-third of the cotton produced in this district used to be exported, whereas last year it is estimated that scarcely one-fourth was retained. The Native looms were kept working by small commissions, and were partly supplied by old cotton picked out of quilts. The price of woollen cloths and blankets has also risen.

3. "It appears probable that the people of these Provinces, with something of commercial instinct and more of superstitious love for silver, are holding back from taking English piece-goods in the hope of an ultimate fall in the price. The use of temporary expedients must, however, come to an end, and the great increase of specie among the people will enable them to pay higher prices for piece-goods than they are at present disposed to think possible.

4. "It may therefore be confidently anticipated that the gloomy prospects deplored by the Chamber of Commerce will not be lasting. When once the glut resulting from years of over-production has ceased, and stocks fall below the exigencies of the community, a demand ought at once to spring up. The exceptional circumstances above referred to have prevented this taking place so soon as, on abstract grounds, might be expected; and have interposed an unexpected obstacle in the recourse to blankets and quilts.

5. "This, however, cannot last for ever; and it stands to reason that when men find themselves in the possession of superfluous cash, they will sooner or later be obliged to expend it in the purchase of such a necessary of life as clothing, at prices remunerative to the manufacturer.

6. "Although many of the weaving-classes have been temporarily absorbed in the cultivation of the fields, and other branches of labor, their stock in trade is so simple that they could at any time resume their hereditary occupation. But I believe it will be found in practice that they will not do so as long as the raw material continues dear; for they consume much more in propor-

tion than the Manchester men with their mechanical facilities and their lighter fabrics.

7. "If the above views be correct, it will be found that the present drain of specie is a mere step, however inconvenient, and that the balance of trade will soon be restored to its normal state."

ATTOUR.—1861. Looms at work,	3,227
1863. Ditto ditto,	2,647
In the towns of Coel and Hattiras the numbers increased, thus:—	
1861,	920
1863,	1,141

Mr. J. H. Prinsep reports that the above figures give for the principal towns of the district, "a rough comparison of the number of looms said to have been in work during the past four years, exhibited in the form required by the Board. The figures show contrary results in Coel as compared with the other towns. Ever since the disturbances of 1857, the weavers have been sensibly increasing in numbers and continuing their trade, in spite of the depressing influence upon it of the high price of cotton, and diminished demand for manufactured cloths. Formerly Coel and Attowlee both possessed a good name for their 'dresses' and cotton 'galachas,' the weaving trade of Attowlee is confined now to Native cloths, whilst Coel is striving to right itself. In both towns as well as in Hattiras, there appears no falling off in the number of looms at work, on the contrary an increase; but the figures shewn must be taken as an approximation only. The weavers feel the commercial pressure in the fact of customers limiting their demand to actual wants, and denying themselves spare sets of clothing. The rise in price of cotton has caused a proportionate rise in the price of manufactured Native cloths,—this naturally affects the quantity of sales, but the price of grain and necessities of life remaining uninfluenced by the dearthness of cotton, the weavers have been enabled to carry on a hand to mouth subsistence, and have persistently stuck to their looms until driven away by sheer hunger.

3. "The suffering has been greater among the weavers of Iglass, and the other places mentioned in the Statement. Famine first drove them from their homes in large numbers in 1861, and the

dearness of cotton in the two following years has compelled them to seek employment in the fields in Public Works Department as day laborers.

4. "Scarcity of food in the famine year as a rule bore with far greater severity on the weaving population than the present dearness in price of the main staple of their trade has done. It was a noted fact that the larger proportion of emaciated hunger-stricken applicants for food at our relief kitchens in 1861, belonging to market-towns, were those of the weaving classes.

5. "Cloth-dyers are said to have suffered from the cotton prices restricting the demand for colored goods, but printers are not so much affected by them.

6. "The following tables may be useful in conveying a better idea of the state of the weaving trade of this district, which though not extensive when compared with other localities in India, has been subject to similar causes of depression. The information may help in arriving at general statistical results.

7. "The *Mithonclan* weavers, or 'Jolhas,' make 'dhoturs,' 'pagrees' and 'arrah' cloths, principally of English ball thread.

"A dhotur of 24 yards long and 12 girals wide, was formerly from 12 annas to one rupee 8 annas a than; it sells now from Rs. 1-8 to Rs. 2.

"A pagree costing 5 annas to Rs. 1, now sells at 3 annas to 1-8.

"*Arrah* cloth of colored thread, which was 11 annas and 12 annas, now sells from Rs. 1-4 to Rs. 1-6.

8. "The *Hindoo* weavers, or 'Kolos,' manufacture mostly 'guzzee,' 'gata,' and 'tookree' cloths of Native thread.

"*Guzzee* of 100 yards long by 8 girals width, used to sell at Rs. 4, and now sells for Rs. 8.

"*Gata* at Rs. 1-8 to Rs. 2, now sells from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3.

"*Tookree* of 12 yards long and 11 girals width, the common article of vend at village markets at from 11 annas to Rs. 1-4, is now sold at Rs. 1-4 to Rs. 2.

9. "Compare the above with the prices of European piece-goods, and it will be seen there is a still greater rise in the value of the latter (3) during the past two years, while in the year of famine 1861 and following year, there was a considerable fall. Native thread too, in the famine year, was cheaper than in the

year before, but has become dearer and dearer each subsequent year, until it is now more than double the price of 1860. English thread on the other hand has been steadily rising each year from Rs. 3 and Rs. 3-4 a bundle of 10 and 12½ "utices" respectively; in 1860 to Rs. 7-6 and Rs. 7-2 in 1864. I have given examples of the two sizes, Nos. 40 and 50 of English thread.

YEAR.	HINDUSTANI THREAD (per rupee.)			ENGLISH THREAD.		
	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	Bundle of 10 utices, weighing 200 tollahs thread No. 40.		Bundle of 12½ utices, weighing 200 tollahs thread No. 50.
	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1860,...	3 0	2 8	2 0	3 4 0	3 0 0	3 0 0
1861,...	3 2	2 10	2 0	3 8 0	3 4 0	3 4 0
1862,...	2 14	2 4	1 8	3 12 0	3 8 0	3 8 0
1863,...	2 0	1 8	1 0	7 4 0	7 0 0	7 0 0
1864,...	1 4	1 0	0 10	7 6 0	7 2 0	7 2 0

YEAR.	"MARKET," PIECE OF 40 YDS. LONG BY 1 YD. WIDE.			LONG CLOTH 140 YARDS BY 1 YARD.			NAINSOOKH 20 YARDS BY 1 YARD.		
	1st quality.	2nd quality.	3rd quality.	1st quality.	2nd quality.	3rd quality.	1st quality.	2nd quality.	3rd quality.
	RS. A.	RS. A.	RS. A.	RS. A.	RS. A.	RS. A.	RS. A.	RS. A.	RS. A.
1860,	7 8	8 12	10 0	7 8	10 0	12 8	2 8	5 0	8 12
1861,	0 14	8 2	9 6	6 14	9 6	11 11	2 3	4 11	8 7
1862,	6 4	7 4	8 12	6 4	8 12	11 4	1 12	4 6	8 2
1863,	8 12	10 0	11 4	8 12	11 4	12 8	3 2	5 5	9 1
1864,	11 4	13 2	14 14	10 0	12 8	17 8	4 1	6 4	10 0

10. The increasing dearness of European manufactured cloths has restricted many who would not otherwise wear them to Native-made goods, which are generally pronounced by them to be thicker and warmer owing to the greater coarseness of the thread used, and better adapted to the native mode of washing, hence more durable also. This will mainly account for the great abatement, referred to by the Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce in his letter to the Secretary to Government of India of the 13th October 1863, in the usual demand from the Upper Provinces for Manchester cotton goods. There is not a doubt that notwithstanding the high price of cotton in India, it admits of being manufactured into cloth at a less cost than that paid for Manchester goods, and therefore in the present juncture is preferable to the mass of the people. This, moreover, goes to explain how the weaving classes are kept employed in the present hard times at their old occupation; and infinitely large as the export trade in cotton has been during the two last seasons, still one-fourth of the raw material may fairly be put down as the quantity consequent on the vastly extended cultivation of the plant, retained for home consumption and domestic manufactures.

11. "The persons who have most felt the effects of the dearness of cotton are in the poorest classes, some have taken to wearing woollen stuffs as cheaper, where procurable in larger quantities, and many have picked their old cotton stuffed clothing and quilts, and sold the cotton for good prices.

12. "The above information on the ruling prices is reliable, having been obtained from the weavers themselves, and from the leading cloth merchants of Coel."

ROHILKHAND DIVISION.—Mr. J. D. Inglis, the Commissioner of this Division, writes; "From what I can gather from the leading traders here, I should say that at least one-fourth of the looms have been shut up, and the weavers forced to seek other employment.

4. "The decrease in the number of weavers appears to have been caused:—

"1st.—By the fact that the price of country cotton cloth has not increased in the same proportion as the price of cotton—so that it is more remunerative to export the raw material than to return it for manufacture.

"2ndly,—To the decrease in the profit gained by the weavers. Formerly their profit was four annas in the rupee, now owing to the high price of cotton, their profit is not quite two annas in the rupee.

"3rdly,—To the diminished demand for cotton stuffs, owing to the price which places them beyond the means of the mass of the people.

5. "The decrease in the quantity of Manchester cotton goods, imported into this district is, I believe, owing to the high prices ranging, and not to their having been superseded in the market by the native-woven article.

6. "In this city the price of Manchester cotton goods has risen as follows:—

1st Class Cotton Goods,...	...	...	75 per cent.
2nd Ditto, ...	...	...	50 ditto.
3rd Ditto, ...	...	...	12½ ditto.

7. "The Octroi returns shew that during the last six months of 1863, the value of cotton goods imported into the city of Bareilly was Rs. 3,07,500, and for the same months in 1862, the value was Rs. 3,03,340, shewing a large falling off in the quantity imported, although the value is about the same.

8. "Before the American war, cotton was not exported from the Bareilly district, all that was grown being used for local consumption. Since the war, cotton has been exported largely, but not to such an extent as from the other districts of the Division, or from the Doab.

9. "Large imitations of Woollen goods were brought from the Kulkora Fair, but I do not find that the people generally have taken to woollen clothing instead of cotton. The wealthier classes may have done so, but it has not yet become general.

Two District—Looms have increased from 318 in 1860, to 405 in 1863.

Bijnore.—Mr. J. Palmer gives the following abstract of the

looms at work in his district, which he believes to be tolerably correct :—

TEHSSELEE.	1860	1861	1862	1863
Bijnore	204	306	593	421
Chandpore	1,822	1,350	1,051	1,084
Dhanpore	2,553	2,382	2,328	2,294
Nugeena	2,471	2,147	2,047	1,903
Nujeebabad	2,061	2,616	2,002	1,957
Total for the District ...	9,711	8,801	8,021	7,749

"It will be observed from the above table that except in the Tehseldaree of Bijnore, where so little cloth is manufactured as to render its statistics comparatively unimportant, there has been a gradual slackening of the weaving trade from 1860 to the present time. I am induced to think, that it is attributable in some degree to the results of the famine of 1860, and an epidemic which prevailed in Chandpore and Dhanpore during the year 1862 : but latterly no doubt to recent rise in the price of the raw material. The weavers generally, who have left their ordinary employment, have betaken themselves to manual labor as carpenters, masons, and field labourers.

3. "It is not I think possible to ascertain speedily and correctly what proportion of the raw material is absorbed by local manufacture in this district. There are no large capitalists engaged in the trade ; which is carried on by village weavers, who either purchase their thread at the neighbouring markets, or manufacture material supplied to them by purchasers ; and who on an average, make an annual profit not exceeding Rs. 30 or 40 per loom. Generally speaking they use country thread only : but in the neighbourhood of the larger towns of Dhanpore, Nugeena, and Nujeebabad, a certain portion of English thread was also used for the manufacture of cloth for pygries and duputtas : but the recent rise in price of the latter has now driven it entirely out of the market.

"English Thread.—Price per skein of two seers, weight at 80 talahs the seer.

	1861.			1862.			1863.		
	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
1st kind	4	4	0	8	0	0	10	0	0
2nd ditto	3	8	0	7	0	0	9	0	0
3rd ditto	3	0	0	6	0	0	8	0	0

"The proportion in which English thread was formerly used, and the effect of the rise in price may be gathered from the fact that in the town of Nugeena up to close of 1861, about Rs. 4,000 worth of English thread was consumed, and about Rs. 28,000 worth of country thread ; in 1862, the consumption of English thread in the same town fell to about Rs. 500 ; and in 1863 it has not been used at all.

4. The effect of the enhanced cost and increased exportation of raw cotton upon the price of country thread has been stated to me by some of the chief cloth merchants of Nugeena and Nujeebabad as follows :—

Comparative value by thread	Description.	PRICE PER RUPEE.	
		Former.	Present.
	1st kind, "Tunhiya,"	4 to 8 chittacks.	3 to 5 chittacks.
	2nd ditto, "Ghala,"	8 chtk. to 2 seers	8 to 12 chittacks.
	3rd ditto, "Roa,"	2½ seers.	1 to 1½ seer.

In explanation of this, it should be added that the cheaper kinds only are in common use.

5. "The effect upon the price of cloth may be estimated as follows :—

"English cloth is stated by the local merchants to have advanced in the proportion of 4 to 7 : and country made cloth in the propor-

tion of 4 to 9. The result has been a diminished demand for English cloth : the demand for country cloth remaining as yet about the average of ordinary years ; but the general amount of purchases of both kinds taken together being perceptibly, though as yet not very considerably reduced. The above statement is, in the main, confirmed by other enquiries made through my Tehseeldars ; who all agree in estimating the enhancement in price of country cloth at about 150 per cent. They state, generally, that less money is spent upon clothes than formerly owing to the rise in price ; and all agree in representing the pressure upon the lower classes to be very severe ; although as the period during which the price has become almost prohibitive to them is still recent, no visible effect has been produced as yet in the clothes which they actually wear.

6. "It seems certain that the bulk of last year's crop has been delivered for exportation ; and that nowhere are there any very large stocks on hand, where such exist they are retained by speculators in expectation of a still further rise, and not for the purpose of manufacture.

7. "On the whole, I am inclined to think that the rise has been too recent and its results of too short duration for the formation as yet of a clear idea as to its probable results upon local manufacture, or upon the general habits of the population. Another year, if the same rates are maintained, will afford indications which will form a surer basis for judgment than any data that we now have. This much is certain, that up to the present time there has been no tendency to increased local manufacture ; but on the contrary that the higher prices have produced to some extent, although by no means in a corresponding degree, a stagnation in the local trade."

Mordachai.—Looms have fallen from 11,721 in 1860, to 10,147 in 1863 ; but the decrease is ascribed to the effects of the famine in 1861. In some quarters there has been a slight increase. In the town of Morulabad itself there has been a diminution ; and, generally, the weavers who work on their own capital have become enhanced by the excessive price of the raw material.

Bidon.—Mr. C. P. Carmichael after stating that the diminished demand for European stuffs has not been caused by increased Native manufacture, proceeds as follows :—"It stands to reason that unskilled labor can never compete with skilled labor, even with the disadvantages which the English trade has to labor under of cost of transport in addition to high prices for the raw material in

this country. And accordingly, the cloth manufactured by the Native weavers is now selling at just double the price at what it used to fetch in former days. But still the English goods are not so much cheaper as to drive the Native cloth altogether out of the market ; indeed, the coarser kind of Native cloth, though dear as compared with its former prices, is still cheaper than the lowest priced English Cotton goods.*

4. "The resources of the people generally have not on the other hand increased in any way, so as to enable them to pay double the price that they formerly did for their wearing apparel, and consequently there has been a marked difference this year in the retail vend of cloth. The cultivating classes, and those portions of the mercantile community, who have trafficked in cotton, have done well, and are well to do. But this is not the case with the other classes of the community, who are no whit better as regards their finances than they were in former years. Those therefore forgo purchases which they cannot afford, or make them on a much reduced scale ; and the natural consequence is a falling off in the demand, at their present high prices, of manufactured cotton goods of all descriptions. Certain classes alone have as yet benefited by the high price of the raw material to the exclusion of others ; but as a rule, the money market is, I opine, quite as tight up here as it is in Calcutta. And the reason of this is, that the speculation in cotton has absorbed all the ready money in the market.

5. "Not only those who have already traded in the article, and drawn profit from so doing, but others who have also the means to trade, do so now for the first time, and invest every farthing they can spare in the purchase of cotton, and in transporting it to Mirzapore to be sold there at a remunerative rate. The returns from this trade are both so much quicker as well as so much greater than those from the trade in manufactured cotton goods, that it is no wonder people resort to the former in preference to the latter.

* The Native manufactures of dhotees, pagrees, kummurbands, loongees, do-sooties, gajates, garah, kharooa, tuttooa, dandees, and cotton ropes, have not been superseded by any Manchester goods, simply because there is no European cloth manufactured of a kind that can take the place of these Native cloths. The people of the country have therefore to purchase these, which are articles of household use and wear throughout the land at the ruling price of the land. There is no Manchester cloth manufactured even still less sold, that they can substitute for them.

Any money made by this trade is again at once re-invested in it; if not, it is kept in hand for advances to secure this year's cotton crop. The cotton trade may be said with truth just now to monopolize the whole market.

6. "Native weaving has not increased to any extent as compared with last year, as the Chamber of Commerce would imagine; but neither on the other hand has it decreased to the extent supposed. The poorer classes of weavers have of course suffered by the high prices ruling for the raw material, in not having sufficient capital to purchase it. But the case has been different with the well-to-do weavers. The large exportation of cotton has not tended to divert labor in any marked manner from native weaving. The weavers have merely had to purchase the raw material at the exporting prices, and as a necessary consequence, have had to double the prices of their manufactured cloths.

7. "The reasons for the decrease in the demand of Manchester cotton goods I assign to be two-fold. (1) The Manchester cotton goods are not all of a nature, or priced so low as to under-sell the Native;—a further reduction must take place before this can be effected. (2) Capital is so absorbed and sunk in the cotton trade, as to affect in a degree all other mercantile speculations. To this may be added that the high prices now ruling for all sorts of manufactured cotton goods, whether Native or English, have forced people to be more chary in their purchases of such; and where before they would have purchased without hesitation, they are obliged now per force to be content with what they have rather than incur an expense which it may not perhaps be in their power to afford. This last remark applies quite as much (if not more) to English residents in the country, who were formerly the great purchasers of the better sorts of Manchester goods, as to natives."

Shahjehanpore.—This is only to a limited extent a cotton-producing district. In the town itself, and the neighbouring villages, the number of looms at work has fallen from 2,077 to 530. In those quarters, on the contrary, where cotton is grown, the looms have actually increased in number, but to a limited extent. Upon the whole they have decreased throughout the district from 5,851 in 1860, to 3,773 in 1863.

Mr. W. G. Polson reports thus:—"In consequence of the

increased price, there has been a great falling off in the consumption of cotton goods both of Manchester and of Native manufacture. The poorer classes now make the clothes last them two years which they used to renew yearly.

3. "But as cloth of Native manufacture has risen in price proportionably higher than that of English manufacture, so the consumption of it has decreased, and the sale of English is not so much affected as that of Native cloth.

4. "If the above is correct, it would of course account for the great decrease in the number of looms at present at work in the Shahjehanpore and Northern Pergunnahs.

5. "The weavers who have forsaken their looms have generally become labourers and servants. Many Joolahs have now taken the place of Sheikhs and Pathans as private servants, with respectable Mahomedan families.

6. "As you are aware this is not a cotton exporting district. More cotton is cultivated in the western than in the other pergunnahs, and I believe that in consequence of the high price of goods, the cultivators very generally get their own cotton spun into cloth for home consumption. This would account for the increase in the number of looms in those pergunnahs."

Bareilly.—The number of looms is given at 11,423 in 1860, and 11,213 in 1863. In some places the falling off is considerable, in others (for the same reasons as specified in the preceding remarks) there has been an increase.

Mr. Dunlop, C. B., writes—

"The comparative totals may be useful, but the return is not of much value, I believe, in estimating, the amount of weaving performed, as it is impossible to determine the extent of work of each during the year. As a general rule, some of them have been lying more or less idle and probably very slack of late, but the general impression is that the weavers have not yet suffered at all by the high price of cotton.

"This is not properly speaking a cotton district; its advantages for, and the superior profits on, sugar, make that our staple. All cotton grown is required for the wants of the district itself, and a certain amount also annually imported. With the exception of a trifling amount from Chundosse, Pergunnah Anola, I do not suppose that any Bareilly cotton has found its way to the export market.

"The price of cotton has changed during the last three years from five Barcilly seers, to (a fraction less) one seer per rupee. It is true that English drills and calicoes have not increased in price in proportion to the raw material, but looking to their less durable properties, and the necessity for economy in clothing, which its dearness occasions, some Natives who used to purchase English cloths have reverted to the local manufactures.

"The price of English 'Markcen' is now about double what it was, and the price of Native-woven cloth has also just about doubled; thus what the Natives here call 'corah markcen,' or unbleached drill, was formerly procurable at 5 yards per rupee, it is now 4 per rupee; its native equivalents called 'garlia' and 'guzzeo' used to be bought at 16 yards per rupee, and are now at 8 yards; but the loss of profit or manufacture, shown in the difference between a rise of 400 per cent. on raw material, and 100 per cent. only on the manufactured article, is not borne by the weavers in this district, who do little but weave the material supplied by their customers, while the capitalist Bazar, or cloth merchants, must have purchased the wools they thus sell before the extreme rise of cotton quotations, and deem the latter temporary only; otherwise as a matter of course they would hold on, making the realization of a profit on their stock proportioned to the value of the raw material a matter of certainty, if only the urgency of the demands continued, but this they distrust.

