

CHINA.

IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

I.—STATISTICAL SERIES: No. 4.

REPORTS ON TRADE

AT THE

TREATY PORTS,

FOR THE YEAR

1880.

16th Issue.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF

The Inspector General of Customs.

SHANGHAI:

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PART I

REPORT

ON THE

TRADE OF CHINA

Within the Cognizance of the Maritime Customs under the Foreign Inspectorate,

For the Year 1880.

REPORT

ON

THE TRADE AT THE TREATY PORTS OF CHINA, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

INSPECTORATE GENERAL OF CUSTOMS,

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,

SHANGHAI, 1st May 1881.

SIR,

IN accordance with your instructions, I have now the honour to hand you my Report on the Foreign trade of China during the year 1880.

The state of unusual prosperity which marked the year 1879, due as it was to the combined action of causes which but rarely unite their influence, made it almost certain that reaction would follow, and that the year immediately succeeding would witness a considerable falling off in commercial welfare. This to a great extent happened. Even before the close of 1879 the briskness in some branches of the trade had considerably subsided, and 1880 opened with some important markets overstocked to a degree that might have been considered as auguring serious diminution in the Imports and Exports of the year. But the Foreign trade of China is essentially progressive; yearly increasing wealth and population in the West extends the use of Tea and Silk, while growing appreciation of Foreign ideas and appliances tends to promote an increasing demand among the Chinese for the manufactures of the West. It is a matter worthy of note, however, that the growth of the trade has not at all been accompanied by corresponding increase in gain to those who conduct it, as it may be said that during the last 20 years profits have been steadily becoming less, while the value of the commerce has been as steadily increasing. The history of the past two years exemplifies this fact sufficiently, for the trade of the year under review, although on the whole considerably greater than that of the year preceding, was not nearly so prosperous, but brought in many cases disappointment and loss to merchants, and was in few instances productive of satisfactory increase in capital. Notwithstanding this, 1880 was in some respects a fairly satisfactory year both for Natives and Foreigners. The crops throughout China were abundant, and, except in those districts of the

Kwangtung province which suffered from inundation in the summer, agriculturalists had few reasons to complain of an unpropitious season. Impending war, it is true, threatened the Empire during many months, and actual hostilities seemed more than once imminent. But the stagnating influence which in an European country would have been the inevitable result of such was here notably absent. If we leave out of consideration such places as were directly affected by the levying and movements of troops, it will seem to us that the approaching trouble bore but lightly upon the spirits of the people, and that little appeared to denote a state of things more exciting than usual. Buying and selling went on as ever, the demand for many classes of Imports increased, and the staple Exports were produced and sent out of the country in quantities which compare favourably with those of any former year. The total value of each principal division of the trade was as follows:—

	<i>Hk-Tls</i>
Foreign Import trade	79,293,452
" Export "	77,883,587
Coast trade outwards	136,938,509
" " inwards	155,306,523

the entries and clearances of vessels at all ports amounted to 22,970, representing 15,874,352 tons; and the total Revenue collected was *Hk-Tls* 14,258,583.

The circumstances under which the Foreign trade of China is carried on are different from what they once were; in a word, the trade is no longer the monopoly of Foreigners. A new era was commenced when in the year 1872 the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company began with a fleet of two ships its opposition in the coasting trade conducted in Foreign vessels. From a commencement so unpromising the Native company rapidly grew in importance; continued prosperity enabled it to add year by year to its fleet, which five years after it was formed had attained to 17 vessels. In 1877 and 1878 the purchase of the fleet owned by the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company increased the number of vessels to 34, although this number has since become somewhat reduced through losses and other causes. But the fleet is still a large one; at the beginning of the present year it consisted of 29 vessels, representing a carrying capacity of 20,747 tons, and all finding constant and profitable employment. During the first years of its existence the company confined its operations almost entirely to trading between the different Treaty Ports, but lately it has been giving some attention to the trans-Pacific trade; and I am fully persuaded that before many years have passed Chinese vessels will possess their legitimate share in carrying the produce of the Empire to Foreign countries and the manufactures of Foreign countries to China, and that the Chinese flag will be seen flying over ships in every important seaport of the world. On the pages which immediately follow appear two tables, which I have introduced with a view to illustrate concisely the history of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's fleet and to show its present dimensions. The first of the tables was compiled some time ago from the archives of the Shanghai Custom House by Mr. Deputy Commissioner HIPPISLEY, and gives the vessels acquired by the company in each year. The second table may be found interesting as giving the particulars regarding each ship: for this table I am indebted to the courtesy of the company's agent in Shanghai.

VESSELS of the CHINA MERCHANTS' STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY in each YEAR
from 1872 to 1880, inclusive.