"No attempt has been made by the Natives in Barcilly to substitute any other fibre, for cotton in articles of dress; in fact they know of no rough or 'felting' fibres except cotton. The Sonul or cotton-tree fibre, and that of the Madar, both of which are plentiful, are useless for all spinning purposes, simply because they are destitute of the rough surfaces which give felting properties to cotton and animal wools, and which are essential to all short staple filaments.

"I have observed that some few of the hill coolies, employed between Kaladoongee and Nynce Tal, have this year entire suits of clothing made of 'Sonul' fibre; but in Barcilly, the only patent effect of the cotton scarcity is shown in the fact, that the 'ruza' almost universally used in cold weather by villagers when they can afford it, is now seldom seen quite new, while the use of Sonul cotton for padding or stuffing pillows, &c., formerly general, is now universal."

Muttra.—Mr. W. C. Plowden has furnished an elaborate report on the Muttra district, which is subjoined entire:—

2. "This is not a great manufacturing district, nor is it an entrepôt for the disposal of cotton goods, as is Farruckabad and Mirzapore. No records existed to which I could refer for information as to the weaving manufactures of the district, and such data as have been collected and are now submitted, have been ascertained through the Tahsildars and by personal communication with the cloth dealers and weavers.

3. "Two Tabular Statements are appended to this report. The first contains, in the form prescribed, a return (A.) of the looms at work in the several *Taruns* of Muttra, Bindrabun, Aroeng, Muhabun, Koseo, Jullaynur and Saidabad, during the years 1860, 1861, 1862 and 1863. The second table (B.)* gives the monthly average prices during the same years of the principal country-manufactured cotton goods and thread; of English piece-goods in ordinary demand in the district; of English thread; of raw cotton; and of several different varieties of grain and of provisions, which one or other, or in combination, form the diet of the mass of the population. The latter statistics were asked so as to bring under view the effect, if any, of the prices of food upon the wages of labor employed in the cotton manufactures of the country; and to detect any decrease or difference in the value of money, which if not eliminated from the facts before us, might exercise an undue and unperceived influence on any generalizations to be made from those facts.

4. "The first table shows that there has, no doubt, been a very serious falling off in the manufacture of native piece-goods. The number of looms at work has decreased from 1,343 in 1860 to 808 in 1863, or rather more than 35 per cent. As compared with 1859, the decrease in the number of looms at work in 1863 is even more decided, being 923 to 1,732, a decrease of 46 per cent. For the falling off evinced in 1860, as compared with 1859, it is not easy to account; but it is most probable that the influence of bad harvests, which culminated in the famine of 1860-61, and which was very much felt in the Muttra district, had throughout 1860, already begun to exert itself. But though the decrease in the number of looms at work is thus shown to be very considerable,

* Note.—This table, in detail for each month, has been abstracted in the Board's Office, so as to show average prices for the several years, and in this form is given below.

It is by no means an exact, or even approximate, measure of the actual diminution in the production of cotton fabrics. A large number of these looms, shown as still working, are not in full work; and the general opinion both among dealers and weavers is, that the manufacture of cotton wools has decreased quite as much as 60 per cent. There is certainly not the least doubt that the manufacture of Native fabrics from cotton has diminished one-half.

5. "Considerable diversion of labor has been the natural consequence of this depression of trade. Many of the weavers have now given up their looms for other employments. In Muttra numbers of them have taken service with the paper manufacturers. In the towns in the interior of the district they have found occupation on the roads under construction and repair, on private buildings, and in ordinary agricultural work.

6. "It is observable from this return, that in the small town of Saidabad the weaving trade has received a slight impetus. The number of looms at work there has increased and not diminished. But this small increase is to be accounted for. Saidabad formerly imported cloth for its consumption from the neighbouring town of Julleypur. At Julleypur not only the cotton manufacturers, but trade in all its branches has of late years exhibited general depression; and Julleypur has now ceased to export cotton goods to Saidabad.

7. "An approximate idea of the extent of the depression of the Native cotton trade, consequent upon the late commercial revolution, may be found in a comparison of the looms at work in 1861 and 1863. The full effects of the severe famine of 1860-61, upon the trade of the country, had been experienced to their utmost limit in 1861, and yet the depression of the cotton trade was in 1863 greater than in 1861.

8. "I subjoin a summary of the reports of the Tehseeldars as to the state of the cotton manufacture and consumption of cotton goods in their several pergunnahs.

9. "In Muttra, Arceng, and Bindrabun, the great bulk of the cotton crop is delivered for exportation, and only a small portion is retained by the producers. Previous to the great rise in prices of cotton goods and raw cotton, a fourth of the crop was retained by the producers for home consumption. At present the amount kept back does not exceed one-tenth.

10. "The production of Native cloth has diminished one-third. On the other hand the manufacture of country thread has increased and not diminished. The ratio of increase is said to be about 25 per cent. These apparently contradictory statements are reconcilable. The importation of English yarns into this part of the district has almost ceased; English thread was used to a considerable extent in the Native looms; and in consequence of the greatly decreased import of English thread, a larger quantity of Native thread is required for the production of an actually less quantity of Native cloth.

11. "The demand for English piece-goods, though it is certainly diminished, has not diminished to the same extent as that for Native cloth.

12. "In Julleypur, it is said, that little cotton is kept back by the producers, but that the amount so kept back, about a tenth, is not less than the stock formerly retained for home consumption. This is a statement I am not inclined to rely on; and it represents a state of facts incompatible with the great advance in the price of cotton. On further enquiry I have ascertained that the Tehseeldar's statement on this point, if correct, is only nominally correct. That portion of the crop, whatever its amount may be, which is retained by the producer, is only retained as a temporary measure: it is used in its undressed state to line ruzmaks or clothes for the winter months, and is then taken out and sold before the hot weather commences. This being the case, it cannot be said that any portion of the crop is retained by the producer.

13. "In this pergunnah the decrease in demand has been more perceptible in country cloth than in English piece-goods. The consumption of the former article has decreased fully one-half, while the demand for English piece-goods has only fallen one-third.

14. "In Kosen, the results of the enquiries appear to lead to much the same conclusions. A less portion of the crop is retained by producers who now do not keep back a tenth, where formerly they retained an eighth.

15. "The production of country cloth has fallen off fifty per cent., while the demand for English piece-goods has diminished somewhat less. The difference however is slight; the demand for English goods having fallen 3-8ths, and that for country cloth one-half.

16. "In Saldabad very little cotton is retained for home use; and the demand for English goods has not decreased to the same extent as that for country-wove fabrics.

17. "In Mubabun about one tenth of the crop is retained by the producer against one-fourth in former times. The demand for English cloth has not decreased in the same proportion as that for country goods.

18. "The general conclusions we may arrive at appear to be these—

"A very small portion of the cotton crop is retained for home consumption by the producer; and taking the great increase in production into consideration, that portion, small as it is, is even less than is estimated in these returns. The demand for Native manufactures has fallen off to a greater extent than that for imported goods. The diminished demand for Manchester goods has been caused by the rise in price, and has not been influenced by an extension of local manufactures. The local manufactures have on the contrary suffered more than imported goods from England.

19. "If high prices continue to rule, there is every probability of a further decrease in the home productions of cotton cloths, as they seem to have been more affected by the rise in price of the raw material than foreign goods. The feeble demand at the season for Manchester goods is probably to be accounted for by the large stocks in hand in the interior which have only lately been consumed. There are actually some specimens of English-wove cottons in the bazars now, which have hardly risen at all in price since the great rise in price of raw material; such a fabric is that known by the Native dealers as (*toot*); in 1860 it was selling for 4 annas a yard. It is now selling at 5 annas and 5 annas 6 pie. There are still I am told large stocks of this on hand, and the demand is very dull.

20. "Table II., appended to this report, shows that the prices of Native manufactured clothes have more than doubled; thus Guzeze, which in the four years period was at its lowest value in December 1860, when it sold at 11 annas the piece, has risen to as much as Re. 1-14 a piece in October 1863. So Garha, which was at its lowest price in January 1861, when it sold for 9 annas 6 pie the piece, has risen to as much as Re. 1-13 in October 1863; that is to say, Guzeze has risen as much as 150 per cent., and Garha almost 200 per cent. In point of fact they have risen more than

this in price, as the standard has been reduced, the measure of the piece having been clipped and the weight reduced.

21. "On the other hand, the rise in price of Manchester goods, comparing them at their lowest and highest values, has not been more than 100 per cent. in round numbers. For instance Khasa has risen from Re. 1-11-3 per bale in September 1860, to Rs. 2-9 per bale in December 1863, and Long-cloth from Rs. 6-6-6 to Rs. 12-14.

"I see that Jean has risen in much the same proportion as country cloth; but it is not generally consumed. Long-cloth is a fairer item of comparison, being in much greater demand among the lower classes than Jean.

22. "The general tendency of the present state of prices is, I believe, to destroy the country manufactures altogether; and not, as is suggested by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to expose imported cotton goods to suffer from competition with Native fabrics. The Native productions will, I consider, be eventually driven out of the market by imported goods. This may perhaps be a work of time; but if the prices of raw material continue at their present exorbitant rates, without a large corresponding increase of prices in the manufactured articles imported, country manufactured goods must eventually succumb to imported goods. These the English manufacturer can apparently still afford to supply at prices which have by no means risen in the same proportion as have the prices of goods produced by the Native manufacturer.

23. "It is clear from Table II., that the prices of English imported goods have not risen in the same proportion as have the prices of country goods. It is equally clear, if any reliance is to be placed on the enquiries which have been made by the Tehasildars, and on the statements volunteered by the cloth merchants and weavers of Multan, and the neighbouring towns, that the demand for English manufactured goods has by no means decreased in the same proportion as the demand for country manufactured goods. If this state of things continues, and no large rise of prices of English piece-goods occurs, English fabrics must gradually take the place of Native manufactures; and Native manufactures will gradually dwindle away till they are destroyed.

24. "But though English manufactures may and will most probably take the place of Native products, it does not at all follow that there will be an increase of consumption of Manchester goods. The Chamber of Commerce must certainly be prepared for a very

diminished individual consumption of cotton goods, at all events for some time to come. It is not probable that there will be a further diminution than has already occurred; for consumers have already curtailed as much as possible the extent of their purchases. Where a purchaser formerly bought four pieces of cloth, he now only buys two or one; but the curtailment in this direction cannot be pushed very far amongst a people who wear so very little clothing, as the Natives of this country. As much as can be done has, I believe, already been effected. None of the lower classes now buy more than they are absolutely compelled, and even men in a better position of life have become equally sparing in their purchases. Some of the merchants, while discussing the matter with me, pointed to their own clothes to show how much consumption had been reduced. Some of them said that where they formerly purchased an Angurika once every year, they now restricted themselves to one every other year, or every three years, contenting themselves with patching up their old garments. One of them indeed more pertinently than politely observed that the hack did not require as good treatment as the stomach; that while the latter always required a certain amount of food, the former might be doctored of its covering to any extent, should prices range so high as to compel this treatment.

"The Chamber of Commerce must not anticipate any immediate increase in the consumption of Manchester goods; at the same time they need not, in this district, apprehend a further decrease in demand, nor have they any thing to apprehend from competition on the part of Native manufactures.

25. "In conclusion I give, for what it is worth, the information I have received from the merchants as to the extent of the imports of Manchester goods, and the consumption of Native manufactures in Muttra itself.

"Before the late rise in prices, the imports to Muttra of Manchester goods are said to have amounted to 1,00,000 pieces, valued at Rs. 5,00,000: the value of the present imports of Manchester goods is still said to be the same, the quantity however having decreased to 45,000 pieces.

"Country piece-goods sold at Muttra are said to have been valued at Rs. 2,00,000, and to have averaged 3,00,000 pieces: about 1,00,000 pieces or less now come into the market valued at about Rs. 1,75,000.

A.
Statement showing the number of looms in Zillah Muttra.

Name of Parganah.	Name of Town.	Number of Looms.			REMARKS.
		1860.	1861.	1862.	
Huzoor Tehsil,	Muttra,	600	400	600	In 1859 there were as many as 850 looms at work in Muttra, and 139 at Bandabun. In consequence of the great retrenchment in the number of looms at work in the district, the number of persons employed in the service with the paper manufacturers, of whom there are many in the Town. Others, and especially in the towns of the interior of the District, are now engaged in the work of the handloom, and in many cases have taken themselves entirely to agricultural pursuits. The looms at work are not doing full work, but are doing about half of their former work. The piece produced in the looms has been reduced in standard measure and in weight since the rise in prices. Native manufacturers have diminished the number of looms at work in the District. Bandabun the number of looms at work in 1860, 1861 and 1862 is not known.
Ditto,	Bandabun,	0	0	0	
Aurang,	Aurang,	138	127	120	
Jalleysur,	Jalleysur,	207	157	63	
Kesee,	Kesee,	45	24	34	
Sakladah,	Sakladah,	8	4	9	
Mahabun,	Mahabun,	295	74	200	
Total,	Total,	1,238	826	1,111	
		923			

B.

Statement showing the average prices of Cotton, Cloth, &c., in the District of Multna.

YEAR.	Looms or Gadh.	COUNTRY CLOTH.			ENGLISH FREE-BOOTS.			PROVISIONS PER RUPEE.		
		Guzze per bale.	Guzze per dath or bale.	Country thread per seer.	Khas per bale.	Long cloth per bale.	Jean per yard.	Raw cotton per maund.	Wheat flour.	Gram flour.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.	S. C.	S. C.
1860. ...	600	0 12 5	0 12 0	5 9	1 14 5	7 0 1	2 7	1 12 2	5 9 6	16 0
1861. ...	400	0 11 10	0 11 1	6 5	1 15 0	6 11 6	3 11	1 10 10	9 11 4	12 10
1862. ...	600	1 0 4	0 14 11	7 5	2 3 10	7 13 2	6 7	2 4 3	11 5 10	23 5
1863. ...	501	1 9 3	1 7 0	14 2	3 5 0	11 9 6	9 3	3 6 2	21 8 4	22 15

* The bale of Native cloth has varied as follows:—

Jany. Feb. 1860.	Guzze	35	by 8 Girnaha.
March 1860 to Dec. 1861.	Guzze	12	by 11 "
Jany. to Dec. 1862.	Guzze	19	by 8 "
Jany. to Dec. 1863.	Guzze	11	by 10 1/2 "
	Guzze	15	by 7 1/2 "
	Guzze	10 1/2	by 10 1/2 "
	Guzze	17	by 7 1/2 "
	Guzze	10 1/2	by 10 1/2 "

Agra.—Mr. H. C. Barstow, the Assistant Collector, furnishes the following carefully prepared statistics:—

Name of Pergunnah.	Name of Town.	No. of Weavers at Work.				REMARKS.
		1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	
Huzoor Tehseel,	Agra, JOLA HAS. 610	504	420	316	The word "weavers" has been substituted for the word "looms," as the number of persons now employed in weaving have been taken and not the actual number of looms in work. The only statistics obtained in the Huzoor Tehseel are from Agra city and not from the surrounding villages.	
	KOLEES. 831	707	675	670		
	WEAVERS. 810	647	526	477		
	680	640	000	532		
Futtehpore, Seckree,	" 1,000	800	700	500	In this pergunnah only the number of Jolaha in the three towns noted were taken by the Tehsildars. The increase in the number of weavers in pergunnah Etanpore forms an exception to the general rule. This is the more surprising as both Agra Railway Station and Tondia junction are situated in the pergunnah affording great facilities for report.	
Khyragurh,	" 453	454	453	408		
Ferozabad,	" 915	915	875	339		
Futtehabad,	" 1,064	1,025	972	921		
Iradatnagar,	" 70	50	40	31	The increase in the number of weavers in pergunnah Etanpore forms an exception to the general rule. This is the more surprising as both Agra Railway Station and Tondia junction are situated in the pergunnah affording great facilities for report.	
Bah. Pinahut,	" 90	70	50	35		
Bah. Bah,	" 5	5	5	4		
Bah. Kuchera,	" 416	390	474	537		
Etanpore,		6,974	6,237	5,820	5,014	
Total,		6,974	6,237	5,820	5,014	

"From the above Statement it appears that the total diminution amounts to two-sevenths of the whole weaving trade. The decrease is most perceptible in the larger towns, such as Agra, Ferozabad and Pinahut, where weavers have previously been numerous, and where labor may have been more easily diverted to other employments. Although the statistics are not very accurate, yet the decided decrease in Native manufacture shows that the absence of demand for English goods cannot be accounted for on the hypothesis suggested by the letter from the Chamber of Commerce. The advance in the price of English goods has been quite sufficient to check the demand, though the price has not risen in the same ratio as that of Native goods. It has been ascertained as a fact that people in easy circumstances have bought during the past year as little as they could possibly do with, and the poorer classes nothing at all. There are two other reasons which account for the limited sales of the Manchester goods. Firstly, that the agricultural classes infinitely prefer clothing made out of the Native fabrics, as being warmer and more durable; and secondly, that in those cotton-producing districts the well-to-do agriculturists have reserved of their cotton a sufficient quantity to clothe themselves and their families. This cotton is spun into thread in their own houses, and then given out to the village weavers, most of whom are, about this time of year, employed in working it up at so much per piece. This custom has saved many of them from the necessity of taking to field labor or haggery, and in a great measure accounts for the fact, that the decrease in numbers of persons employed in this trade is much less perceptible in villages than in the larger towns where no such custom obtains."

The Collector, Mr. Pollock, in transmitting the above report, adds—

4. "The result of my own personal inquiries leads me to believe, that amongst the agricultural classes, the poorer have for some time past had to forego purchasing cotton goods, owing to their increased price, whilst those in better circumstances have, as Mr. Barstow states, kept back from their total outlay sufficient to meet the wants of their own families which they have manufactured into cloth through the village weavers.

5. "Amongst the non-agricultural classes, the effect of the enhanced prices is most palpable; they one and all state that they

cannot afford to buy cloth at the present price, and I believe very little business in the cloth line has been done at Agra for the past six months.

6. "Experience teaches us that when there is a great demand and a limited supply, the price of articles increases greatly, and on the other hand, that when the market is well stocked and the demand is small, prices fall.

7. "In the present instance of cotton cloth, there is not only a great demand, but a very abundant supply also, both in the local marts at Agra and in Calcutta, and yet no business is transacted. I know as a fact that there are large quantities of piece-goods in the wholesale merchants' stores at Agra, but they will not sell until they can make a profit, and there is no denying the want of cloth amongst the people.

8. "The solution of this anomaly is this. The retail merchants have no money to purchase; all the available money in the market has been taken up for the purchase of the raw material, an investment which pays much better than an investment in the manufactured article. The shroffs are receiving at the present date 3 per cent. per mensem on the money they lend out, and the profits on cotton goods do not amount to half that sum, notwithstanding the great want of cloth.

9. "But I am convinced, from inquiries I have made from the merchants, that the absence of demand for cotton goods is but temporary owing to the season.

10. "The tightness of the money market has only been felt during the last 23 months; it cannot last with its present force beyond the cotton season, which is now beginning to pass over. Again, this is not the season, during which English cloth is ever in great demand, it is not till the middle of April and during May and June that business in piece-goods begins to be brisk; folks then purchase their clothes against the rainy season; I believe, therefore, that in the course of two or three months the demand for English manufactured goods will be as great as it usually is at that season."

Elah.—In 1860 there were 2,433 looms at work. In 1861, probably in consequence of the famine, they fell to 2,023. Since then they have increased slightly to 2,063. The diminished consumption of cotton goods is ascribed to enhanced prices.

Mynpoory.—Looms in 1860, 3,311; in 1863, 3,131. In some villages there has been a slight increase. In Shekoabad a great decrease and consequent distress. The weavers have emigrated or taken to labour as coolies.

Mr. Fendall Thompson writes—

"From the number of looms still at work, it would seem that there has been but a small decrease in the manufacture of cotton goods, but this is not the case; as the looms, so to speak, are working short time, and most of the weavers are struggling against the hard times to continue their occupation. The consumption of cotton goods has materially diminished. Persons who formerly purchased 100 Rs. worth of cotton goods annually have, within the last year, hardly expended 50 Rs. per contra, however those who were in the habit of purchasing the dearer English clothes have lately been obliged to content themselves with the country manufactures, which has in some measure assisted the weavers. From what I can learn, however, it is more than probable, that should the dearthness of cotton continue, a great number of the looms now working will be stopped."

Furruckabad.—Mr. R. C. Oldfield reports—

"I have confined my enquiries to the city of Furruckabad and town, and Telseelee of Kunouj; at the latter place I was able to make personal enquiry.

"The subjoined Statement gives the statistics of the weaving population from 1860 to 1863—

* Name of Town.	Number of Looms at Work.			
	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Furruckabad,	890	550	550	495
Kunouj,	262	248	217	216
Villages in Telseelee Kunouj,	718	708	655	550

You will perceive a marked and progressive decrease, but I believe that the output of cloth has decreased in larger proportion

than the number of looms, since I am informed that Rs. 10,000 worth of cloth was printed in Kunouj last year, to Rs. 5,000 worth this year. Those who have given up the trade have taken to field labor and portage—finding a larger capital required than they possessed to conduct the business.

"Cotton has varied in price in Furruckabad as below:—

Price per Maund.			
1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
9 6 0	12 12 0	13 14 0	27 9 0

"There has been a progressive rise in the price of English cotton manufactures from 1860 to 1863. The average rise in that period on different kinds has been quite 50 per cent.

"The same may be said of native cloth only to a still greater extent.

"The native weavers use both English and Native thread, the latter is obtained from the villagers, home made from home grown cotton, and there has been no adulteration save the mixture of old with new cotton; about a sixth of the cotton crop may be said to be retained for home use.

"English cotton manufactures have always had a larger demand than the native; the latter are only worn by the poorest classes, and recommend themselves from their superior strength and durability. The native manufacture has not at all displaced the English; enhanced prices have of course affected the demand for both, but I believe, the native manufacture more than the English, and since the same cause, the price of cotton affects to a great extent both manufactures the prices of both will rise together, and there is no reason to anticipate that the native manufactures will displace the English."

Etawah.—Mr. A. O. Hume reports—

2. "I first subjoin in an abstract form the Tabular Statement called for.

Name of Parganah.	Name of Town.	17 in No.	Number of looms at work.				Remarks.
			1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	
Etawah,		1,271	1,037		847	602	Many of these looms have been only partially in work. When they had no work, the proprietors were, when they had none, they wait and worked on the nearest real
Bharua,	161	923	883		837	812	
Bidhoona,	No village details.	260	300	270	230	230	
Phupound,	70	513	489	483	335	335	
Duldangar,	81	978	781	603	450	450	
Total,	3,480	3,040	2,449		

3. "I cannot answer for the exact accuracy of these numbers, but I think, from what the Tehsildars report, that they have taken considerable pains to ensure their fidelity, and that they may be regarded as approximately correct.

4. "The effects of the scarcity of cotton have differed very materially, and inexplicably to my personal knowledge, in different parts of this district. In Etawah and Duldangar, and to a less extent in Phupound, the weavers have been thrown out of employ, and have betaken themselves to cultivation, and to labor on public work, while in Bidhoona and Bhurua, they appear to have continued their manufactures much as usual; and Bidhoona has, I know, exported largely during the past year.

5. "Nowhere have the weavers suffered much, as they have largely enhanced the charge for their own labor. They have less to do than formerly, but they are much better paid for what they do. Formerly, for instance, for a good thick 'jora dhotee,' they charged a rupee, which was 6 annas for the cotton, and 10 annas for labor, and now for thin poor cloth, that contains at most not above a rupee worth, and often not more than 14 annas worth of cotton, they charge Rs. 2-8, so that they now receive at least Re. 1-5, and in some cases more for the same labor which formerly only produced them 10 annas.

6. "No doubt a very large proportion of the cotton crop has been exported, but I am disposed to believe, that at least 10,000 mounds has been retained for home consumption. Spinning is the favorite occupation of the women in many of our agricultural classes; be cotton dear or cheap, they will always keep as much as will employ them, and then have their own thread worked up under their own superintendence by the patidar weaver they patronize. Besides the cotton retained for these purposes, we have still had (reduced though the number be) a good many looms at work during the year, and in one parganah especially, the weaver's trade appears to have flourished, and their produce to have found ready sale at the Dohay, Khyrabad, Mukhunpoor and other great fairs in the environs.

7. "The poorer classes, who are not themselves cultivators, but who follow other trades or labor (whether in the fields or in public works) for hire, have suffered much from the great rise in cotton, and with it in *revollen* goods. Those poor people rarely got a new suit

more than once in two years, and *many, many* of them are still wearing the rags they purchased four years ago. This has been painfully apparent, during this late cold weather especially. The zemindars and cultivators have, as a rule, gained largely by the rise, and have not generally, I should judge, diminished sensibly their consumption. Very generally, these dress in cloth woven from home-spun thread; and this latter, as above noticed, continues to be produced, it seems to me pretty nearly, if not quite as plentifully as before."

Jhansie Division.—The Commissioner, Major B. P. Lloyd, reports—

2. "The only place in this Division where cloth is manufactured to any extent, is Mhow Raucapore in the Jhansie District, where formerly some 600 looms were at work in the preparation of 'Ekree' cloth, which, when dyed becomes the red fabric well known as 'Kharooa.' The number of looms, as well as the number of persons engaged in the dyeing trade, have decreased very considerably within the last two years, and the same may be said of the weavers of the city of Jhansie (now in Scindia's dominions) and other places of less note. During a recent tour in the Mhow pergunnah, the subject was frequently mentioned to me, and I was informed that many families of both classes had betaken themselves to cultivating and to laboring on the roads, owing to the dearth and dearness of the raw material required for their usual occupation.

3. "At the same time it is a fact that the prices of English fabrics have doubled, and that those of country cloths have risen from 50 to 75 per cent.

4. "I believe, therefore, that the decrease in the demand for English cotton goods is not caused by any increase in local manufactures. The enhanced prices have doubtless diminished the consumption, but some thing is due also to the country markets having been to some extent overstocked with Manchester goods before the great rise in the prices of cotton occurred.

5. "I have no information as to the amount of cotton consumed in local manufactures, but judging from the large quantity exported from the towns of Koonch and Calpee in Jalom, and Koolpohar in Hameerpote, I apprehend that the quantity retained is comparatively very small."

Jalom.—Captain T. A. Corbett writes—

2. "The dealers in Manchester cloths, doubtless, do not find the Upper Provinces of the Bengal Presidency so profitable a market as they did, before the results of the American war were felt in this country to their full intensity. The price of raw cotton in this district is three times the amount that it could have been obtained for three years ago; whilst the cost of English cotton fabrics has risen, I am told, in the same period cent. per cent.; therefore the remark by the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce to the effect, that the manufactured article has not risen to a price proportionate to the cost of the raw material, would appear to be correct.

3. "But it must be observed, that though Manchester goods may not yet have reached the high figure which might have been anticipated from the cost of the raw material, they have risen quite high enough to check the demand, and also the vanity that induced a very large proportion of the lower classes of Natives to purchase and clothe themselves in brilliant colored dainties. The higher and the wealthier classes of Natives still, I imagine, buy as much Manchester cloth as they ever did; but the mass of the people, the people whose incomes average from 60 to 200 Rs. per annum, cannot afford to buy English cloths at their present price, and have taken to economical habits.

4. "From frequent personal enquiry in the villages of this district, I have arrived at the conclusion, that the manufacture of common country cloth has very much diminished of late; the weavers still work at their looms, when they have money to buy raw cotton, or a constituency that will supply them with it in part payment for the cloth; but their capital is small, and their customers amongst the rural population are poor, and will wear their present suits thread-bare rather than pay a high price for new apparel. Thin cloths have come much into fashion; they only contain two-thirds of the cotton that used in days of plenty to be worked up into a durable but substantial cloth, but they suit the requirements of needy people at the present time.

5. "Though the weavers of the Jalom district are very short of work, few instances are to be found at present of their having entirely given up the trade; with hereditary instinct they prefer it to any other; but when they cannot procure cotton or customers,

they work in the fields and on the roads, and appear to be an industrious, laborious class, and well contented with their earnings."

Thence.—The looms have fallen from 2,431 in 1860, to 1,828 in 1863. This has mainly occurred among the weavers who worked out their own capital.

In reference to these figures, Major J. Davidson writes:—"It will be seen that the number of looms at work in 1863 was less by one-sixth than those in use in 1860, and even these were not by any means in active operation, as manufactures only on a very limited scale were carried on, and the weavers for want of employment were driven to labor on the district roads and other public works, while many emigrated to Gwalior, Malwa, and elsewhere in quest of a living.

3. "The reason generally assigned for the comparatively feeble demand for Manchester goods, is the exceedingly high prices they have attained, and the consequent inability of the majority of the people to purchase them. It would appear, however, that in this district there never has been any great demand for English cotton goods; for the middling and poorer classes prefer native-woven clothes, which although coarser, are cheaper and are considered to be more durable than Manchester goods, and the upper classes supply their wants in the shape of *pagreos*, *dooputias*, &c., from *Chundeyres* where cloths of different kinds and of very excellent texture are extensively manufactured from English and native-spun yarn. It may too be assumed as very probable that Manchester goods to some extent have found their way from Bombay, as a return in some measure for the large exports of cotton during the last two years.

4. "The high price of cotton has doubtless affected the consumption of cloth for wearing and other purposes, which has fallen off to half or nearly three-fourths of what it was in previous years. The people restrict themselves to buying as little as possible, and when compelled to do so, purchase the most inferior and cheapest descriptions of cloth.

5. "On the whole I have reason to believe that there has not been any extension, but on the contrary a diminution of local manufactures: and with reference to the quantity of cotton consumed for local purposes it should be borne in mind that a good deal of the raw material is absorbed as padding for wearing apparel,

little or no woollen stuffs being used by the people for winter clothing."

Regarding *Mow Raneepore*, he says:—

"In 1860 and 1861, cotton was imported from *Oomroosee* into *Mow*, and what was not required for local use was sent on to *Miranpore*; but in 1862 and 1863, obeying the law of demand and supply, the produce of this and other pergunnahs swelled by imports from *Hameerpore*, *Budaon*, *Hathras*, *Furruckabad* and *Cawnpore*, found its way to *Oomroosee*, and *Bombay*, and the flow still continues.

"Of the 2,500 maunds produced in 1863, about one-third was consumed in the pergunnah and two-thirds exported to *Bombay*.

"The cotton thread used for weaving in *Mow* and *Raneepore* is obtained chiefly from *Bhawalpore* in the *Etawah* district, and is made into 'kharosa' and other coarse stuffs, which are sent principally to *Hathras* and *Furruckabad*; but local manufactures, affected by the rise in price, and exports to *Bombay* have considerably decreased. English thread is never used by the *Mow* weavers.

"About 3,000 maunds of cotton is produced in this pergunnah, of which one-third is taken up for local purposes, and two-thirds bought up by *Malajuns* and sent to *Koonch* in *Jaloun*, where it is manufactured into 'kharosa' and other coarse stuffs. Very little cloth is manufactured in the pergunnah, and the weavers, who still ply their shuttles, earn a very precarious livelihood, living from hand to mouth."

Mr. Sturt, the Assistant Commissioner, also writes—

"I have to state that on consulting the *Malajuns* and cloth merchants of the station on the subject, it would appear from their statement that Manchester cotton goods are very little in demand in this part of the district; first, because of the people being generally poor, they cannot afford to pay the enhanced prices of such goods; secondly, owing to their being of a much less durable nature compared with American and other country stuffs.

"Since the American war, the price of Native cotton goods has risen in value to about 75 per cent., and Manchester about 25 to 30.

Generally speaking, all European cloths (except woollen) are little used by Natives, and latterly, since the prices have been augmented, they have almost ceased buying them. These remarks, although they refer principally to this district are, I believe, applicable to other districts, hence it cannot be wondered at that the

demand for Manchester cotton goods has fallen off of late in the country.

"Every village in this district has in it some families of weavers, who earn their livelihood principally by cultivating land, and carry on their trade as weavers, only sufficiently to supply their village community with cloths. In large villages, however, where this class is numerous, a larger supply of country stuff is manufactured to supply the demand for dying purposes for the factories at Juggumunpore, Sydhugger, Kotra and Motee Kutra, and Erich, &c., where 'kharrua' and other colored cloths are prepared from 'Alldye.' It is not to be supposed for a moment that villagers sell off the whole produce of cotton for exportation, the pickers and other laborers employed in cotton fields are paid in kind, and they find it much more profitable to spin and turn their earnings into cash by selling thread instead of raw produce."

Lullapore.—This district is very poor, and the demand for English cloth has always been very limited. Very little cotton is grown, and it is procured with difficulty; consequently weaving has greatly diminished.

Majee Tylor reports—

6. "From this great dearth of cotton and its enhanced price, the weavers have been unable to find occupation for their looms; they have been unable to get advances from their shroffs to enable them to seek for cotton for purchase, and so many looms have been sold almost for firewood to meet the exorbitant demands of the shroffs. These families have given up their former calling and taken to coolie labor. In this manner I am given to understand three-fourths of the looms that used formerly to be worked have disappeared.

7. "During the time that cotton was even somewhat plentiful, and had not risen to its present price, I find that the weaver never expected to earn or demanded more than 5 annas for labor on a 'thana' of "dhotee" cloth, which took them and their families on an average from 4 to 5 days to turn out. The price of a dhotee, used to average from 1 to 1.5 of a good strong and thickly-woven cloth, now at prices ruling from Rs. 3 to Rs. 3.5, only a most inferior description of dhotee can be purchased, I ought rather to state can be sold and not purchased; for, there are still sellers, but no purchasers, or comparatively only a very small number. The weavers, though battling the best they could to gain a livelihood at their trades, have broken down. The anticipation now pre-

valent amongst this class is that even the few looms now at work must also be given up in a short time.

8. "Previous to these hard times, it was a source of great difficulty to get laborers for works of any description, but since the last eight months or so, this class (whole families) flock to get work, and in many instances, I am afraid, that many have left the district. But of a population of coolies, numbering about 150 to 200 on the Doodhna Bund in the Balachut jungles, more than two-thirds are of the weaver class, who have had to give up their looms and take to the pick-axe and shovel.

9. "Previous to concluding, I must observe that in the manufacture of Native clothes, nothing but country-made thread is ever used, English cotton thread not having as yet reached this inland district."

ALAHABAD DIVISION.

Cawnpore.—The Statement submitted by the Collector shows a diminution since 1860 of from 9,700 looms to 8,550. But the details vary greatly. In Cawnpore itself they have fallen from 1,440 to 610; and so in other considerable towns, where the weavers used to work upon their own capital. In the Bhognepore pergunnah, on the contrary, the looms are said to have increased from 2,950 in 1862, to 3,600 in 1863. These numbers are probably exaggerated; but in so far as Mr. Muir could learn by local enquiry on his late tour, the weavers belonging to the agricultural population in this pergunnah, are kept well supplied by the job-work they receive from the cultivators and zemindars, who employ them to make up their own home-spun cotton.

Mr. H. Monckton estimates that about three-fourths of the cotton crop has been delivered for exportation. He further writes:—

"The regular weavers or Jolahas have, generally, merely diminished the amount of work, but kept up their looms. Those of the Kolce caste have taken to other occupations, such as field and other out-door labor.

2. "The price of manufactured goods of the coarser kind has about doubled, and the consumption has fallen off to one-half. Cloth of the finer qualities used to be made from English manufactured thread, at present this manufacture has nearly ceased."

Humnaspore.—The number of looms has fallen from 4,527 to 3,448, and even these are said to be short of work. The decrease

is principally in the town of Raat and elsewhere. The looms in the outlying villages have been little affected; they having been kept employed by the cotton grown in the district.

Many of the lower classes are said to have taken to the use of "coarse blankets, and similar articles" of woollen stuff.

Pattichpore.—The looms have decreased from 2,769 in 1860, to 2,166 in 1863. Similar remarks apply here as in Humsorepore. The looms in the outlying villages are probably kept fairly supplied from the neighbouring cotton fields. Mr. Power says: "At present the weaving class, especially old women and widows, who spin the twist, are the only sufferers." The Board presume that this refers to the larger towns where the trade has suffered most: thus in Pattichpore itself the looms have fallen from 190 to 69.

Banda.—The statistics are confined to four chief cities, in which the decrease of looms has been from 121 to 173. But considerable distress is alleged to have affected the class throughout the district, and many have taken service as labourers in the Railway works.

Allahabad.—Going eastward, we first begin to find in this district the full effect of the dearth of cotton upon the weaving population. The decrease in the looms since 1860, is estimated at above 6,000. In that year they were 10,000; in 1863, 4,000. In a few of the pergunnahs, where cotton is grown, the diminution is comparatively small. In Allahabad the looms at work have from 807 dwindled down to 191. In the trading pergunnah of Seemra they are reduced to 251 from 2,543. The unemployed operatives may be seen seeking for service as bhictees or coolies. In the outlying villages they have taken to agricultural labour.

On the diminished use of European fabrics, Mr. G. H. M. Ricketts, c. n., writes as follows:—

4. "It is certain that the actual number of persons now using cloth of country manufacture, is far larger than formerly. They are driven to do so by the high price of imported goods. Formerly imported cloth was worn by many—even of the actual laboring classes. Now shop-keepers even are clothed in stuff manufactured in their own neighbourhood.

5. "I have here stated that sufficient raw cotton is retained to cloth the greater portion of the community; that the number of those weaving country stuff is increasing; and still in my accompanying Statement, I show how great has been the falling off in the weaving trade, and how great the destitution of the weavers. There

is only one way to reconcile these apparently conflicting statements. It is evident then that the whole population must be far nearer a state of pristine nudity than before even. This is actually the case. Every poor person stints himself to an inconceivable degree in his clothing, and every purpose to which cotton is applied; he wears his puggree and breech cloth to rags; dispenses with his body clothing, and denies himself his annual renewal of his scanty suit."

DEWARIS DIVISION.

Gorakhpore.—The number of weavers is given as 3,524 in 1860; and 2,920 in 1863. But of these latter "a large number have taken to agriculture, although living in their villages," the balance or nearly a thousand persons have emigrated in search of employment. As no cotton is produced in this district, the extreme depression of the weaver class may easily be understood.

The Collector, Mr. Gore Ouseley, adds,—

"During my tour in the south-eastern part of this district, I have seen several weavers working in the fields; they told me that they had discontinued working at their looms for the last two years; they appear to be wretchedly clad, and one man, a weaver, left his plough and ran across the fields to beg alms from me.

"I found in several places that the price of cloth (native) had increased three-fold. Many people told me that they were obliged to keep on wearing their old patched clothes, and that they burnt more wood at night than formerly to keep themselves warm.

"Whilst on the subject of what the poor and ignorant say, I may add, that on one occasion I heard a report that the English Government had prevented the sale of cotton, as they wished to make the people take to wearing leather garments in order to deprive them of their excreta.

"In conclusion I beg to add, that this district produces very little cotton. What cotton is manufactured into cloth is imported into the district from Azimgurh and Ghazepoor. Some of the cotton so brought used to find its way up to Nopaul; but during the last two years the quantity of cotton brought into the district has considerably decreased."

The Officiating Commissioner of Gorakhpore writes—

"There is no doubt that a number of cloth weavers, have been thrown out of work and have suffered considerably by the scarcity and high price of cotton thread. These men, I am told, have taken to agriculture and general work as day-labourers.

2. "The demand for cotton cloths has diminished, owing to the high prices considerably. The coarse cloth called 'guzze' or, 'garad' formerly sold at Rs. 1-4 the piece of 15 English yards, it now sells for Rs. 2-5. Cotton now sells at Rs. 1 the seer of 2lbs. English; it was formerly sold at 2½ seers, equal to 5lbs. English, the rupee.

3. "The import of cotton has much diminished. It used to be imported in large quantities from Baroda. The import of English piece-goods has much decreased. The prices are much higher, particularly long cloth, which used to sell at Rs. 7 the piece of 40 yards English; and now sells for Rs. 12. The price of cotton goods has increased, but not in the same ratio. Generally they sell for half as much again as they formerly sold for.

4. "Woollen goods, whether of foreign or native manufacture, sell at the same price as formerly, and the import is much about the same."

Mr. Shakespear, Commissioner of the Benares Division, reports as follows:—

2. "Cotton is only produced in the Benares Division for local consumption, and the enhanced price of the article has of course affected all classes, especially the poorer, who have as a rule abandoned the use of cotton-wadded clothing, employing woollen articles instead.

3. "During my present tour, I have made enquiries on the subject, and in one particularly locality, Mhow, in the Aizimgurh district, well-known for the excellence of its cotton manufacture, I found that many of the 'Jolahas' had left the place, report said for the Bombay Presidency and for Meera.

4. "On asking for the finest cloth they could turn out, I was told that the manufacture of it had fallen off very much, but that they would make the finest quality cheaper than the coarser, as the latter required more cotton thread. This indicates great depression, the falling off in customers resulting of course from the high price of cotton, and bringing the workmen to such straits that their labor was a secondary consideration as compared with the cost of the cotton thread."

Jaunpur.—The looms have diminished from 3,042 to 1,956. The Collector states that the dearth of cotton (of which little is here produced) has diverted labor from weaving, the operatives having betaken themselves to the work of coolies, or servants, or to

begging. The enhanced prices have affected first the Native, and then the European fabrics. "The European manufacture is always preferred to the Native, but enhanced price has caused a more economical consumption."

Aizimgurh.—There has been a falling off of nearly 4,000 looms: 12,500 are stated to have been at work in 1860, now only 8,660. The falling off in work has no doubt been in a still larger ratio, but the Collector has not submitted any observations on the subject.

Mirsapore.—Mr. McClure, the Collector, writes—
2. "It is well-known that the higher classes of Natives, both Hindoo and Mussulmans in these Provinces, look down upon the profession of a weaver of cloth as a low and degrading one; therefore, as a trade, it is confined to two castes of people, only known as the 'Jolaha' and 'Korce'; the former an inferior class of Mahomedan, among whom the largest number of cloth-weavers is to be found, and generally the manufacturers of the superior description of cotton stuffs used for Native dress; and the latter a low caste Hindoo, ranking with Chunnars, who confine themselves to weaving the coarser kinds of cloth, such as dhotees, &c. So long as these people possess sufficient capital to carry on their trade, they generally make it their chief occupation and means of support; otherwise, when compelled by necessity to resort to other means, their caste and position do not prevent their taking to agriculture, or serving as ploughmen, chowkedars, grooms, or in any other menial capacity.

"Mow and Mocharuckpore, in the Aizimgurh District, are the largest manufacturing towns known to me in these Provinces, and the population consist almost entirely of (Jolahas) weavers. These towns previous to the late rise in cotton were in a state of decay, unable to compete with the home manufactures; and I imagine, the population must have now taken to agricultural pursuits, or emigrated in large numbers, as they did in former years to the Mauritius and the West Indies.

"That many have emigrated to distant parts in search of employment, and that generally speaking, the scarcity of cotton, consequent on the unusually large exportations to England, &c, from this country, is a domestic pressure upon the ordinary classes of the entire population, is quite obvious.

4. "The Tabular Statement represents the statistics of the weaving population for the last four years, from 1860 to 1863 inclusive. How far it can be relied on I am not prepared to say.