	1872.	Tons.		1877.	Tons.
Aden		507	As above		11,553
Yungohing		661	Hwaiyuen		762
	2 vessels	1,168	Meli		181
	1873.		Kiangteen		1,079
As above		1,168	Kiangching		1,084
Fusing		532	Kiangyuno		768
Leeyuen		735	Kiangwae		1,123
Yungning		342	Haean		710
	5 vessels	2,777	Haeshin		763
	1874.		Chintang		721
As above		2,777	Chinsi		560
Haiching (gun-vessel, borrowed)		409	Haeting		640
Taneting		315	Haesun		574
Hochung		850	Kiangchang		862
Fuyang		920	Kiangpiau		879
Lechang		134		31 vessels	22,259
	10 vessels	5,405	1878.		
	1875.		As above		22,259
As above		5,405	Kiangfoo		857
Yehsin		754	Kiangyeng		392
Tayew*		444	Kiangtung		339
Howsang		795		34 vessels	21,847
Chingtah (s.v.) (borrowed from Arsenal)		457	1879.		
Pantah		870	As above		23,847
Fangshun		863	Deduct Aden, lost		507
		9,588	" Howsang, lost		795
Deduct Haiching, returned		409	" Kiangchang, lost		862
" Fusing, lost		532	" Kiangyuno, broken up		768
		941	" Kiangwae, "		1,123
	14 vessels	8,647			4,055
	1876.			29 vessels	19,792
As above		8,647	1880.		
Hankwang		839	As above		19,792
Kiangkwan		1,030	Kangchi (gun-vessel, borrowed)		688
Kiangyung		1,037	Meifoo		1,284
	17 vessels	11,553			21,764
			Deduct Chinsi, sold		560
			" Chingtah, returned		457
					1,017
				29 vessels	20,747

* Now the *Hingking*.

PARTICULARS regarding the CHINA MERCHANTS' STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S FLEET
as it was at the End of 1880.

NAME.	Description.	Of what Material constructed.	Nominal Horse-power.	Registered Net Tonnage.	Length.	Breadth.
				Tons.	Feet.	Feet.
Hsien	Paddle	Iron	230	710	290	33
Hsien	"	Wood	200	574	204	30
Kiangching	"	"	250	1,084	300	43
Kiangfoo	"	Composite	350	857	300	50
Kiangwan	"	Iron	250	1,030	250	40
Kiangpian	"	Wood	250	879	258	46
Kiangping	"	Iron	98	392	178	25
Kiangteen	"	"	300	1,079	277	42
Kiangtung	"	"	200	339	226	32
Kiangyang	"	"	250	1,037	250	40
Chintang	Screw	"	180	721	216	39
Fungshan	"	"	240	863	265	34
Fuyew	"	"	125	900	226	28
Hsien	"	"	180	763	212	33
Hsien	"	"	180	640	211	33
Hankwang*	"	"	150	839	230	33
Hingping	"	"	60	444	210	27
Hochang*	"	"	130	850	224	29
Hwaiyuen	"	"	250	760	250	31
Kangchi	"	Wood	140	688	224	29
Lechang	"	"	80	134	121	24
Leyuen	"	Iron	100	735	231	29
Meifo	"	"	135	1,284	275	33
Mek	"	"	50	181	120	20
Pootah	"	"	240	870	226	34
Tungting	"	"	30	315	161	24
Yehin	"	"	98	754	222	29
Yangching	"	"	130	661	230	30
Yangting	"	Wood	48	342	156	22

* The Hankwang and Hsien were lost this year.

Not least among the benefits which the Chinese derive from their new merchant fleet is that those among them who may emigrate can now sail to the United States and the Sandwich Islands under their own flag, and on board vessels where they are comfortable and well cared for. As the trade of the company grows this benefit will extend, and the country will be enabled to conveniently send abroad those who fail in the competition for employment at home.

The advantage of such to China is great; those emigrants who succeed, besides making frequent remittances of money to their friends at home while they remain abroad, generally return after some years moderately well off, and often with fortunes, and so contribute materially to the prosperity of the country.

It is quite certain, too, that the Chinese intend to enter into still wider competition with Foreigners, and to deprive them, if possible, of every monopoly which they possess in the trade of the Empire. Evidence of this exists in the fact that in Lanchow-fu, the capital of Kansuh, a factory has been established where European machinery is employed to spin and weave into cloth the wool of the Mongolian sheep. This undertaking has been carried out in the face of immense difficulty. Lanchow-fu is many hundreds of miles away from the nearest place at which the necessary machinery could be landed from the vessels which brought it out from Europe. Hence there had to be encountered all the trouble, expense, and loss of time incident on a long overland transit through a country crossed by mountains, intersected by rivers, and devoid of good roads. But all obstacles were surmounted; the factory is in working order, and turning out 8 pieces of cloth daily. The fabrics woven are Broad, Medium, and Pilot Cloths, which are of good quality and much cheaper than Foreign goods of the same class. The supply of wool capable of being furnished by the numberless herds of sheep reared on the pasture-lands of Mongolia is practically unlimited, and the raw material for the carrying on of the manufacture is thus obtainable easily and in abundance. Judicious management, then, appears the only thing needed to ensure the success of the enterprise, which may hereafter develop into a great industry that will confer immense benefit on the country.