	Cost of a woman's dress, ...	Ditto of a man's dress, ...	English Manufacture. 1862.	Woman's dress, ...	Man's dress, ...
Native Manufacture. 1862.	1 8 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	4 0 0
	2 0 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	3 9 0	5 0 0

	1862.	1863.
Manufacture.	3 4 0	2 13 0
	0 4 0	0 0 0
	3 0 0	3 12 0

	1 4 0	1 9 0
	0 4 0	0 0 0
	0 0 0	3 12 0
	0 12 0	0 15 0
	0 5 0	0 6 3

Year.	1862.	1861.	English.
1862	5 0 0	0 11 0	0 0 0
1863	5 2 3	0 0 0	0 0 0
1864	3 8 0	2 4 0	0 0 0
1865	3 0 0	...	...
1866	2 12 0	...	...
1867	1 8 0	...	...
1868	1 4 0	...	...
1869	3 8 0	...	...
1870	3 0 0	...	...
1871	1 8 0	...	...
1872	1 9 0	0 15 0	0 0 0
1873	1 9 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
1874	2 8 0	2 4 0	0 0 0
1875	1 0 0	0 9 0	0 0 0
1876	2 6 0	0 3 9	0 0 0
1877	2 10 0	...	...
1878	2 0 0	...	...
1879	1 12 0	...	...

Native Manufactures	1861.		1862.	
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Woolen Manufactures	1,400,000	1,840,000	1,400,000	1,840,000
Cotton Manufactures	1,180,000	1,120,000	1,180,000	1,120,000
Other Manufactures	1,180,000	1,120,000	1,180,000	1,120,000
Total	3,760,000	4,080,000	3,760,000	4,080,000

Name of Article.	1st	2nd	3rd
Notes for man	1st	2nd	3rd
of 17 beds,	1st	2nd	3rd
for Waman	1st	2nd	3rd
of 22 hands	1st	2nd	3rd
o. Kinardar,	1st	2nd	3rd
ilowa,	1st	2nd	3rd
tyce of 31	1st	2nd	3rd
hands.	1st	2nd	3rd
arah one piece	1st	2nd	3rd
ichlowa,	1st	2nd	3rd
aga or Rataze	1st	2nd	3rd
gonda,	1st	2nd	3rd
ilrataze	1st	2nd	3rd
arn Thread	1st	2nd	3rd
one seer.	1st	2nd	3rd

D
D
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X
X

"To this enhancement on the price of European manufactured cotton goods, placing it beyond the means of the majority of the Native population to use, may be attributed the diminished demand for it, and a consequent decrease in the importation of Manchester cotton goods."

The Board remark that this Statement possesses a special interest as showing that, notwithstanding the comparatively greater ratio of increase in the price of the Native article, a purchaser can still clothe himself in every article (excepting perhaps the *Agoncho*) more cheaply of Native than of European stuff. For example, a suit of male attire has doubled in price from Rs. 2-4 to Rs. 4-8, or cent per cent. The English article has increased by only 25 per cent., but still it costs 5 Rs., or more than the Native suit. Similarly a female suit of Native stuff can be purchased for 2 Rs., while of European stuff it would cost Rs. 3-9.

Benares.—Looms in 1800, 2,308, in 1863, 1,649.

Mr. J. H. Bax, c. n., reports—

2. "The number of looms at work in the different towns during the past and previous years has been carefully ascertained by local enquiry, and where possible, by a reference to the lists prepared for carrying out the License Tax Act.

3. "The Board, however, are already aware that very little cotton is grown in the Benares district, and consequently much of what is required for local consumption is procured from elsewhere.

4. "As far as I can learn, the effect of the high price of cotton and cotton articles has been to induce people to observe greater economy with regard to clothing, the poorer classes have recourse as far as possible to cheaper and more durable stuffs, such as blankets, &c., and the middle class, it is said, try to manage with their old clothes; buying new ones only when actually necessary.

5. "It will be observed from the statement that in some localities there is no actual decrease in the number of looms at work in the last 4 or 5 years. With regard to these, I beg however to remark, that though the number be the same, yet it has been ascertained that the amount of work turned out has greatly diminished."

Gazepore.—Mr. M. Brodhurst writes—

2. "The result of enquiries I have made from the several Tehsildars of this district, as also personally from the chief cloth merchants, cotton brokers and weavers of Gazepore, in no wise supports the impression of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, &c., 'the local manufactures on an extended scale would go far to account for the very feeble demand for Manchester goods that comes from the Upper and North-Western Provinces,' and for reasons which will subsequently be given, it is I think clear; that so far as

this district is concerned, 'the remarkable absence of the usual demand for Manchester cotton goods' is owing not to an increase in the sale of country cotton manufactures, but to the inability of the people generally, consequent on the great rise in prices, to purchase cotton fabrics, whether imported or of Native manufacture, and further, that not only has Native weaving not increased within the last few years, but that it has on the contrary very greatly decreased.

"The number of looms originally, about 7,000, is estimated to have been reduced to half that number."

Mr. Brodhurst proceeds:—

4. "Many of the Jolahas of this district have of late emigrated to the Mauritius and elsewhere, and many others having abandoned their original occupation, have become blisters, laborers, hawkers of cloth, and beggars.

5. "As is well-known, this is not a cotton-growing district; the crop is not sown separately, but with others, such as Urhar, Kado, &c. It is calculated that the out-turn of the district is about 1,600 maunds, and this is not sold, but used by the cultivators as padding for their ruzais, or in making up their women's clothes; they themselves buying finer cloth for their personal requirements.

6. "Of the large amount of cotton imported into Gazepore, the brokers state their belief, that in ordinary times about 10,000 maunds per annum are detained for the use of the district, and that at present about 5,000 or 6,000 maunds are thus applied.

7. "The Natives of this district generally wear cloth of European manufacture, finding it more durable, pleasanter to wear, and in the end cheaper than cloth woven in this country, whether imported or Native cotton.

8. "The Gazepore Jolahas do not apparently mix anything with the cotton; they state their occupation has of late fallen off to a most alarming extent; that not one-half of the usual number of looms is at work, and that even of the reduced number many are kept up merely in order that the children may not forget how to weave.

9. "For puggies, cloth woven at or near Hooghly, as also at

other places in Bengal, appears to be most appreciated, and for other articles of dress imported fabrics are most in demand, and are worn even by Chumars and others of equally low caste.

10. "Within the last three years, cotton goods, whether imported or Native, have about doubled in price. The poor are said scarcely to possess one-fourth of the cotton clothing they used to own; persons in better circumstances are reported to manage as best they can with the clothes bought in more prosperous times, trusting that the price of cotton, and consequently of cotton goods, will soon fall. The demand for Dhooa, or coarse country flannel and blankets, has been unusually great during the present cold season, owing to their prices being very far below that paid for ordinary wadded quilts or ruzais.

NOTES regarding the amount of Cotton transmitted to Bombay, and cost of Carriage.

Hatras.—Mr. J. H. Prinsep, the Collector reports :—about 5,700 maunds of cotton were purchased by Bombay brokers at about 30 Rs. a maund, for sale at Bombay. It was sent from Hatras *via* Indore, on carts, as far as Julgaon, and thence by Railway to Bombay, at an aggregate cost of 8 Rs. per maund for carriage, and about 2 Rs. per maund as "road expenses and food of those in charge," &c. The period occupied in the journey is reckoned at three months.

The distance to Calcutta and Bombay is estimated to be almost the same (408 coss the former, 405 the latter;) but the cost of transmission to Calcutta, including all expenses is only 5 Rs. a maund. The higher prices offered at Bombay are however, expected to more than repay the difference. The rates in Bombay were said by the merchants to be 10 Rs. higher than at Calcutta. A good deal of the cotton abovementioned had not been disposed of at Bombay, possibly in consequence of the fall of price.

Muttra.—The following information is given by Mr. Henderson, the Collector :—

"During the year 1863, cotton has been sent to Bombay from two Mundees in this district, Kosee and Muttra. From Kosee 3,000 maunds on native carts and camels, at carriage rates of 7 Rs. and Rs. 6.8 per maund. From Muttra 4,550 maunds on carts only, at 7 Rs. per maund. At Indore the cotton is transferred

from the large garrics sent from here to the small Goojralee carts. From here to Indore the carriage is 3 Rs. per maund, thence to Mundray 1-10, thence to Rail 12 coss from Bombay, 2 Rs., and by Rail 4 annas, total 6-14, say 7 Rs. To this the merchants add following expenses :—

Tilt, soolee, filling bag, sewing,	1	Rs.	per maund.
Hoonda for watch and ward on road,	8	annas.	
Insurance,	6	annas.	
Servants,	8	annas.	
		Rs. As. P.	
Hoondawun, discount on Hoondas,	1	8	0
Aruth,	0	8	0
Interest calculated on cost price between date of purchase and date of sale at Bombay,	1	0	0

Making the total expense, 12 6 0.

per maund; and the time said to be occupied in transit is between 3½ and 3 months.

"25,000 maunds is stated to be the quantity of cotton which came into the Muttra Mundee from the villages of the district in 1863.

"The despatch to Bombay last year appears to have been a speculation. At Bombay the price of cotton is quoted at 45 Rs. per maund—at Calcutta 38 Rs. Even to Calcutta the merchants prefer to send their cotton on carts rather than by rail. They urge in the first place that the Railway Company convey only a limited quantity; 2ndly, the rail at present only goes to Allahabad, where it is difficult to procure carts to take the cotton to the next Railway Station; 3rdly, that the Company place no guard over the cotton. The cost of sending to Calcutta is stated as follows :—

		Rs. As. P.	
Carriage,	3	0	0
Insurance,	0	8	0
Discount on Hoondas,	1	0	0
Servants,	0	8	0
Tilt, sewing, &c.,	1	0	0
Aruth,	0	8	0
Hoondas,	0	4	0
Total,	7	12	0

Agra.—Mr. Pollock reports as follows :—

" There are three stages between Agra and Bombay, *viz.*, from Agra to Indore, to the nearest point of Railway, and to the capital itself.

" The first portion of the journey is performed by carts and camels, the former are preferred, because the loads in them are never shifted till the end of the trip, whereas camels are delivered of their loads at the end of every march, and this loading and unloading is supposed to damage the cotton.

" The second trip, 80 coss, is performed on camels only, the load is too heavy for wheeled carriage ; the third by Railway.

" The rates to *Indore* alone I have been able to ascertain. The merchants here do not consign their cotton to houses in Indore or Bombay. The Bombay merchants send up their own agents, who purchase and despatch the cotton on Agra camels and carts as far as Indore, and there the carriage is changed ; so there is no one in Agra who can give information regarding the rates of carriage from Indore to Bombay.

" The rates for both camels and carts from Agra to Indore are the same, *viz.* from 3 Rs. to 3½ Rs. per maund.

" The journey is performed by carts in 30, and by camels in 24 days to Indore.

" The second trip, (80 coss) I suppose they do in 10 days, and if they get carriage the Railway should take their freight in one day.

" The greater portion of the cotton transmitted from these parts to Calcutta is carried in boats, and the journey occupies from 30 to 40 days. This mode of carriage is preferred to the road for two reasons. In the first place it is quicker ; and secondly the moisture of the atmosphere on the water increases the weight of the cotton and brings in a large return to the merchant. So although the rate per maund which he pays for river carriage is 1 Ro. 8 annas for boat hire and (2 Rs. 12 annas insurance) 4 Rs. 4 annas against (2 Rs. 8 annas for carriage and 10 annas insurance) 3 Rs. 2 annas for cart hire, yet the increased profit for the extra weight of the article amply covers the loss on the cost of carriage."

Calpee.—Four hundred *guddies*, containing each 2½ local maunds,

i. e., 1,000 local weight, (or about 1,200 maunds English weight,) were despatched on account of a Mirzapore firm from Calpee, on above 300 camels belonging to a Cabool merchant, *via* Jhansie, Sagar, Bhopal and Indore, for Bombay. The rate fixed is 3 Rs. the local maund to Indore, which was to be reached in a month and 7 days. The rates beyond are not known. The despatch was intended to meet engagements at Bombay contracted by the Mirzapore firm. The same firm bought 1,600 *guddies*, or 4,800 Government maunds, but despatched the rest *via* Mirzapore.

Last year about 30,000 local maunds were exported from Calpee, as against 44,000, (52,500 Government maunds) this year. The greater part is sent by boat to Mirzapore, and for the trip costs per maund—

	Rs.	As.	P.
Freight,	0	6	6
Insurance,	0	6	6
Miscellaneous expenses,	0	1	0
	0	14	0

to which must be added the heavy premium in the remittance of money from Mirzapore.

Mirzapore.—As stated in the body of the Board's report, only about 1,200 maunds were sent from this mart to Bombay, partly by camels to Indore, partly *via* Oomrawattee. The period and rates are as follows :—

	Rate per maund.	Period.
To Nagpore, ... By Cart,	5 Rs.	40 days.
" " " " " " "	6 "	30 "
To Oomrawattee, By Cart,	6 "	50 "
" " " " " " "	7 "	40 "

The carts take about 8 maunds for each pair of bullocks, and are drawn by from two to five pairs.

As we proceed from the Jumna inland to the parts of Bundelkhund farther west and south, the attraction of the Bombay market becomes stronger, and large quantities of cotton are said to be

exported both by Indore and Oomrawuttee in that direction. The Oomrawuttee route is preferred, as it lies entirely through British territory, and the exactions of the Gwalior people are avoided. The grand line from Calpee and Jhansie *via* Lullulpore and the Mallhore Pass possesses great advantages in this respect; and it is not understood why it has been set aside for the route from Jhansie *via* Nowgong, which passes through Independent States.

The wholesale rates for cotton at the close of February, at the chief marts in these Provinces, were as follows:—

	Rs.	As.	P.	
Mecrut,	26	10	8	per maund.
Allypore,	30	0	0	"
Bacilly,	26	6	6	"
Agra,	28	0	0	"
Cawnpore,	37	0	0	"
Mirzapore,	40	0	0	"
Ghazepore,	42	10	6	"

No. 143.

FROM R. B. CHAPMAN, Esq.

Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.

TO THE JUNIOR SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF BENGAL.

Fort William, the 14th April 1864.

LAND REVENUE.
(Muzaffarpore.)

SIR,—In reply to your No. 1409, dated 7th April, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to express their regret that although they made the correspondence between the Government of India and the Chamber of Commerce upon the question of the cultivation of cotton and the diminished demand for Manchester goods the subject of a very urgent call upon the District Officers of Bengal, they have not yet received replies from the districts named in the margin.

W. J. ALLEN, Esq.
and
A. GEORGE, Esq.
Deputy Commissioner of
Sehnapur.
Commissioner of Chota
Nagpore.
" Cuttack.
" Rayshahye.

2. The Board will not, however, any longer keep back their General Report on this account. Except from the district of Soobasgar there is no reason to expect from them any information of particular interest.

3. As a rule, the cultivation of cotton in the Lower Provinces of Bengal is insignificant and unimportant. From Assam and from the districts of Tipperah and Chittagong alone is there any export at present worthy of attention. From Assam the export is of old standing though not large, but in Chittagong and Tipperah there seems to be reason to think that a new export trade of some importance is growing up. In all the other districts of Lower Bengal it may be said broadly that what cotton is grown, is used for home consumption, and there are, as yet, no indications that the recent and present exceptionally high prices have led to any important extension of the cultivation. The inference would seem to be that from some cause or other the crop does not prosper in these Provinces. Indeed in normal years there are considerable imports into Bengal from the North-Western Provinces on the one side and from Arracan on the other, for local consumption. Even now probably much of the cotton exported from Chittagong and Tipperah has been taken up for the Eastern Districts of Bengal.

4. The prices quoted, however, both in those districts and in Assam, would appear to indicate that a profitable field might be found there for the employment of capital. Unless there is some mistake, the prices said to prevail in Assam especially are curiously lower than those current elsewhere.

5. The enquiry of the Chamber of Commerce in regard to the causes of the diminished demand for Manchester goods had reference only to the Upper Provinces of Bengal. The Chamber do not state that there has been any remarkable diminution in the quantity of English goods taken for the Lower Provinces.

6. Nevertheless many of the District Officers have said something upon the subject. It appears very clear that there has been no general impulse given to native weaving, and that if there is a decreased demand for English cotton goods in Bengal Proper, as well as in the North-Western Provinces, the cause must be sought here, as there, in other directions.

7. The Board have no doubt that the remarkable general rise in

the prices of all the necessaries of life throughout Bengal must have seriously affected the power of the people to consume imported goods. They also think, with the Authorities of the North-Western Provinces, that the English piece goods are not, as a rule, well suited for the use of the masses of the population. Although native goods are dearer than imported goods and the recent rise in prices has, in Bengal as in the North-Western Provinces, affected these more than these, yet the people find it more economical to wear native clothes, which, especially if manufactured from country hand-made thread, are, the Board believe, certainly more durable than English cloths, though of course much heavier and much less tightly.

8. From the nature of the case the report which I am directed thus to offer has little of the interest or of the importance of the valuable report from the North-Western Provinces. Nevertheless, in submitting the accompanying Abstract of the District reports, the Board have to express their regret that they do not contain fuller details. But one of the disadvantages which has to be set against the many great advantages of the revenue system of Lower Bengal, is the absence of any agents at the disposal of District Officers to correspond with the subordinate Staff under a Collector in the temporarily settled Provinces. The want of such an agency is always felt in obtaining information upon such questions as those discussed in these papers. A District Officer in Bengal is dependent for such matters entirely upon his own observations and upon the discrimination with which he may use the independent sources of information open to him as to any other gentleman of intelligence and position in the District.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. B. CHAPMAN,

Secretary.

P. N.—A copy of the Report will be furnished to the Chamber of Commerce direct.

Abstract of Replies from District Officers to the Board's Circular, No. 83A, dated the 22nd December 1863, calling for a report on the extent and growth of Cotton cultivation.

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
No. 42, dated 14th Jan. 1864.	The Deputy Commissioner of the Coorgah and Jynteah Hills reports that a great deal of cotton is planted on the Assam slopes of these hills, but the proportion of the raw material, which is sold in Assam and to the native dealers at Jynteahpore, is not known. The silk or twine in common use amongst the Jynteahs, and for the most part the langotier short cloth, and the bor kapur worn by the respectable portion of the Sinting (Jynteah) community, are manufactured of cloth woven in the hills. Deputy Commissioner thinks that it may be accepted as a rule that the clothing of the poorer community in the Jynteah Hills is woven on the spot.
No. 189, dated 14th Jan. 1864.	The Deputy Commissioner of Durrang reports that about 350 poorahs of land are under cotton cultivation in this district, yielding an average of about 10 maunds to the poorah. Out of this quantity of 3,500 maunds, about 600 maunds are exported from the district, the rest 2,900 being manufactured into cloth and otherwise employed for domestic use.
No. 278, dated 22nd Jan. 1864.	The Deputy Commissioner of Gowaiparah reports that local weaving in the district has not perceptibly increased during the last year or two, owing to the great increase in the price of cotton, which renders locally woven clothing more expensive than English cotton goods. In this district, there are no large manufacturers, local weaving being chiefly meant to meet domestic requirements. The Deputy Commissioner was informed by the Marwari merchants, who are the principal among the

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
No. 227, dated 20th Jan. 1864.	<p>trading community, that only 500 maunds of cotton were consumed during last year for local weaving, and if this be true, the Deputy Commissioner states that the "remarkable absence of the usual demand" for English-made cotton material cannot be traced to local manufacturing.</p> <p>The Deputy Commissioner of Kamroop states that the quantity of land taken up annually for cotton cultivation cannot be given in consequence of there being no assessment made on it. The principal parts of the district, where cotton is grown, are Doomsoreah, Bothellah, Rance and Leke, the average yield being about 7 maunds an acre. The Deputy Commissioner learnt from traders in Gowhatty that 5,000 maunds were exported, the average price being 10 rupees per maund, but no reliance can be placed on this statement, as the quantity is only one-seventh of the exports from Gawalparah in 1861. Although Gawalparah is the principal mart, the disproportion is too great and the price is doubtless exaggerated, as the average price in Gawalparah was 5 rupees a maund; the object of the traders being to deter European capitalists from entering the field. From personal observations, the Deputy Commissioner gathered, that a large quantity is manufactured into cloth, but a very small proportion of it finds its way into the markets. The cost is much less than of English made goods.</p>
No. 346, dated 21st Jan. 1864.	<p>The Deputy Commissioner of Lucknow states that he has no data on which to form an accurate statement of the extent to which weaving is carried on in the district. The only class of the population of the district who convert cotton into cloth for domestic pur-</p>

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
No. 579, dated 3rd Feb. 1864.	<p>poses are the Meeres and the Ryots of Upper Muttock. The raw material used by the great bulk of the Assamese is the produce of the different kinds of Silk-worms, Eye, Mooga, Mezankorra, &c. In 1862-63 the approximate quantity of cotton produced in this district was 4,000 maunds, of which 3,000 was exported into Gawalparah, and 1,000 converted into cloth for domestic use. This year the quantity may be taken at 5,000 maunds, one-fifth of which will be converted into cloth, the remainder being purchased by the keyats at 6 rupees per maund. Last year the price was 4 rupees: the present rate in the bazar is Rs. 7-6 per maund. The Assamese do not make cotton cultivation absolutely their occupation, but resort to it as a temporary employment.</p> <p>The Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong gives a statement shewing the places in his district where cotton is grown, the estimated area under cultivation and the estimated quantity produced in 1863-64. The estimated area is 21,680 acres, and the quantity is 5,200,000 lbs. almost all the cotton is bought up by the Marwari and Bengallee merchants and sent down the country, the quantity manufactured by the natives is small. The price of cotton has increased from rupees 4 to 10 within the last two years, owing to the increased demand for the article in Calcutta.</p>
No. 419, dated 25th Feb. 1864.	<p>The Commissioner of Patna submits the reports of the Collectors of his Division. The Collector of Behar states that the cultivation of cotton is carried on to no very great extent owing to the dry soil of the district. From enquiries made by the Collector it appears that the cultivation of cotton has doubled</p>

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
	<p>during the last year : the cotton grown is for local consumption ; none is exported, but a large quantity is imported from the North-West Provinces, which is, with the produce of the district, insufficient to meet the requirements of it. The cultivation of cotton is encouraged by the zemindars, and some insist on the cultivation ; but the ryots prefer the cultivation of opium, wheat, mustard seed, &c., in spite of the inducement offered by the present high rates for cotton. The Collector remarks that a great deal of labour is entailed in the cultivation of cotton in the Behar district, owing to the difficulty of irrigation. It appears that twenty years ago a brisk trade was carried on in the manufacture of cloth at Jehanabad and Behar, which has in the former place entirely ceased, while in the latter, the amount of manufacture is very limited, in consequence of the introduction of the cheap and more durable goods from Manchester with which the native manufacturers are unable to compete. The price of native manufactured cloth has increased nearly 150 per cent. above the former rate, which is owing to the rise in the price of the raw material, and not to the increase in the cost of manufacture, which remains the same.</p> <p>The Collector of Sarun reports that the cost of cotton is approximately three times what it was three years ago, the present price being one rupee per seer. The extent of cultivation is very limited, as it is grown in patches on the high ground in nearly every Pergunnah of the district, and is used by the weavers for spinning coarse thread and making coarse cloth. No cotton is exported from the dis-</p>

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
<p>No. 171, dated 5th Mar. 1864.</p>	<p>trict, neither is the local manufacture of the kind nor of sufficient extent to interfere at all with the demand for English goods. Formerly large quantities of cotton were exported from Mirzapore and the North-West, which now finds its way to England. The Collector remarks that the decreased demand for English goods must not be attributed to local manufacture, but to the increase in the price of the English goods, which may account for the feeble demand for them.</p> <p>The Collector of Chumparun reports that no cotton whatever is exported from the district, and that very little is grown, as the villagers do not like the crop and are much too indolent to think of other markets. A small quantity is imported for consumption from the North-West. The demand for Manchester goods in this district is lessened by the diminished consumption of cloth and the revival of country looms.</p> <p>The Collector of Patna reports that, from enquiries instituted by the officers in charge of the Sub-Divisions of Barh and Dinapore, the manufacture of country cloth has fallen off in consequence of the high prices now ruling. In Patna the number of weavers formerly employed in the manufacture of the raw material were about 350 "Jelabs" and "Tatees," whereas owing to the price at which the material is sold the number has decreased to 125 men.</p> <p>The Superintendent of Darjeeling reports that his Vernacular Returns show a return of 241 mauls of cotton from the Terai, and 25 mauls from the valleys of the hill portion of the Settlement, and that the smallness of the cotton is attributable to the ravages of</p>

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
No. 483, dated 2nd March 1864.	<p>the loomets, which during the year have visited the low lands in great quantities. The Superintendent from personal observations thinks that the quantity grown could not have been less than 2 or 3,000 maunds.</p> <p>The Commissioner of Burdwan reports that 7,667 beegahs of land were cultivated in the Bancoorah district in 1862, and 1,406 maunds were estimated as the return, 1,300 men (approximately) having been employed in its cultivation. The season for the cultivation was a bad one on account of excessive rain, which was injurious to the plant. The quantity produced in the Beerbhoom district is not sufficient for its own consumption, and cotton is imported from districts to the westward and worked into cloth for home use. In the Hooghly district no cotton is grown, as the people of the district prefer Manchester goods to those locally manufactured, and the weaving has declined of late years in consequence of the preference shown to Europe goods over those of local manufacture, of the introduction of steam looms, and also of the great mortality that has occurred in some of the weaving villages of the district. In Howrah the quantity of cotton for local manufacture and consumption has largely decreased, and from the opinion expressed by Mr. Stalkart, of Goosery, it appears that the quantity of raw cotton used is not so much as formerly, and that the cause of the decrease is to be found in the prevailing high price both of the raw material and of the imported cotton yarn which was formerly used by native weavers. In Midnapore the cultivation of cotton is not prosecuted to any very great extent, but the tenantry grow small patches for home use, and</p>

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
No. 338, dated 10th March 1864.	<p>a considerable impulse has been given to this cultivation by the high price of Manchester goods. A large importation of cotton is carried on from Calcutta and Cuttack into this district. There is a class of weavers in this district who used twist turned out at the Gloster Mills for making a finer description of cloth for the use of the richer class to the extent of about rupees 15,000 per annum, this trade has fallen off during the last year or two. Native weaving has increased this year to 50 per cent. more than last year.</p> <p>The Commissioner of Dacca reports that the present average price of cotton in Caehar is about rupees 15 per-mound in its unseeded state. The separation of the seed takes away two-thirds of the weight. The entire export of cotton from Caehar does not exceed 10,000 unseeded maunds annually, and almost all the cotton grown is exported. Native weaving is carried on to no great extent in the district, but cotton woven in Sylhet and Minapore and by the Hill Tribes is in much greater request than it used to be. In the Furreedpore district little or no cotton is cultivated. In the Dacca district, cotton is not cultivated, it is imported from Chittagong, Aracan, and Minzapore; but little comes from the last mentioned place. The quantity imported last year amounted to 11,500 maunds, of which 2,600 were re-exported. The number of weavers employed are about 2,000, but Collector thinks that this number has decreased. The total value of the cotton consumed in the district is estimated at rupees 3,56,000, at 40 rupees per mound. Of this, about 25,000 rupees worth is manufactured into cloth, and the remainder is used in the raw state. In</p>

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.														
	<p>the Mymensing district cotton is grown in the Garrow Hills and brought to the markets in the plains for sale. The quantity produced is not known. Native weaving is considered to have decreased lately on account of the rise in the price of imported cotton which the weavers generally use. In the Sylhet district no cotton is exported, the quantity produced is small and not sufficient for the wants of the district. In the Backergunge district there is an area of 1,100 buegahs under cotton cultivation; the crops of late years have been bad, and the cultivation has a tendency to decrease. The average produce of a buegah is 1 maund 10 seers, uncleaned cotton, giving 13 seers of cleaned cotton. There are about 1,355 weavers in the district who use English thread almost entirely. The price of native cotton ranges from rupees 12-8 to rupees 15 per maund. No cotton is exported from the district.</p> <p>No. 671, dated 16th March 1864. The Commissioner of Chittagong submits the reports of the Collectors of his division. The Collector of Chittagong reports that the prices of cotton prevailing in this and the two preceding years are as noted below. For cleaned cotton the figures are shown separately.*</p> <p>The total produce of the district in 1861 was much more than 20,000 maunds, but it has increased to 50,000 maunds, of which nine-tenths is exported, the remainder is consumed in the district. The price of the raw material has</p>														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Years.</th><th>Price in Manda.</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1861-62</td><td>Rupees 5 to 8 per maund.</td></tr> <tr> <td>1862-63</td><td>" 5, 6, 7, up to 10 per maund.</td></tr> <tr> <td>1863-64</td><td>" 15 generally reduced to 7, and then rose to 10 per maund.</td></tr> <tr> <td>1864-65</td><td>Rupees 15, 16 to 25 p. ind.</td></tr> <tr> <td>1865-66</td><td>" 15 to 20 "</td></tr> <tr> <td>1866-67</td><td>" 17 to 25 "</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Years.	Price in Manda.	1861-62	Rupees 5 to 8 per maund.	1862-63	" 5, 6, 7, up to 10 per maund.	1863-64	" 15 generally reduced to 7, and then rose to 10 per maund.	1864-65	Rupees 15, 16 to 25 p. ind.	1865-66	" 15 to 20 "	1866-67	" 17 to 25 "
Years.	Price in Manda.														
1861-62	Rupees 5 to 8 per maund.														
1862-63	" 5, 6, 7, up to 10 per maund.														
1863-64	" 15 generally reduced to 7, and then rose to 10 per maund.														
1864-65	Rupees 15, 16 to 25 p. ind.														
1865-66	" 15 to 20 "														
1866-67	" 17 to 25 "														

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
	<p>increased, having nearly quadrupled, whilst the price of European piece goods has not increased to such a degree. In Duloah very little cotton is grown, and what is grown is by private individuals for their own use. In Tipperah a large quantity of cotton is annually grown by the Tipperahs and others in the Rajah's territory of Hill Tipperah. A portion is manufactured into cloth for the use of the Tipperahs, and another portion of it is manufactured for sale in the Bazaars, the rest is brought for sale into the district. No accurate information can be given as to the area of land under cultivation or the quantity of raw cotton produced for sale in the district, but it is supposed that the quantity is large from the fact that rupees 40,000 is paid annually to the Tipperah Rajah as rent for the farm of the ghats through which the cotton passes from Hill Tipperah into the district. The Collector states that half of the whole quantity which annually passes into this district is manufactured into cloth and otherwise locally consumed. During the last two years larger quantities of cotton have been brought into the district, and during the past season the yield has been nearly double, as compared with that of the two previous years. Cotton is exported to a very great extent in the district is inferred from the rise and fall of the selling prices in the Sudder Bazar. The present price is rupees 18 per maund. About 1,600 maunds were sold in the Sudder Bazar during the past season. Rupees 50,000 worth of cloth manufactured in the district from the imported English thread was sold in 1862. In 1863 sales fell to about rupees 25,000.</p> <p>The Commissioner remarks that the demand for</p>

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
No. 71, dated 24th March 1864.	English-made cotton goods has considerably decreased of late, partly from the stricter economy rendered necessary by the rise in the price of all cotton fabrics, and partly from an increase in the quantity of cloth locally manufactured from the native-made thread.
Commissioner of Palna, No. 474, dated 28th March 1864.	The Commissioner of Bhanganpore reports that in the Monghyr District during the last ten years, cotton cultivation has been entirely abandoned in favor of opium. Last year a little attention was paid towards the cultivation of cotton. The price at which it ranges in Monghyr is from 35 to 54 rupees per maund. In Purneah the native cloth is sold at rupees 5-8 per piece of 26 yards, English cotton at 10 rupees per piece of 39 to 40 yards.
Commissioner of Nadia, No. 656, dated 31st Mar.	Collector of Tirhoot reports that half the raw material produced in this district is manufactured into cloth and the rest is expended for domestic use. The produce of the cultivation in the district is 5,000 maunds. Cloth manufactured from indigenous cotton costs less than the Manchester cloth, and the cloth manufactured does not compete with Manchester cotton cloth. The local manufacture does not produce a feeble demand for Manchester goods, as the quantity made is so small that the wants of the district are supplied from other sources. Three-fourths of the manufactured raw material is imported from Ghazepore, Mirzapore and the North-West.

No. & date of Reply.	District Officers' Remarks.
Commissioner of Nadia, No. 634, dated 31st March.	small that is does not either affect generally the price or limit the consumption of imported cloth. Three-fourths of the cotton yarn used is either imported or machine-made in this country.
	The Collector of Nadia reports that the cultivation of cotton has been greater than the two preceding years, but the total quantity produced is still small. The native manufacture of cotton cloth has very much declined of late years, instead of being stimulated by the recent high prices; the price of raw material has increased out of proportion to the increase of the price of the manufactured article, and the contraction of the native manufacture is the natural result. In Nana-ghat, cotton is not cultivated to any great extent, and the number of weavers is estimated at 10,000, none of whom make twist from raw cotton, but procure it from the dealers in the Town and manufacture it into cloth. In Bongong cotton is grown in small quantities, and it is used for domestic purposes. About 1,600 maunds of cotton is annually manufactured into cloth by the weavers in this Sub-Division, one-half of which consists of machine-made thread purchased in Calcutta. The price of cloth manufacture has increased in greater rates than that of Manchester cotton. The increase in the former being 250 per cent., the reason assigned is that the Natives prefer country-made cloth on account of its greater durability. In Meherpore the cost of cloth manufactured is less than that paid for Manchester; the consumption both of imported and country cloth is limited on account of its high prices. In Kooshita, the manufacture of cotton into cloth by Native weavers has

No. & date of Reply.	District Officer's Remarks.		
	diminished in consequence of the rise in price of the raw material. The feeble demand for goods of English manufacture is ascribed simply to the diminished consumption, owing to the increase in price. The Collector submit a Statement showing the number of persons assessed under the Income Tax for profits obtained from weaving with the aggregate amount of their Income Tax.		
	No. of Persons.	Aggregate amount of Income.	REMARKS.
	112	30,919	This amount is the estimated income of the individuals.

No. 162.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for information with reference to his letter, dated the 13th October last, to the address of the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

By order of the Board of Revenue,

R. B. CHAPMAN,

Secretary.

14th April 1864.

MEMO.

The Chief Commissioner called for certain information with reference to the apprehension expressed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce that the great falling off in the demand for Manchester cotton goods in the Upper Provinces was attributable in some degree to an increase of native manufacture.

The result of the inquiries thus instituted shows that there were no grounds for the impression. The District and Divisional officers are almost unanimous in reporting that native manufactures have greatly declined, and that a number of weavers have been forced to seek other means of subsistence.

It is also generally affirmed that the sale of native cotton stuffs has fallen off considerably more than that of European goods, a circumstance which is probably owing to the classes who use the former being poor and therefore unable to purchase at the present high prices. Very little cotton is grown in this Province, and the imports have of course greatly declined.

(Signed) J. REED,

Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Oudh.

No. 18.

Copy of the Memo. forwarded to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for information.

C. U. AITCHISON,

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India,

SIMLA,
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE,
The 10th May 1864.

APPENDIX E.

STAMP DUTY ON MARINE POLICIES, MARGINAL CREDIT BILLS OF EXCHANGE, GUARANTEES AND BILLS OF LADING.

From J. E. COOKE, Esquire, Officiating 3rd Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department,—(No. 6404, dated the 21st December 1863.)

Ordered, that a copy of the papers noted in the margin be sent Revenue Proceedings for to the Government of Bengal for information. September 1863, Nos. 15 to 22,

From J. W. S. WYLLIE, Esquire, Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 7779, dated the 15th December 1863.)

Transferred to the Financial Department for disposal, with copies of the connected papers.*

* Separate Revenue Proceedings, Nos. 15 to 22, 1863, 15th September 1863, Nos. 15 to 22.

From CAPTAIN H. BURN, Officiating Secretary to Government, Straits Settlement, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 220, dated the 23rd November 1863.)

SIR,—I have the honor, by desire of His Honor the Governor, to acknowledge the receipt of your Office letter No. 5072, dated the 19th September 1863, and beg to enclose copy of the document therein called for.

From COLONEL ONPETER CAVENAGH, Governor of the Straits Settlement, to E. C. BAYLEY, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 103, dated Penang, the 9th June 1863.)

I have the honor to enclose, for submission to the Hon'ble the

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President in Council, copy of a letter, No. 14 of the 1st instant, from the Collector of Stamps at Singapore, soliciting instructions on certain specified points connected with the provisions of Act X. of 1862.

2. As far as I am capable of judging, the Collector appears to have been in error in the course hitherto pursued with respect to the calculation of the percentages of Marine Policies; there being but one Policy of Insurance I should have supposed under the wording of Clause 56, Schedule A., that the calculation should have been made with reference to the total amounts of the sum insured and of the premium paid, and not with reference to fractional parts of each.

3. As regards marginal credit Bills of Exchange, I can hardly believe that it was ever intended that the holders of such Bills should be liable to be called upon to pay double or even treble the amount prescribed by the Act; at the same time, under the operation of Section 11, it is clear that such liability must often be occasioned; it might perhaps be removed by authorizing the Collector upon impressing the stamp for the full value upon the first to furnish the holder with a certificate to that effect, and upon the production of such certificate to subsequently impress the second and third free of charge.

4. As the guarantee given by the Consignees of goods to the Agents of the Vessels in which such goods may have arrived cannot be considered in the nature of a bond for the payment of money, I presume that the charge of one rupee, hitherto made thereon under Clause 1 of Schedule A., is correct.

5. With respect to contracts, or agreements containing a Penalty Clause, it is extremely difficult to express any decided opinion as to the value of the Stamp to be attached, though adverting to Clause 12 of Schedule A., I can scarcely imagine that, in cases where the amount of the penalty may exceed (200) two hundred rupees, a one rupee stamp would suffice.

6. The Bill of Lading, of which a copy accompanied the Collector's letter, and is herewith transmitted, assuredly seems to be of the nature of a Policy of Insurance, and to be consequently brought under the conditions of Clause 56 of Schedule A.

From W. W. WILLIAMS, Esq., Assistant Resident Councillor and Collector of Stamps, to the Secretary to the Government of the Straits Settlement, (No. 14, dated Singapore, the 1st June 1863.)

I have the honor to request that you will do me the favor to solicit His Honor the Governor to obtain from Calcutta information on the following points connected with the Stamp Act for the guidance of the community and myself:—

Marine Policies.—These Policies are frequently issued for various sums, at different rates, part at and below 2 per cent., and part above. Suppose one for \$ 10,000.—\$6,000 being at $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. = \$ 90, and \$ 4,000 at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. = \$ 90—in all \$ 180, or less than 2 per cent. on the *whole policy*, or it might be \$ 6,000 at 2 per cent. and \$ 4,000 at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. which would exceed 2 per cent. on the whole sum insured.—In what way is the Stamp Duty to be assessed? Would the Policy first stated be charged single duty on the whole sum of \$ 10,000, and in the second instance double duty as exceeding 2 per cent. on that sum; or should \$ 6,000 be charged at single rate and \$ 4,000 at double rate in both cases. This is the course I have hitherto adopted.

Maritime Credit Bills of Exchange.—These Bills are issued by Banks in England, and contain in the margin of each bill of the set an undertaking from the Bank to honor the Bill annexed, for (say) £500,—if drawn by Messrs. A. B. and Company, and presented within a certain given time: they are used instead of letters of credit, the first of the set being sent out by one mail, and the second and third by the next; it may happen when the first arrives that the exchange is good and likely to be less favorable before the second and third can reach, or the holder may require the money, and therefore desire to draw the bill and negotiate it at once, undertaking to deliver the second and third to the purchaser on arrival; he cannot draw the bill without getting it stamped; and, as he has but one of the set he must have the full Stamp of rupees 3 put on it as if it were a single Bill. This first is despatched by the purchaser to England and may possibly be lost; the second and third duly arrive here and, if used, must also be stamped.—What Stamp should they bear? The first having already been stamped with the full duty prescribed for the whole set, but the second

being required to send to England in case of the miscarriage of the first.

Guarantees given by the Consignees of goods to the Agents of the Peninsular and Oriental Company and others, engaging to hold them harmless and indemnified in consideration of the delivery of certain goods, the Bills of Lading for which have not come to hand, or have not been properly endorsed by the shippers, the value of such goods varying from \$1 to perhaps \$100,000.—Is one rupee a proper stamp for such a document? and, if not, in what manner is the stamp to be regulated?

Contracts or Agreements for building a house, or for any thing not specially provided for in Schedule A.—These contracts or Agreements contain a Clause binding one or perhaps both parties in a penalty of say \$200 for the due fulfilment of the contract, or perhaps \$5 per day after a certain date until the completion of the work; in some, it is stated, as a simple penalty, and in others “as stipulated and ascertained damages.” In some cases a third party joins in the contract as security for its due performance; in others to a certain amount only. Is the stamp of one rupee for an agreement sufficient in all these cases?

In some contracts a memorandum is added, at the end after the signatures of the contracting parties, to this effect,—

“I, A. B., become security for the due fulfilment of the above contract,” or for all sums advanced on the above contract, or “in the sum of (say) \$100, for the performance of the above contract.” Will this be considered to come under Article 19 and be covered by the same stamp as the Contract, one rupee?

Bills of Lading.—Certain Bills of Lading are issued by the Peninsular and Oriental Company, (one of which is enclosed,) by which, in consideration of a higher rate of freight, they become answerable for the safety of the goods, shipped, or in other words become Insurers as well as carriers. Is the 4 Anna Bill of Lading Stamp sufficient in such cases? or should such Bills of Lading also bear an Insurance Stamp in proportion to the value of the good and the extra freight taken for the risk?

BILL OF LADING.

No. _____

Shipped in good order and well-conditioned by
in the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's Steam Ship

whereof is Commander for this present voyage

now riding at Anchor [at

This Bill of Lading is issued at an ad valorem freight
whereby the Company takes risks upon themselves.

N. B.—Forms of Bills of Lading at a lower freight
under which risks are borne by the Shippers are also
issued.

It is at the option of the Shippers which form they
adopt.

Port at which payable _____

@ Ex. of _____

Value declared by the Ship-
pers on which additional
freight is paid.

being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered subject to the conditions at the foot of this Bill of Lading, but not to any other
exceptions in the like good order and well-conditioned at the Port of

shore goods and an additional freight of _____ per _____

the value declared by the Shippers in the margin to be the value of the said goods being paid in
by the Shippers as per margin Steam Ship but not lost. In Witness whereof
Bills of Lading all of this tenor and date one of which

Dated in _____ 186 _____
This Bill of Lading is issued subject to the following conditions and exceptions:—

Weights and contents when shipped unknown.
The Company are not to be responsible for leakage or breakage or other consequences arising from the insufficiency of the address or package.
The Company do not guarantee that the Steamers shall have room at the Ports of transshipment or that there shall be no delay there.
In case it is necessary to detain and store the goods it shall be done at the Company's expense, but the Company are not to be answerable for delay on occasioned.
When owing to bad weather or other causes the goods cannot be safely landed at their destination, the Company reserve to themselves the right to convey
them to the next Port on the voyage to be retained there by one of the Company's Steamers having space at the Company's expense, and the Consignee can-
not claim indemnity for such delay.

A written declaration of the contents and value of the goods is required by the Company and must be delivered by the Shipper to the Company's Agent with the
Bills of Lading. A wrong description of contents or false declaration of value shall release the Company from all responsibility in case of loss, seizure,
or detention, and the goods shall be charged double freight on the real value which freight shall be paid previous to delivery. The Company will not re-
ceive on board of their Vessels any goods of a dangerous or damaging nature. If any such goods be shipped without notice the Shippers will not only
be liable to the penalties imposed by Statute, but also for all damages sustained in consequence of such shipment.

The Company are not to be responsible for any consequences arising from restrictions of quarantine whenever imposed.
The Goods are to be distinctly marked both on the outer and inner packages with the Marks, Numbers, and Port of destination, or the Company are not to be
responsible for detention or wrong delivery.

Goods and specie if not taken delivery of by the Consignees or their Assigns so soon as the Steam Ship is ready to discharge will be landed and ware-housed
or discharged into and stored in a bulk or receiving Ship at their Port of destination at the Merchant's expense, and the Company are to have a lien
on the goods and specie for such expenses. All liability of the Company in respect of such goods or specie is in cases as soon as they are so discharged
and safely landed, after which the Company are not to be responsible for any loss or damage to such goods and specie howsoever caused.

The Company are not responsible for Captures or seizures lawful or unlawful or for arrests, restraints, or detentions of Kings, Princes, Governors or
people of what nation, condition, or quality whatsoever, or for the consequences thereof or any attempt thereof.

The Company are not responsible for average to any goods under three per cent. however caused, unless general or the Ship be stranded.
The Company are in no case to be responsible for a greater sum than that declared in the margin by the Shippers to be the value of the goods on which ad-
ditional freight has been paid, which as between the Shippers and the Company is by agreement to be considered the true value of the goods as in Marine
Insurance.

Subject to the above conditions and exceptions the Company will settle all losses upon allotment of two per cent. and no more at the expiration of six months
after the claim is made, but before payment the claimant is to furnish, if required, such proof of value as is usually demanded by the London Insurance
Officers before settling claims, and all average losses and like matters claimed are to be adjusted according to the established practice of the London
Insurance Officers.

Captain.

INTERMEDIATE FORM
(Eastern Station).

MEASUREMENT AND WEIGHT.				
Feet.	Inch.	Cub.	Qu.	Lbs.

Co's No. _____

Freight _____

Additional Freight _____

Total _____

From J. W. S. WYLLIE, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government
of India, Home Department, to the Advocate General,—(No.
5143, dated the 18th August 1863.)

I am directed to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a
letter from the Governor of the Straits Settlement, dated the 9th
June last, No. 103, and of its enclosures, and to request that you
will be so good as to favor the Government with your opinion on
the several questions raised therein in connection with the provisions
of Act X. of 1862.

From J. GRAHAM, Esq., Officiating Advocate-General, to J. W. S.
WYLLIE, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department,—(dated the 28th August 1863.)

In reply to your letter No. 5143 of 18th instant, with enclosures,
I have the honor to state my opinion on the several points raised
by the Governor and the Assistant Resident Councillor of the
Straits Settlement regarding the Stamp duties.

Marine Policies.—I consider the Assistant Resident Councillor
has rightly interpreted the law in respect of these instruments.
In fact an insurance for different sums at different rates ought
properly to be contained in distinct Policies at several rates; but
if one instrument is adopted, I think in fairness, and without doing
violence to any expression in the Schedule, Article 57, several
stamps should be affixed in respect of each insurance.

Marginal Credit Bills of Exchange.—This appears to be a case not
considered in the framing of the 12th Section of the Stamp Act,
and the point has already been the subject of reference from other
departments. The wording of the 12th Section is apparently
opposed to any stamping of the second and third of Exchange
except at the same time as the first of the set, but it clearly did
not contemplate the class of instruments in question. It appears
to me that under the circumstances the remedy suggested by the
Governor in the 3rd paragraph of his letter is an appropriate one
and free from legal objection, whilst it ensures against any loss to
the revenue.

Guarantees, are, in regard to the Stamp Law, considered as Agree-
ments. Being, however, of the nature of an obligation for the
payment of money, they do not, in my opinion, fall under article 1

in the Schedule, but they are comprised under Articles 12 and 15 in case the amount is fixed, or under articles 17 and 18 of the Schedule if the amount is left open. If a penalty is fixed in the Agreement, I think that ought generally to regulate the amount of stamp; but if the parties choose to take an optional stamp covering a less amount they are at liberty to do so at their own risk, and cannot recover beyond the lesser amount.

Bills of Lading in the terms referred to are, in my opinion, policies, and ought to be stamped accordingly.

The enclosures with your letter are herewith returned.

No. 72.

Copy of the above memorandum, and of its enclosures forwarded to the Board of Revenue for communication to the Collector of Stamps and to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

S. C. BAYLEY,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 6th January 1864.

Memo. No. 78.

Stamp,
W. J. ALLEN, Esq.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce for information.

By order of the Board of Revenue,

T. BRUCE LANE,

Junior Secretary.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 15th January 1864.

Forwarded for the information of the Members of the Chamber of Commerce, whose attention is especially directed to the opinion given by the Advocate General as to the bills of lading issued by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

CALCUTTA,
1st February 1864.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Calcutta, 15th February 1864.

T. BRUCE LANE, Esquire,

Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

SIR,—The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce direct me to acknowledge the receipt of sundry papers in connection with some of the provisions of the Stamp Act forwarded with your memo, No. 78 of the 15th ultimo.

With reference to the liability to which a holder of a Bill of Exchange is exposed of being required to have the 2nd and 3rd of the set stamped in the event of the loss of the 1st, upon which the full amount of stamp had been duly impressed, the Hon'ble the Governor of the Straits Settlement (in the 3rd para. of his letter, No. 103 of 9th June 1863) suggests that such liability might be removed if the Collector, upon impressing the stamp for the full duty upon the first bill, furnished the holder with a certificate to that effect, and upon the production of such certificate to impress the second and third free of charge when presented for that purpose.

This is a very simple remedy, and its application would be attended with little or no inconvenience to the Collector, while it would at once place the holder of the bills beyond the possibility of having to pay the Stamp duty over again on the 2nd or 3rd of the same set after having duly paid the duty on the 1st.

It is absolutely essential that the difficulties suggested in the 8th and 9th paras. of my letter of 17th December 1862 should be met by some such arrangement as is proposed, and that the holder of the 1st copy should have official evidence of having complied with the Stamp Law in the shape of the proposed certificate.

The Committee, I am desired to add, are of opinion that Colonel Cavenagh's suggestion would sufficiently meet those difficulties, and they trust the Board will be so good as to adopt it.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

APPENDIX F.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO THE BEST MEANS FOR PREVENTING FIRE AMONG THE SHIPPING.

No. 1214.

From

F. R. COCKERELL, Esquire,

Offy. Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.

Fort William, the 10th March, 1864.

Marine.

Sir,—I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of a letter, dated the 27th ultimo, from the Committee appointed to report on the best means for prevention of fire among the shipping in this port, and to draw the Chamber's special attention to paragraphs 3, 4 and 5, and to the last two paragraphs of that letter.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

F. R. COCKERELL,

Offy. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

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From the President and Members of the Committee, appointed to report upon the best means for prevention of fire among the shipping, to F. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal.—(dated the 27th February 1864.)

Sir,—In accordance with the instructions contained in Mr. Under-Secretary Geoghegan's letter of the 29th December, to our address, appointing us a Committee for the purposes stated therein, we have now the honor to submit our report.

It appears to us that the subject submitted for our consideration and report admits of being considered under the five following heads:—

1st.—The best means for the prevention of fire amongst the shipping of the port of Calcutta.

2ndly.—The best means for the extinction of such fires when they do occur.

3rdly.—The best means for ensuring the safety of human life on the outbreak of fire.

4thly.—The best means of preventing injury from burning vessels as well to other vessels as to the moorings of the port.

5thly.—The probable cost of our recommendations, and how the expense is to be met.

As regards the first heading we would remark, as must be apparent at first sight of the question, that the matter is very much in the hands of the owners, and Commanders of vessels themselves. In the hands of the owners, because if they used more caution in enquiring into the personal character of the Commanders for strictness and careful performance of their duties, and proper observance of all Port Rules and Regulations for Merchant vessels, they would not subject their property to such risks as the utter neglect of all the most ordinary precautions exhibited by the conduct of the Captain and Officers of the late ship *Egyptes*.

It is also in the hands of the Masters and Commanders, who, by strictly forbidding all smoking, except on the upper deck, as well as the use of naked lights anywhere in the ship, and by seeing that their orders on these points are rigidly carried out, have so much in their power in ensuring safety from fire and consequent protection of the property of their employers.

But so long as the owners of vessels are careless as to the men whom they employ to navigate valuable vessels, and to take charge

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of still more valuable cargoes, and whilst the latter again are neglectful of the interests of both owners and shippers committed to their care, it is utterly hopeless to expect that any Rules or Regulations will of themselves be of any avail.

The best means for the prevention of fire amongst the shipping of the port appears to us to be the rigid enforcement of the Rules 1 to 10 annexed to our report. These rules with those following them should be incorporated with those already in force under Act XXII. of 1855, and any infraction of them should be punishable with the same penalty as proscribed in Section IX. of the Act, *viz.*, rupees 100.

We are of opinion that one of the rules which will be found the most effective will be that which provides for a night watch being kept on all vessels in the port. At present but few vessels keep watch at all even when moored in the stream, and when taken into moorings the night watch is immediately dispensed with. Ships may be secure enough for all ordinary purposes and free from risk of breaking loose, &c., when properly secured in moorings; but it appears to us that the more crowded the shipping are, as in the case of ships in moorings, the greater necessity for a proper watch against such a calamity as fire.

For the best means of extinguishing fire we have had several suggestions before us. It is quite evident that the present engines are almost worse than useless. They are quite behind the age, and are so slow to move, and so deficient in power, that a fire is generally beyond all human effort by the time they arrive at the scene of conflagration.

We therefore recommend, for the extinction of fires on board ships, a Floating Steam Fire Engine similar to those employed on the Thames.

A Sketch of one of these is appended, with a drawing shewing the estimated length, which is 144 feet.

The steamer *Junna*, at present employed as a Ferry Boat between Salehgunge and Caragollah Ghaut, is 145 feet long, and has engines of 60 H. P. She is about to be relieved by another steamer, and to be withdrawn for repairs. If her hull should, upon examination, prove to be serviceable, she could be easily converted into a Floating Steam Fire Engine, and be adapted to project 2,000 gallons of water per minute through four separate jets to a height of 180 feet, and

would pour in a volume of water on any burning ship or building on the river bank, sufficient to extinguish any ordinary conflagration not immediately fed by explosive combustibles, before it could reach such an inflammable article as jute, which is always stowed deep in the hold of a vessel. In the case, however, of spontaneous combustion of such an article as jute, the chances of extinction of the fire would be exceedingly remote, considering the very inflammable nature of the article itself, as well as from the difficulty of getting at it (where it is usually stowed) after ignition.

Should the *Junna* not prove fit for the service a suitable vessel may probably be obtained from the Irrawaddy Flotilla.

A Steam Fire Engine Boat, provided with a 24-pounder gun for use in case of need, which could be speedily moved about the river to any point regardless of the tide, would possess immeasurable advantages over the present helpless engines, and be of incalculable value in time of emergency and need. Such a boat should be located at some central point like the Bankshall, and kept ready with fires banked up day and night prepared for immediate service.

We would further recommend that, in the event of the proposed tramway scheme being carried out along the Strand Bank, a powerful shore engine should also be entertained. It should be located at say Baboo's Ghaut, and that at a particular hour every evening, say 7 P. M., it should be placed on the tramway, which should then be clear of all goods traffic, ready to be run along the river bank to any point where its services might be required, there to work in conjunction with the Floating Steam Fire Engine.

The description of engine which we would recommend is that now in common use in America, and very largely used by the Fire Offices in England, and combining in itself the properties of a traction as well as a pumping engine. These have one great advantage in the fact that, should steam not be up when the alarm of fire is given, they can be moved either by horses or coolies, and steam can be got up whilst in transit, so as to be ready to work immediately on arrival at the scene of conflagration. [Note below.]

3rdly.—The best means for the protection of human life in case of fire.

We are of opinion that this is provided for by the night watch recommended in Rule 10, the men employed on which duty would of course naturally give the alarm to their fellow creatures, on board; and by Rule 11, which provides for a boat being kept

ready, to be lowered at a moment's notice in every ship, thus securing the ships' company the means of flight close at hand, as well as enabling others to come to their rescue.

Further assistance could also be ensured by making it compulsory, as stated in proposed Rule 14, on every Native Craft plying for hire, to render assistance in case of fire under penalty of forfeiture of current licence, and a heavy fine, say rupees 50.

In considering the best means of preventing injury from fire to other vessels as well as to the moorings of the port. As regards injury to other vessels, it is clear that there should be every facility for speedily moving the vessels that may be in the neighbouring moorings. This is provided for by rules 12 and 13. With regard to preventing injury to the moorings themselves, it is but only requisite that it should be strictly incumbent on the Marine Authorities, whenever practicable, to tow the burning vessel out of moorings and beach her on the other side of the river, as has always been the practice. Should this not be feasible, the Chief Official of the Marine Department present should at once take on himself the responsibility of sinking the vessel, if possible, out of moorings, if not, as she lies moored.

Provision should be made for the speedy sale of sunken burnt vessels, and within a given time after the sale, say seven days, the Marine Authorities should be empowered to blow up the wreck so as to clear the mooring in question.

We next come to the question of the cost of our recommendations, and how the expenditure is to be met.

As regards the cost of adapting a vessel like the *Jumna* or one from the Irrawaddy Flotilla, granting hull and everything to be in servicable order when transferred, say rupees (6,000) six thousand.

The cost of maintenance would be rupees 450 per month in round numbers.

In the event of the *Jumna* being unserviceable, and no boat being procurable from the Irrawaddy Flotilla, a new hull might be built (for the *Jumna's* Engines) 100 feet long, and the machinery shifted into it for say rupees (15,000) eighteen thousand.

The probable cost of a Shore Fire Engine to be used on the tramway would be rupees 5,000, and the expense of working it rupees 1,400 per annum.

It will thus be seen that in no case will there be a greater expen-

diture than say rupees 23,000 out of pocket, and, in the event of a servicable boat being placed at the disposal of the Marine Authorities, the total cost need not exceed rupees 11,000.

The annual working expenses of both Shore and Floating Engine would cost but rupees 6,800 in round numbers, a sum so trifling in comparison with the vast interest affected by our recommendations that there should be no delay in carrying them out in the event of their meeting with the approval of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

As regards the question of the present state of the Port Fund, we have before us two accounts of the Fund, that for 1861-62 and 1863-64. From these Statements we are of opinion that the revenues of the Port Fund would be quite equal to meeting the cost of our recommendations were a Statement of the financial condition of the Fund to be properly drawn out, and its accounts to be placed once for all in a healthy condition.

Before concluding our report we would remark that moored as ships now are in tiers of three and in some instances of four and five vessels, the facilities for the extension of fires present almost a greater danger to be guarded against than the actual fact of the presence of fire in any single vessel. It appears to us that perfect security from fire can alone be arrived at by the building of Wet Docks, in which vessels could lie in the closest proximity without any risk of fire, for, with the adoption of Dock Rules similar to those which obtain all over the world, no fires of any kind would be allowed within the Dock premises.

The question has assumed an importance which urges us to bring the subject of the necessity of Wet Docks prominently to the notice of Government.

S. WAUCHOPE,	President.
WILLIAM MAITLAND,	} Members.
J. A. CRAWFORD,	
H. HOWE,	

CALCUTTA,

The 27th Feb. 1864.

NOTE.—Whilst recommending the entertainment of a Traction Steam Fire Engine in connection with the tramway scheme, the Committee would urge that, pending the carrying out of that scheme, a Traction Road Steam Fire Engine should be at once procured.

DRAFT RULES.

1. Smoking on board any ship in the Port to be allowed only on the upper deck.
2. The practice of the crew smoking in the fore-castle below, or in any part of the between-decks, to be specially prohibited and strictly guarded against.
3. No light of any description to be taken into the hold except in a closed lantern secured by lock and key, under the immediate charge of a responsible Officer.
4. Every ship to be compelled, under penalty, to have lanterns of this description on board which are to be shown to the Harbour Master or other Officer acting under the Conservator of the Port upon demand for such inspection.
5. The Preventive Officer on board each vessel to be charged with the duty of specially noting the observance of these Rules, and to report to his superior any infringement of the same.
6. The Inspectors of the Preventive Service in the course of their ordinary daily routine of duty to put questions to the Preventive Officer relative to the observance of the Rules respecting fires and lights, and to note the replies.
7. To ensure this being done brief printed forms might be brought into use, having ruled lines for question and answer.
8. Caboozes for batta lascars not to be allowed near a hatchway, and whenever objected to by the Harbour Master or Visiting Officer to be removed as he may direct.
9. Stevedores and lascars or coolies in the hold to be watched that no chillums are even taken into the hold.
10. All ships in the moorings should have during the night a watch of at least two men on deck, and the River Police as well as the Inspectors of the Preventive Service ought to be empowered by Government to visit the vessels in Port at any hour during the night, and see that such watch is kept.
11. All vessels in the River Hooghly, either at the moorings or in the streams, to have a boat of their own always ready to lower at a moment's notice, which shall be despatched with a strong working party to the assistance of a ship on fire, to work under the orders of the Master Attendant.
12. All ships in the moorings to be careful that their chains are ready for slipping, and that the pins of the shackles can be immediately knocked out.

13. On the occasion of fire breaking out on any vessel, all ships in the neighbouring moorings immediately to furl their awnings and to get their force pumps ready to wet the sails, &c., and to prepare for slipping their cable.

14. The crew of every native craft licensed to ply for hire lying in the immediate neighbourhood of a ship in fire to proceed to immediate assistance and in default of so doing to be liable, on conviction, to forfeiture of current license, and a fine of rupees 50 or both.

S. WAUCHOPE, ... *President.*
 WILLIAM MATTLAND, }
 J. A. CRAWFORD, } *Members.*
 H. HOWE, }

No. 56.

The Acting Chief Superintending Engineer has the honor to submit to the Superintendent, Dock-Yard, a rough estimate of the probable amount for the conversion and alteration of the Government steamer *Jamma* to a Steam Floating Fire Engine.

	Rs.
Material in store	... 416
" to be purchased	... 200
Labor	... 521
Total rupees	... 1,140

Probable estimate of two Sets of double acting seven inches Pumps.

Material in store	... 639
" to be purchased	... 2,925
Labor	... 1,603
Total rupees	... 4,567
Rupees	... 5,707

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This cannot be expected to be correct owing to the vessel not being in port, but he expects the amount will cover the expense of conversion and new work for the above purpose.

(Sd.) C. S. MATHEWS,

Acting Chief Superintending Engineer.

GOVERNMENT STEAM FACTORY ;
KIDDERPORE,
The 8th February 1864.

Proposed Establishment for a Floating Steam Fire Engine.

	Rs.	As.	P.
Second Class Engineer after three years...	145	13	4
1 Tindall ...	20	0	0
4 Stokers ...	64	0	0
1 Cook ...	12	0	0
1 Tindall ...	16	0	0
5 Lancas ...	50	0	0
1 Sweeper ...	10	0	0
Coal ...	120	0	0
Total rupees...	437	13	4

Estimate of cost of Establishment for working a Shore Steam Fire Engine.

	Rs.	As.	P.
1 Native Engine Driver ...	16	0	0
1 Stoker ...	10	0	0
12 Coolies, at Rs. 5 each ...	60	0	0
Coals say ...	35	0	0
Tallow, Hemp, &c., for cleanings, &c. ...	3	0	0
Total rupees...	124	0	0

or rupees 1,458 per annum.

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No. 1990.

FROM S. C. BAYLEY, Esq.,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Port William, the 21st April 1864.

Ma'am.

SIR,—With reference to your letter dated the 1st instant,* I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of a further correspondence on the subject of preventing and suppressing fires among the shipping in this Port, from which it will be seen that steps will be taken in the Legislative Department of this Government to bring in a Bill into the Local Council placing under proper restrictions the introduction into this port of Benzole and Kerosine oils.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

S. C. BAYLEY,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 1987.

FROM

S. C. BAYLEY, ESQUIRE,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

TO

THE OFFG. UNDER-SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA,

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Port William, the 21st April 1864.

Ma'am.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter No. 1216, dated the 10th

* Vide page 175.

* From Officiating Secretary, Government of Bengal, Legislative Department, No. 14, dated 18th March 1864, with enclosure.
From Master Attendant, No. 64, dated 23rd March 1864.
From Master Attendant, No. 92A, dated 21st March 1864.
From Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce, dated 1st April 1864.

2. It will be seen from the memorandum of Mr. Hobhouse, who was consulted on the subject, that all the Rules recommended by the Committee cannot be carried out under the existing law. Mr. Hobhouse has accordingly submitted a fresh Draft, which embraces in another form such of the Rules proposed by the Committee as are within the law. These Rules have met with His Honor's approval, and I am now desirous to solicit the necessary sanction of His Excellency in Council to their embodiment in the Port Rules now in force, under Section 7 of Act XXII. of 1855. I am to add that the Board of Revenue have been directed to cause the necessary instructions to be issued to Preventive Officers to bring to the notice of the Master Attendant or of his Assistants any infringement of the Rules relating to the use of fires and lights on board ships in the Port, and the Marine Authorities will then proceed against the offenders in the manner laid down by the law.

3. Steps will be taken in the Legislative Department of this Government to introduce a Bill to the Local Council for giving effect to the remaining Rules drawn up by the Committee, and for vesting the Master Attendant with power to compel, under certain conditions, all ships in the port to render assistance to a burning vessel, and likewise for giving effect to the proposal of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce to place under stringent Rules the introduction into this Port of Benzole and Kerosine oils, which are of a nature likely to be highly destructive in case of fire.

4. The Committee's recommendation to keep up a Floating Steam Fire Engine has been already laid with His Honor's favorable recommendation before the Government of India. The report of the Master Attendant as to whether the steam boat *Junna* will be available for this service has not yet been received. The cost of the measure will depend greatly on the necessity or otherwise of constructing an entirely new hull.

5. On the recommendation of the Committee regarding the construction of Wet Docks, the Lieutenant-Governor awaits the

ultimo, forwarding a copy of the Committee's Report on the best means of preventing and suppressing fires among the shipping in this Port, I am directed to submit the accompanying copy of a further correspondence* on the subject.

opinion of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to whom that and other suggestions of the Committee have been referred.

6. In conclusion I am desired to observe that the course recommended by the Committee, in order to prevent "injury from fire to other vessels as well as to the moorings of the port" is identical with that prescribed by the law, and habitually followed by the Marine Authorities.

7. In reference to your letter of 4th instant, I am directed to state that a separate reply will be sent after the Lieutenant-Governor has been put in possession of the views of the Master Attendant on the subject.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

S. C. BAYLEY,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 1958.

FROM S. C. BAYLEY, Esq.,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

TO THE JUNIOR SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Fort William, the 21st April 1864.

MAINE.

SIR,—In forwarding the accompanying draft of Rules,* under Section 7 of Act XXII. of 1855, to which the sanction of the Government of India has been solicited, I am directed to request that the Board will desire the Collector of Customs to instruct Preventive Officers to bring to the immediate notice of the Master Attendant or of one of his subordinates any infringement of these Rules, especially of those regarding the use of lights and fires that they may observe while on duty on board ships in Port. The Marine Authorities will then proceed against the offenders according to the Act.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

S. C. BAYLEY,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

* Memorandum on the draft Rules for the prevention and suppression of fire on ships within the Port of Calcutta by Mr. Hobhouse.

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No. 1959.

FROM S. C. BAYLEY, Esq.,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

TO THE OFFG. SECY. TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL,

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Fort William, the 21st April 1864.

Sir,

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 14, dated the 16th

From President and Members
of the Committee to report upon
the best means for prevention of
fires, &c., dated 27th Feb 1864.
From Master Attendant, No.
65, dated 22nd March 1864.
From Master Attendant No. 90A,
dated 31st March 1864.
From Secretary, Chamber of
Commerce, dated 1st April 1864.

ultimo, I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a correspondence relative to the best means of preventing and suppressing fires among the shipping in this Port, and to request that steps may be taken in your Department for the introduction

into the Lieutenant Governor's Council for making Laws and Regulations of a Bill to include such of the Rules as cannot under the existing Law be embodied in the Rules sanctioned under Section 7 of Act XXII. of 1855, and for vesting the Master Attendant with the necessary powers for obtaining assistance from vessels in port in the cases of fire among the shipping, and also for regulating the introduction into the Port of Benzole and other inflammable oils.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

S. C. BAYLEY,

Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

(True Copy.)

THOMAS JONES,

Registrar, Bengal Secretariat.

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BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Calcutta, 30th April 1864.

F. R. COCKERELL, Esq.,

Offg. Secy. to the Government of Bengal.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 10th ultimo, forwarding for the information of the Chamber of Commerce copy of a letter from the Committee appointed to report on the best means for the prevention of fire amongst the shipping in this port (with a draft of the rules proposed by said Committee) and calling the special attention of the Chamber of Commerce to paras. 3 to 5 inclusive and the last 2 paras. of that letter.

Adverting first to the rules which the Committee propose should be put in force, I am to state that they meet with the entire approval of the Committee of the Chamber, being in their opinion eminently calculated to diminish the risk of fire through that incautious use of naked lights and of fire for smoking the hold, which it is feared is now but too frequent.

The Committee approve also generally of the proposed scheme for a floating fire engine and a traction road engine to be at all times ready and available in cases of fire unfortunately breaking out.

Referring now to paras. 3 to 5 of the Committee's letter, to which the attention of the Chamber is specially directed, I am to state that my Committee do not concur in the sweeping reflection on owners and commanders of vessels trading to this port expressed therein: that the discipline on board of many vessels lying in the river is lax may be admitted; but this arises in most cases from the difficulty of dealing in Port with European crews; occasionally, of course, men are found here, as they are elsewhere, in command of vessels who are entirely unfitted for so important a trust, but as a rule vessels frequenting this port are competently officered, and the owners are not obnoxious to the charges implied in the 5th para. of this letter.

Referring in conclusion to the last two paras. of the Committee's letter to which the special attention of the Chamber was also directed, and in which the construction of Wet Docks is recommended as the only means by which "perfect security from fire can be

arrived at," I am to point out that this recommendation appears to be based on the assumption that all fires which occur amongst the shipping have their origin in the use of fire being permitted on board and are accidental. This assumption is not borne out by the most recent cases which have undergone investigation. Where incendiarism is at work no such precaution as the interdiction of the use of lights or fire on board will avail; and there is always the chance also of spontaneous ignition, where large quantities of oil seeds and cotton or jute are stowed in close proximity. Whilst however my Committee do not concur in the opinion that Wet Docks will afford absolute immunity to the shipping against fire, the construction of such docks, and the rigid enforcement of the rules against the use of fire on board in force elsewhere, would certainly tend greatly to diminish the risk of accidental fires; and to this extent my Committee endorse the opinion recorded in the Committee's letter. As regards the general question of Wet Docks I am desired to point out that the Chamber has for several years consistently recommended their construction, and to refer you to my latest letter on the subject under date the 27th February 1863, to the opinion expressed in which the Committee adhere.

I take this opportunity of acknowledging your letter of the 21st April with annexures, informing me that measures will be taken in the Legislative Department to place under proper restriction the landing and warehousing of benzole and other inflammable oils, to which the attention of the Government was directed in my letter of the 1st instant.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. W. L. WOOD,

Secretary.

APPENDIX G.

BENZOLE KEROSENE AND OTHER INFLAMMABLE OILS.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Calcutta, 1st April 1864.

F. R. COCKERELL, Esquire,

Offy. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

SIR,—The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce direct me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1214 of the 10th ultimo,* accompanied by copy of a letter and report from the Committee appointed to inquire into the means best adapted for preventing fires among the shipping of this port.

The Committee are obliged for those papers which will shortly be more fully adverted to; in the meantime they beg to draw the attention of the Honorable the Lieutenant-Governor to the urgent necessity which appears to them to exist for placing under restrictions the landing and warehousing of certain highly inflammable oils known as *benzole* and *kerosine*, the trade in which though a new one seems already to have attained considerable proportions.

In the case of the very ship the *Josiah Bradlee*, the attempt to burn which is now under inquiry before the Commissioner of Police, the Committee find by reference to the import manifest filed at the Custom House, that there was on board at the time of her arrival no less than three thousand and four hundred (3,400) cases of these inflammable and dangerous oils. Fortunately they had been landed before this act of incendiarism was attempted,

* Vide page 118.

but had the oils still been on board, and the attempt to set fire to the vessel been successful, the consequences would inevitably have been most disastrous, not only to other vessels lying in proximity to her in the river, but also, in all probability, to houses and other property on shore.

In illustration of the dangerous properties of one of these oils, *benzole*, the Committee quote the following extract from Dr. Ure's Dictionary of Arts. *Acrosing*, though less inflammable than *benzole*, partakes more or less of the same character, being like *benzole* a preparation from coal naphtha.

"Benzole is *excessively inflammable*, and its vapour mixed with air is *explosive*. *Numerous lives have been lost* owing to these properties. * * * It is so easily inflamed that great care is necessary in using it. It does not require a wick to enable it to burn. If poured, even on an unflammable surface and a light be applied, it takes fire like a train of gunpowder, and burns with a brilliant flame. *Seen on the surface of water it burns as freely as anywhere else. A method of destroying enemies' shipping has been founded on this principle.* A stream of air driven through *benzole* becomes so inflammable as to serve for the purposes of illumination."

Seeing then the highly dangerous nature of these oils, which the merest accident might inflame, the Committee respectfully submit that the landing and warehousing of all oils of that character should be subject to stringent regulations. In particular that vessels arriving off Calcutta with more than a certain limited quantity on board should not be brought into the moorings until it had been discharged; that it should also, when landed, not be brought within the precincts of the Custom House; and that no considerable quantity should be allowed to be stored together within the limits of the town.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

Vide page 137 for reply from the Government of Bengal.

APPENDIX H.

TRANSMISSION OF SOUTHAMPTON MAILS VIA BOMBAY.

No. 3383.

FROM

A. M. MONTEATH, ESQUIRE,

*In charge of the Office of Director General
of the Post Office of India.*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.

Calcutta, 2nd April 1864.

SIR,—The Chamber of Commerce are doubtless aware that although the mails from England which come via Bombay contain Marseilles correspondence for all parts of India, they do not contain Southampton correspondence for stations in Madras or Lower Bengal; the prohibition against the transmission of such correspondence via Bombay having been found necessary with reference to its great weight, and the difficulty and expense of arranging for its speedy and regular transmission on the extended lines of road transit to Calcutta and Madras.

2. The necessity for this prohibition appears still to exist as respects the heavier class of Southampton mails (papers, books, &c.) but it might perhaps be advantageously withdrawn in respect of Southampton letters.

3. I should like to be favored with the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce as to whether the proposed modification is likely to be productive of material public convenience so far as Lower Bengal is concerned.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. M. MONTEATH,

*In charge of the Office of Director General of the
Post Office of India.*

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No. 2212.

FROM

A. M. MONTEATH, Esquire,

*In charge of the Office of Director General of the
Post Office of India.*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE.

Calcutta, 19th December 1863.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated 17th instant, and in reply to state that the question of the provision of accommodation on railway lines in India, for sorting purposes, is at present under the consideration of the Government.

When that question is settled, the expediency of introducing the railway sorting system on particular lines will be taken up.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. M. MONTEATH,

*In charge of the Office of Director General
of the Post Office of India.*

APPENDIX J.

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH EASTERN, OR MUTLAH, RAILWAY.

TO

THE SECRETARY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Dated, 13, Park Street, February 6, 1864.

SIR,—Having been appointed Commissioners to report on a railway scheme for a branch from the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway into the lower part of the 24 Pergunnahs, with a probable extension to the river Hooghly, we shall feel obliged by your favoring us with your opinion as to how far a line connecting Calcutta with the Hooghly at Diamond Harbour would benefit the mercantile community, and as to the amount of traffic such a line would be likely to draw from the shipping.

2. We shall be also glad to learn your views as to the comparative advantages of Diamond Harbour, Calpee or any other point on the river as a terminus for the proposed line.

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

H. L. DAMPIER,

F. S. STANTON.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Calcutta, 4th March 1863.

H. L. DAMPIER, Esq.,
CAPTAIN F. S. STANTON.

GENTLEMEN,—The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce direct me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th ultimo, relative to a scheme for a branch of the Calcutta and South Eastern Railway into the lower part of the 24-Pergunnas with a probable extension to the Hooghly, near Diamond Harbour, or Culpee or other convenient point on the river, and in which you ask their opinion as to how far a line connecting Calcutta with the Hooghly at Diamond Harbour would benefit the mercantile community, and what amount of traffic such a line would be likely to draw from the shipping.

To these inquiries the Committee would reply that whatever tends to improve the means of communication between Calcutta and Diamond Harbour, or any other point on the river, would unquestionably be a benefit to the community; the extent of it would be felt in proportion to their requirements, and the necessity which might exist for availing themselves of the facilities thus placed at their disposal; but the Committee are obviously restricted to only a very general admission of the benefit thus likely to arise, for it is impossible to say what amount of traffic would be drawn from the shipping frequenting the Hooghly, and unless this can be ascertained with some degree of accuracy the advantages to be derived from the proposed scheme would be mere matter of conjecture.

The Committee are inclined however to the belief that, as a rule, ships would not remain at Diamond Harbour, but prefer proceeding to Calcutta, and that the occasions would be rare when the excessive draught and tonnage of a vessel would oblige her to moor off Diamond Harbour.

Even were railway transport available at that station, the Committee do not think ships would remain there, for the extreme inconvenience of being at so great a distance from Calcutta would more than outweigh the economy which might result from terminating the voyage at Diamond Harbour.

The Committee take it for granted that your object in addressing them is with the view to ascertain if accommodation for the increasing tonnage of the port can be found at a point lower than Calcutta, and to extend a branch of the Mutlah Railway to that point, in the hope of relieving the river off Calcutta, but they do not hesitate to repeat what they have already urged in other quarters, viz. the establishment of Wet Docks in the neighbourhood of the city, and that nothing short of such accommodation will suffice to meet the growing demands of a rapidly expanding trade.

I have, &c.,

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

APPENDIX K.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BURMAH AND THE WESTERN PROVINCES OF CHINA.

Moulmain, 2nd April 1864.

To

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
CALCUTTA.

DEAR SIR,—I have watched for some time with much interest the exertions being made by the great Commercial Bodies in England to open a road of communication with the Provinces of Western China through British Burmah and the native intermediate States. The efforts are worthy of great results, as doubtless the results will far exceed the expectations of the most sanguine.

Captain and Mr. Sprye's proposition for a railway to Western China was the first to call public attention to this important subject, and it has been since advocated with more or less success up to the present time, and attracting attention from those more practical means at our disposal than it ought to have done; from physical and financial causes this scheme will not be followed out in our day and generation, even if the first of these obstacles could be easily overcome, which however is quite impossible—there would still be another which would practically prevent the scheme—the absolute want of data of the amount of trade it would open out. As an initiatory project it could not be entered upon as however anxious commercial men may be to have new markets to which they may have access, they will not be induced to advance large amounts upon an enterprise that cannot be supported by irrefragable statistics and existing trade, of these then there are at present none, and until some practical and reliable calculation can be formed, we ought to be satisfied with some less expensive

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scheme to test the capabilities and resources of those regions we are all interested in knowing and throwing open to our commerce and civilization.

There are at present two channels of communication at our disposal, the rivers Irrawaddy and Salween which have their sources somewhere in China or in Tibet; these rivers ought to be made at first the highways of our trade, the Irrawaddy is not navigable for steamers beyond a few miles above Mandalay, the present capital of Burmah Proper, but as by treaty we are allowed free ingress and egress, besides being permitted to hold ground in the dominions of the King of Burmah, emporiums like these of the early efforts of the late East India Company in India could be established, and from thence the communication might be continued by covered boats suitable to the exigencies to be encountered in the upward journey, and a River Company that would guarantee the delivery of goods and the safe landing of passengers in this way at both ends of this river would eventually meet with much success. This scheme could be at once entered upon and would not require at first a very heavy outlay, but from the very unsatisfactory state of our relations with Burmah Proper, it would be more prudent to previously obtain a guarantee from Government that it will enforce the strict observance of the treaty and encourage the development of such enterprises; under such a promise there would remain nothing but a well directed perseverance to yield the most profitable results.

The other and not less important highway is that of the river Salween. This river is very little known, but from the accounts I have been able to glean from native sources, will be the most important when thrown open, as it is navigable into China and is even there a considerable stream of some depth, and it flows through a well populated country both before and after reaching China. Tracing this river downwards it is navigable until it reaches the mountain districts which are a little to the north of the British Frontier. It here intersects the mountain ranges which are numerous, many of them reaching to a height of from 3 to 5,000 feet, and in these intersections are to be found masses of rock obstructing the channel. The most important of which occurs about 90 miles from Moulmain and is called the Great

Z.

Rapids or Falls, supposed to exist from a natural declivity in the bed of the river and which is said to be of rather a formidable character. With this one exception all the others it is considered can be removed by blasting or other artificial means, and are of very trifling dimensions when the great results that may follow are taken into consideration.

If it should be found after a scientific survey that the greater of these difficulties cannot be removed, it is quite possible to form an emporium above and below this obstruction with a road of communication between on either of its banks, which would be of inconsiderable length and in construction of no very great difficulty. But this even may be unnecessary as it is said that there is a channel on one side that if not already sufficient might probably not be beyond the power of science to widen.

It is the opinion of those acquainted with the subject that money spent on a scientific survey of this river would not be thrown away, and that for a very trifling outlay (when compared to a Railway traversing a very mountainous region and more especially when the practical results will be nearly the same) the obstacles could be removed and the river made navigable, the matter demands more interest and advocacy than it has yet received, and it is for this purpose that I have taken the liberty of calling your attention to this less expensive and more feasible plan of opening two important highways at considerable distances from each other into those regions we desire our commerce and friendly intercourse should reach.

In December last Colonel Playre, Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, organised an expedition to explore this river, and entrusted the difficult task to Lieut. Watson, Assistant Commissioner, and Lieut. Scores, late of the Indian Navy, and now Master Attendant of Maulmain. Whether these officers possess the scientific and practical knowledge required for such a task I am unable to say; it would have been more desirable and it would have saved time to have had an experienced Civil Engineer associated with them in the expedition, and whose report and estimate could be produced at the same time as the Political and Topographical information of the journey. It is of great consequence that in any future expedition this great desideratum should be accomplished, as much time will be otherwise lost.

These officers started on their journey and succeeded in reaching without interruption one of the Provinces subject to the King of Burmah, when they were at once stopped by orders which had evidently been forwarded by His Majesty, and who no doubt was aware of the nature of their journey, for up to the present time this road had always been open to all travellers. They have in consequence proceeded to Mandalay to ascertain the reasons for this prohibition, and to complain of the insulting treatment they experienced. Their very important task has thus been most vexatiously stopped and from a source from which assistance was more to have been expected. It is quite against the text and spirit of the treaty, and it should not be allowed to be passed over without the gravest remonstrances being made, and some further concessions given on the part of the king for satisfactorily and immediately carrying out the intentions of our Indian Government.

You will observe by the Indian Newspapers that there are other grave deviations from the conditions of the treaty on the part of the King of Burmah, who it is generally believed has no intention to continue to acknowledge or condescend to its conditions. The policy hitherto adopted by Colonel Playre towards the King is far too temporising and conciliatory and is now yielding its natural fruit. The only good results that the mercantile community of British Burmah can now expect from this treaty is from the pressure that will be put upon the Home Government by the great Commercial Bodies in England insisting on a strict fulfilment of the treaty and an extension rather than a curtailment of its stipulations. It is lamentable to experience the hasty blight of a grand and dazzling future, which we all till lately expected, the success and prosperity of millions to be destroyed or delayed indefinitely by the ignorant and unreasonable caprice of a petty tyrant disarding in a most insulting manner the serious obligations he voluntarily but prematurely entered into, and this too without the slightest cause beyond a personal jealous fear that we may deprive him of the wholesale monopoly he has established in his country of its entire productions or divert from him the trade existing with Western China.

If we submit to such acts as we have now to complain of and allow our treaties to be broken with impunity, the development

of our Commerce and the enervation of the vast masses of people inhabiting the Western Provinces of China will be indefinitely postponed, and considering the cases unjustifiably and morally so.

It is said that Colonel Playre is about to reimpose and increase those Frontier Duties that were taken off at the time the treaty was signed or put in force; but this species of retort although it produces a severe punishment on the nation generally, will not actually fall upon the guilty party, and therefore fails to create that conviction and fear of doing wrong which the immediate expectation of punishment produces, and which it is the imperative duty of the English Government to enforce the moment its treaty is disregarded, its immediate servants insulted, the rights of its subjects endangered and their enterprise imperilled.

The reimposition of high duties will virtually seal up the King's dominions from our enterprise, the very thing he desires, and cannot be looked upon in any other light than a retrogressive policy.

An immediate appeal from all the Mercantile Bodies to the government before it may compromise itself by any temporizing course will be of the utmost consequence, and it is in the belief of the efficacy of this intercession that I have taken upon myself the duty of laying before you without delay the actual course events are now taking, and to urge you to adopt such steps in unison with the other associations as the circumstances may warrant your doing.

I remain, dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

RICHARD SNADDEN.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Calcutta, 30th April 1864.

RICHARD SNADDEN, Esq.,

Maulmain.

DEAR SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, to the address of the President of this Chamber, I

am desired to point out that the obstruction which you state has been raised to the survey of the Salween river, and which you consider to be an infraction by the King of Burmah of the treaty between himself and the British Government, appears to be receiving the consideration of Colonel Playre, and will no doubt be reported by him, for orders, to the Government of India.

Under these circumstances it would be premature for this Chamber to interfere at present; but should no step be taken by Government to vindicate the rights and privileges of the commercial community under the treaty, and should there continue to be a systematic evasion of its text and spirit, as is said now to exist, this Chamber will be prepared to support any well considered remonstrance which may be made on the subject to the Government of India by those connected with the trade of Burmah.

I remain, &c.,

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

[illegible][illegible]

[illegible]

* Took off to eat and drink at the Jersey Boys Hotel.

ARRIVALS

OVERLAND MAILS FOR 1863

DEPARTURE

Latter dates from Lambeth's Chronicle.	BIRTHS or MARRIAGES in LONDON.				DEATHS.			
	Via Parish.		Not of Parish.		Via Parish.		Not of Parish.	
			By Registrar.				By Registrar.	
January	10 ROMA	January 11	22	January 24 February 1	31	January 10	1	21
	11 ROMA	January 11	22	February 22 February 4	11	22	1	22
February	12 ROMA	Jan 11	22	February 22	11	22	1	22
	13 ROMA	Jan 11	22	February 22	11	22	1	22
March	14 ROMA	March 22	22	March 22	11	22	1	22
	15 ROMA	March 22	22	March 22	11	22	1	22
April	16 ROMA	April 22	22	April 22	11	22	1	22
	17 ROMA	April 22	22	April 22	11	22	1	22
May	18 ROMA	May 22	22	May 22	11	22	1	22
	19 ROMA	May 22	22	May 22	11	22	1	22
June	20 ROMA	June 22	22	June 22	11	22	1	22
	21 ROMA	June 22	22	June 22	11	22	1	22
July	22 ROMA	July 22	22	July 22	11	22	1	22
	23 ROMA	July 22	22	July 22	11	22	1	22
August	24 ROMA	August 22	22	August 22	11	22	1	22
	25 ROMA	August 22	22	August 22	11	22	1	22
September	26 ROMA	September 22	22	September 22	11	22	1	22
	27 ROMA	September 22	22	September 22	11	22	1	22
October	28 ROMA	October 22	22	October 22	11	22	1	22
	29 ROMA	October 22	22	October 22	11	22	1	22
November	30 ROMA	November 22	22	November 22	11	22	1	22
	31 ROMA	November 22	22	November 22	11	22	1	22
December	32 ROMA	December 22	22	December 22	11	22	1	22
	33 ROMA	December 22	22	December 22	11	22	1	22
January	34 ROMA	January 22	22	January 22	11	22	1	22
	35 ROMA	January 22	22	January 22	11	22	1	22

† Made 2 days mistake in consequence of hot weather in Bay of Bengal.

* The Bureau was stratified near Jaken on the Feb. 20 cables and her mail was forwarded by the following route:

* Pack of 10 gold-plated medals by the Jewelry Box Co. (Italy).

a Since 3 days enroute is consequence of bad weather in Bay of Biscay.

b Southampton trail delayed 2 days.

c The ship November trail was delayed 20 days in the Red Sea in consequence of the local storm of the Bay.

d The 10th December trail was delayed to the 12th by storms.

The first letter has been dispatched at the station, as I put back to Lyons for repairs; the mail of 29th June was transferred to Boulogne, where it left the day after, was on arrival 2 weeks off its date.

The second was intended for July, but the 1st October, but her mail was forwarded by the following day.

Statement of Cash Balances in Government Treasuries in India for 1863-64.

	31st May 1863.	30th June.	31st July.	31st August.	30th Sept.	31st Oct.	30th Nov.	31st Dec.	31st January 1864.	29th Feb.	31st March.	30th April.
Government of India	4,65,89,262	4,62,89,687	3,83,53,289	3,71,66,956	3,25,01,093	3,17,34,892	3,24,68,602	3,29,99,062	2,99,09,173	2,12,09,197	2,68,81,576	
.. Bengal	1,87,62,255	2,18,19,319	2,03,07,722	1,90,25,626	2,24,75,212	2,09,67,117	1,96,92,079	1,86,25,214	1,98,26,321	1,79,01,619	2,57,51,571	
.. N. W. Provinces	3,06,25,021	3,41,03,454	3,20,37,327	3,04,26,549	2,54,09,697	2,26,20,661	2,76,25,766	3,06,59,495	3,26,26,266	3,01,76,775	2,41,08,421	
.. Punjab	1,61,61,781	1,20,98,639	1,12,00,057	1,04,28,574	1,07,99,356	89,10,073	92,99,438	1,14,54,659	1,06,72,861	1,04,24,656	1,10,98,772	
.. Madras	3,99,63,520	3,98,78,410	3,67,63,163	2,88,44,337	2,57,57,637	2,53,96,070	2,62,64,066	3,10,70,764	2,87,67,131	2,87,51,885	3,30,88,281	
.. Bombay	2,96,28,311	2,67,55,504	2,18,33,185	2,23,24,914	2,06,95,279	1,81,57,689	1,41,40,990	1,79,54,770	2,08,81,572	2,48,35,707	1,91,51,769	
.. Central Provinces	49,61,094	53,45,520	54,25,093	50,41,122	36,43,759	39,50,182	38,37,101	37,34,150	34,94,586	37,62,558	31,81,462	
.. Decan	37,82,736	36,21,343	32,24,911	29,08,628	26,55,669	22,67,579	18,24,012	20,97,921	20,29,448	35,32,061	43,13,297	
Total	17,84,60,925	18,24,14,006	17,06,92,666	15,21,25,856	14,50,27,722	13,19,81,896	13,50,81,855	14,92,85,816	14,61,59,791	14,04,14,655	14,67,88,822	

Statement of Receipts from Income Tax and Stamp Duty from 1st May 1863 to 31st January 1864.

	INCOME TAX.				STAMP DUTY.			
	1st May to 31st July 1863.	1st August to 31st October 1863.	1st Nov. to 31st January 1864.		1st May to 31st July 1863.	1st August to 31st October 1863.	1st Nov. to 31st January 1864.	1st Feb. to 31st April 1864.*
Government of India	2,99,446	2,36,953	2,29,916		.....	.....	.....
.. Bengal	14,53,722	16,34,342	16,21,502		15,43,039	13,87,032	12,96,824	
.. N. W. Provinces	9,20,833	5,77,463	4,91,790		6,72,141	6,45,299	6,09,598	
.. Punjab	2,29,653	1,26,590	67,443		2,84,602	2,55,170	2,35,105	
.. Madras	6,41,548	5,40,971	5,70,842		5,67,754	6,28,763	6,01,961	
.. Bombay	13,12,624	11,16,967	5,59,057		16,36,765	11,38,320	10,95,297	
.. Central Provinces	86,687	58,694	66,673		1,09,423	1,01,906	88,417	
.. Decan	4,167	3,329	3,265		35,129	32,697	33,551	
Total	49,25,730	32,83,568	29,92,912		41,88,614	41,57,107	39,64,656	
per million Rs.	53,77,730	10,56,562	8,57,500		13,27,731	13,85,702	13,21,552	

* Returns of the Receipts from Income Tax and Stamp Duty Receipts for the year 1863-64 have been published.

SCHEDULE OF COMMISSION CHARGES.

Decided and adopted by a Special General Meeting of the Export Chamber of Commerce held on the 18th June 1861,—with effect from 1st January 1862.

- On the sale, purchase, or shipment of Bullion, Gold Dust, or Coin 1 per cent.
- On the purchase (when in funds) or sale of Indigo, Raw Silk, Silk Piece Goods, Opium, Pearls, Precious Stones or Jewellery 2 1/2 "
- On purchasing bills when funds are provided by the Agent 5 "
- On the sale or purchase of all other goods—the commission in all cases to be charged upon the gross amount of sales, and in regard to purchases upon both cost and charges 5 "
- On returns for Consignments if made in produce 2 "
- On returns of Consignments if in Bills, Ballion, or Treasure 1 "
- On accepting Bills against Consignments 1 "
- On the sale or purchase of Ships, Factories, Houses, Lands, and all property of a like description 2 1/2 "
- On goods and treasure consigned, and all other property of any description referred to Agency for sale, whether advanced upon or otherwise, which shall afterwards be withdrawn, and on goods consigned for conditional delivery to others, and so delivered, on invoice amount at 2s. per rupee half cent.
- On making advances or procuring loans of money for commercial purposes, when the average commission does not exceed 5 per cent. 2 1/2 "

A 1

11. On ordering or receiving and delivering goods, or superintending the fulfilment of contracts, or on the shipment of goods, where no other Commission is derived $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
12. On guaranteeing Bills, Bonds, or other engagements, and on becoming security for administration of Estates, or to Government for the disbursement of public money $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
13. On *del-credere* or guaranteeing the due realization of sales $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
14. On the management of Estates for Executors or Administrators $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
15. On chartering ships or engaging tonnage for constituents for vessels to proceed to outports for loading $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
16. On advertising as the Agents for Owners or Commanders of ships for cabin passengers, on the amount of passage money, whether the same shall pass through the Agents' hands or not $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
17. On procuring freight for a ship by a shipping order or charter, or on procuring employment for a ship on monthly hire, or acting as Agents for owners, Captain, or charterers of a vessel, upon the gross amount of freight, brokerage inclusive 5 "
18. On engaging Asiatic Emigrants for a ship to the Mauritius, the West Indies, or elsewhere, upon the gross amount of earnings 7 "
19. On engaging troops for a ship to Great Britain or elsewhere, on the gross amount of passage money for rank and file $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
20. On realising inward freight, inward troop, Emigrant, or Cabin passage money $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
21. On landing and re-shipping goods from any vessel in distress, or on landing and selling by auction damaged goods from any such vessel, and acting as Agent for the Master on behalf of all concerned on the declared value of all

- such goods as may be re-shipped, and on the net proceeds of all such goods as may be publicly sold 5 per cent.
- If Opium, Indigo, Raw Silk, or Silk Piece Goods $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
- If Treasure, precious Stones or Jewellery 1 "
22. On effecting Insurances, whether on lives or property $\frac{1}{2}$ "
 23. On settling Insurance claims, losses and averages of all classes, and on procuring returns of premium $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
 24. On drawing, purchasing, selling or negotiating Bills of Exchange 1 "
 25. On debts or other claims when a process at law or arbitration is incurred in claiming them $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
 - Or if recovered by such means 5 "
 26. On Bills of Exchange returned dishonored 1 "
 27. On collecting House Rent $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
 28. On ships' Disbursements $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
 29. On realising Bottomry Bonds, or negotiating any Loan on *respondentia* $2\frac{1}{2}$ "
 30. On granting Letters of Credit 1 "
 31. On sale or purchase of Government Securities and Bank or other Joint Stock Shares, and on every exchange or transfer not by purchase from one class to another $\frac{1}{2}$ "
 32. On delivering up Government Securities and Bank or other Joint Stock Shares, on the market value $\frac{1}{2}$ "
 33. On all amounts debited and credited within the year (less the balance brought forward) upon which no Commission amounting to 5 per cent. has been charged $\frac{1}{2}$ "

500 Brokerage when paid is to be separately charged.

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

TONNAGE SCHEDULE for the Port of CALCUTTA adopted at the General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce held on the 28th May 1859. The Schedule came into operation from 1st January 1860.

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per Ton Nett.	Cubic Feet per Ton.
Aloes, in Bags and Boxes.....	20	.....
Alum, in Dito	20	.....
Aniseed, in Bags	8	.....
Arrowroot, in Cases .....	.....	50
Asafetida, in Bags and Boxes	20	.....
Apparel, in Boxes .....	.....	50
Bark, in Bags	8	.....
Bees' Wax	20 cwt. gross.	.....
Barilla	20	.....
Betel-nut	20	.....
Barks	20	50
Borax or Tincal	20	.....
Brimstone	20	.....
Bullion .....	.....	at per cent.
Calce-lae, in Bags	16	.....
Camphor, in Cases .....	.....	50
Cardamoms, in Robins	8	.....
" Boxes .....	.....	50
Cassia, in Boxes	12	.....
" in Bags	11	.....
China Root, in Bags .....	.....	50
" Boxes .....	.....	50
Chiretta .....	.....	50
Cigars .....	.....	50
Cloves, in Bags	8	.....
" Boxes .....	.....	50
Coral	20	.....
Cochineal	18	.....
Coffee, in Bags	16	.....
" Casks	20	.....
Corn, Rough .....	.....	52
Cotton, in Bales, 5 to the ton, not overexd	20	.....
Cowries	20	.....
Cutch, in Bags	18	.....
Dates, Wet	20	.....
" Dry	16	.....
Dholl	20	.....
Elephants' Teeth, in Bulk	20	50
Furniture .....	.....	.....
Garlic and Onions	12	.....

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per Ton Nett.	Cubic Feet per Ton.
Ginger	16	.....
Gram	20	.....
Gums, in Cases .....	.....	50
Gunny Bags and Gummy Cloth .....	.....	50
Gunjah .....	.....	50
Hemp, in Bales, per ton of 5 Bales, not to } exceed .....	.....	52
Hides, Buffalo, or Cow, Curled	14	.....
Hoofs, Horn Shavings and Tips	20	.....
Horns, Cow, Buffalo or Deer	20	.....
Indigo .....	.....	50
Jute, 5 Bales to the Ton not exceeding .....	.....	52
Lac Dye .....	.....	50
Lard	20 cwt. gross.	.....
Linseed	20	.....
Mace .....	.....	50
Machinery	20	.....
Metals	20	.....
Micholams	16	.....
Molasses .....	.....	2 puncheons or 4 hhds.
Mother o' Pearl, in Bags	20	.....
" Chests	20	.....
Mumpect .....	.....	50
Mustard or Rape Seed	20	.....
Nutmegs, in Cases or Casks .....	.....	50
Nux Vomica	16	.....
Oats	16	.....
Oil, in Cases .....	.....	50
" Casks .....	.....	4 hogheads. per chest.
Opium	16	.....
Paddy	20	.....
Pens	12	.....
Popper, Long	14	.....
" Black .....	.....	50
Planks and Deals	20	.....
Pony Seed	20	.....
Putchuck	10	.....
Raw Silk, in Bales	10	.....
Rattans for Damages	20	.....
Red Wood Dito	20	.....
Rhen, in Bales, per Ton of 5 Bls. not exd .....	.....	52
Rice	20	.....
Roping in Coils .....	.....	50
" Linas and Twines, in Bundles	16	.....
Rum, in Casks .....	.....	2 puncheons or 4 hhds.

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per Ton Nett.	Cubic Feet per Ton.
Safflower, in Bls. p. Ton of 5 Bls. not exldg. ....	.....	52
Sago, in Cases .....	.....	50
Sal-amoniac, in Bags	20	.....
Boxes	20 cwt gross	.....
Saltpetre	20	.....
Salt	20	.....
Sapan Wood for Dyeing	20	.....
Sealing Wax, in Cases .....	.....	50
Seed-lae, in Cases .....	.....	50
Bags	10	.....
Senna,	10	50
Shells, Rough, in Bags	20	.....
Shell-lae, in Cases .....	.....	50
Bags	10	.....
Silk Piece Goods	10	50
Skins	14	.....
Soap, Country, in Cases .....	.....	50
Bags	15	.....
Bat	20	.....
Stick Lac, in Cases .....	.....	50
Bags	10	.....
Sugar	20	.....
Tallow, in Cases or Casks	20	.....
Talc	20	.....
Tamarind, in Cases or Casks	20	.....
Tapioca .....	.....	50
Tea .....	.....	50
Teel Seed	20	.....
Timber, Round .....	.....	40
Squared .....	.....	50
Tobacco, in Bales .....	.....	50
Tortoise Shells, in Chests .....	.....	50
Turmeric	16	.....
Wheat	20	.....
Wool .....	.....	50

N. B.—Goods in Casks or Cases to be calculated gross weight when paying freight by weight; and where freight is made payable on measurement, the measurement be taken on the Custom House wharf, or other shipping wharf within the limits of the Port of Calcutta.

H. W. I. WOOD,

Secretary.

MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Agabeg, Joseph.	Kor, Dols and Co.
Apar and Co.	Lewis, Bailey and Co.
Argent, Sechiari and Co.	Mackillop, Stewart and Co.
Atkinson, Tilton and Co.	Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co.
Begg, Dunlop and Co.	Mackenzie, Lyall and Co.
Balfour and Co.	Mackey and Co.
Berradille, Schiller and Co.	MacLachlan, J. E.
Byramjee, Cama and Co.	Mair and Co.
Carrin, H. and Lamoureux.	Moran, W. and Co.
Cartisles, Nephews and Co.	Mosley and Huns.
Campbell, Robert, Agent, Char-	Mohendronnath Bosa.
tered Mercantile Bank of India.	Manodjee Rustomjee.
Colvin, Cowie and Co.	Ogle, John and Co.
Crooke, Rome and Co.	Patree, Maerac and Co.
DeSouza, Thos. and Co.	Pool, Bellairs and Co.
Duff, Thos., Agent, Borneo Com-	Pennington and Co.
pany.	Pehmoller, G. and Co.'s Successors.
Durrschmidt, Grob and Co.	Pietsch, G. Manager, Comptoir
Ernsthausen and Oesterley.	D'Esmouple de Paris.
Ewing and Co.	Playfair, Duncan and Co.
Elliott, John and Co.	Potter and Co.
Ferguson, J. H.	Prestwich, E.
Finlayson, Alex. V., Agent, Com-	Petrocchino, E. E. and Co.
mmercial Bank of India.	Pickford, Mathewson and Co.
Foster, Rogers and Co.	P. & C. Nusservanjee Cama & Co.
Forrester, Chas.	Ralli Brothers.
Gisborne and Co.	Ralli and Marjoni.
Graf and Banziger.	Ram Gopani Ghose and Co.
Gordon, Stuart and Co.	Robert and Charliel.
Grindlay and Co.	Schilizzi and Co.
Grant, Smith and Co.	Schneider, J. P.
Gentle, H.	Schoene, Kilburn and Co.
Henderson and Co.	Shaud, Fairlie and Co.
Henderson, George and Co.	Sham Chaud Mitter.
Heron and Co.	Stewart, W. G. and Co.
Heare, Miller and Co.	Smith, D. A. and Co.
Hewett, A. F. Agent, Chartered	Smith, Samuel, Sons and Co.
Bank of India.	Thomas, R. and Co.
Hoffmann and Co.	Turner, Morrison and Co.
Hulford, W., Manager, Central	Toulmin, L.
Bank of Western India.	Whitney Brothers and Co.
Jenkins, Dearman and Co.	Wiseman, Shead and Co.
Kettellwell, Bullen and Co.	
Kelly and Co.	

MOFUSSIL MEMBERS.

Becher, Wm.— <i>Cowkatty, Assam.</i>	Hay, J. O. and Co.— <i>Akyab.</i>
Davorell, H.— <i>Aekergunge.</i>	Howard Brothers.— <i>Mirzapore.</i>
Cope, H. and Co.— <i>Luritsur.</i>	Kenny, Thomas— <i>Salgaonoolah.</i>
Gale, John— <i>Pundool.</i>	Toul, Finlay & Co.— <i>Moulmein.</i>
Hamilton Brown & Co.— <i>Mirza-</i>	
<i>poore.</i>	

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

First..... That the Society shall be styled "THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE."

Second..... That the object of the Chamber shall be to watch over and protect the general interests of Commerce; to collect information on all matters of interest to the Mercantile Community; to use every means within its power for the removal of evils, the redress of grievances, and the promotion of the common good; to communicate with authorities and individual parties thereupon; to form a code of practice whereby the transaction of business may be simplified and facilitated; to receive references and to arbitrate between disputants, the decisions in such references being recorded for future guidance.

Third..... That it being highly desirable not to recognize any principle of exclusion, all persons engaged or interested in the Commerce or Shipping of Bengal, shall upon payment of the Subscription and on signature of the Rules and Regulations, be admissible as Members in the manner hereinafter described.

Fourth..... That Candidates for admission, proposed and seconded by Members, may be admitted provisionally as Members by the Committee, subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting.

ccxxiii

Fifth..... That voting by proxy, or by Members whose Subscriptions are in arrears, be not allowed.

Sixth..... That the Chamber reserves to itself the right of expelling any of its Members; such expulsion to be decided by the votes of three-fourths of the Members of the Chamber.

Seventh..... That any number of Members present shall be held to constitute a General Meeting, called in conformity with the Rules of the Chamber, for the despatch of ordinary business; but that no change in the Rules of the Society can be considered except at a General Meeting at which the majority of the Members of the Chamber shall be present.

Eighth..... That the Subscription for individual Members of the Chamber be 10 Rupees per mensem, while those alone carrying on business under any style or firm do pay 16 Rupees per mensem.

That the Subscription for Mofussil Members be two Gold Mohurs or 32 Rupees per annum.

Ninth..... That the business and funds of the Chamber shall be managed by a Committee of seven Members, consisting of a President and Vice-President and five Members, to be elected annually at a General Meeting of the Chamber in the month of May; the President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President, being ex-officio Chairman of the Committee, and in the absence of the President and Vice-President, the Committee to elect its own Chairman. Four to form a quorum; the Chairman, in cases of equality, having the casting vote.

Tenth That the Committee shall meet on such day of every week as it may fix as most convenient, for the purpose of transacting such business as may come within the limits of the objects of the Chamber, and that its proceedings be laid on the table open to the inspection of Members, subject to such Regulations as the Committee may deem expedient.

Eleventh All annual elections of President, Vice-President, and Members of the Committee shall be determined by a majority of votes of Members, such votes being given in voting cards to be issued numbered and signed by the Secretary; and no voting card shall be received for such purpose unless so authenticated: and all vacancies created by the absence of the President, Vice-President, or any of the Members from the Presidency for two months, or by departure for Europe, or by death, shall be forthwith filled up, and the election determined by votes of Members to be taken as above in voting cards and declared by the Committee.

Twelfth ... That the Secretary be elected by the Committee; such election to be subject to confirmation at the next ensuing General Meeting.

Thirteenth. That the General Meetings of the Chamber be held from time to time as the Committee for the time being may deem necessary. That a Special General Meeting shall be called by the President, or, in his absence, by the Vice President, or by his order on the requisition of any five firms, Members of the Chamber

to be held within five days subsequent to the receipt of such requisition.

Fourteenth. That all Proceedings of the Committee be subject to approval or otherwise of General Meetings duly-convened.

Fifteenth... That strangers visiting the Presidency may be introduced as Honorary Members for two months by any Member of the Chamber inserting their names in a book to be kept for that purpose.

Sixteenth ... That the Committee be empowered to make Bye-laws which shall not be of any force until approved of by a General Meeting.

Seventeenth. That an Annual Report of the Proceedings be prepared: and, after being approved of at a General Meeting, printed and circulated.

Eighteenth. That the above Rules be added to or altered only by a majority of Members of the Chamber.

Nineteenth. That the foregoing Rules be printed, and an authenticated copy, subscribed by each Member on admission; be kept as part of the records of the Chamber. That printed copies be forwarded to Members of the Chamber, to the Secretary to Government, and to such other parties or authorities as it may be desirable to make acquainted with the objects and Rules of the Association.