Other evidence, too, of advancement in this direction is not wanting. A native company was formed some time ago under the denomination of the Shanghai Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company. China can produce cotton to any extent required, and the object of the company is to take advantage of this and provide the people with cheaper cloth than that imported from abroad. The details of this project have been so often given elsewhere that it is needless to enumerate them here; suffice it to say that the undertaking is favoured by many circumstances. It bears within itself the elements of success, and with a good administration may be made to realise all the hopes of its promoters. The erection of the mills was commenced about two years ago, but as capital was not forthcoming so plentifully as the originators of the scheme had been led to expect, operations were soon after suspended, and the buildings still remain in an unfinished state. The success of the Lanchow-fu Woollen Factory, however, cannot fail to awaken some enthusiasm and create confidence among the Chinese in enterprises of the kind. The Shanghai Cotton Manufacturing Company seems in the background for the present, but I think that we may expect before long to see such movements gaining ground in the country, and a large per-centage of the cotton and woollen fabrics consumed manufactured by Foreign machinery on the spot. It only requires the established success of one or two undertakings of this sort to insure their popularity and cause serious interference with the importation of Foreign Piece Goods.

Turning, however, to what more immediately concerns this Report—namely, the trade carried on during the year 1880 by Foreign vessels at the 19 Treaty Ports,—I commence with a notice of the Import trade.

IMPORT TRADE.

The Import trade of 1880 showed a decrease amounting to *Hk.Ths* 2,933,972 as compared with the Import trade of 1879, although an increase of *Hk.Ths* 8,489,425 as compared with that of 1878. With regard to the value of its Imports, the year under review is in fact considerably in advance of any except its immediate predecessor. Referring to page 7 in Part I of the "Returns of Trade," and comparing together the values of the Imports from the various countries there entered as trading with China, we find that the above-mentioned decrease was almost entirely due to falling off in the importation from India and the United States; in fact, the value of the merchandise received from the United States in 1880 was scarcely half that received during the preceding year. The decrease in the value of Imports from India arose, as page 8 of Part I shows, from a falling off under the heading of Opium to the extent of 11,396 piculs, or *Hk.Ths* 4,191,989; while the decrease in the Imports from the United States may, I think, be attributed to the fact that a much smaller quantity of Cotton Drills came from that country during 1880 than during 1879. But with the exception of India and the United States, all the countries which principally supply China with merchandise exhibit increase in their figures for 1880 over those for 1879, although none of them show any marked advance. The Imports from Great Britain increased by *Hk.Ths* 1,548,399, those from Hongkong by *Hk.Ths* 611,506, those from the continent of Europe by *Hk.Ths* 546,769, and those from Japan by *Hk.Ths* 83,999.

A glance at pages 8 and 9 in Part I of our Returns for 1880 will enable one to gather the following general facts relative to the various articles which went to make up the Import trade of the year; namely, that a considerable decrease took place in the importation of Malwa and Patna Opium, Grey and Figured Shirtings, Drills, Blankets, Long Ells, Copper Ore and Un-manufactured Copper, Iron Wire, Pig and Kentledge Iron, Pig Lead, Quicksilver, Spelter and Zinc, Raw Cotton, Grain and Pulse, Indigo, Mangrove Bark, Black and White Pepper, Sapanwood, etc.; and that a somewhat corresponding increase occurred in White and Dyed Plain Shirtings, T-Cloths, Sheetings, Jeans and Twills, Turkey Red Cloths, Dyed Damasks, Velvets, Velvetens, and Fustians, Jaconets, Cambrics, Lawns and Muslins, Cotton Yarn and Thread, Russian Cloth, Flannels, Crape Lastings, Lustras and Orleans, Linen Goods, Nail-rod Iron, Tea and Sheet Lead, Brown and White Sugar, Betel-nuts, Coal, Matches, Needles, Paints, Window Glass, etc.

OPIMUM.—The quantity of Opium imported through the Foreign Customs during 1880 was 71,655 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 32,344,628, as compared with 83,051 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 36,536,617, imported during 1879, thus exhibiting a falling off to the extent of 11,396 piculs, making a difference in value of *Hk.Ths* 4,191,989. Malwa and Patna Opium contributed almost alone to this decrease in importation, "other kinds"—*i.e.*, Persian, Turkish, etc.—only accounting for about 500 piculs of it. Benares was the only kind that showed increase. The foregoing figures refer, as stated, to the Opium which passed the Foreign Customs at the various Treaty Ports; the quantity which came to China during the year was really much greater. It must be remembered that all the Opium which comes to China reaches it by way of Hongkong, from which a good deal is shipped to the mainland in Chinese junks

paying duty at the Native Customs. The fact that there are no official trade statistics published in Hongkong makes it impossible to ascertain the exact quantity thus imported into China, but a very fair estimate of it can be arrived at by subtracting from the total quantity imported into Hongkong the quantity presumably consumed on the spot, added to that re-exported to America, Australia, and other countries to which Chinese have emigrated. Those last-mentioned quantities might, in so far as I am able to judge, be put down as aggregating about 5,000 piculs. The Opium imported into Hongkong amounted to 96,839 piculs, so that if from this we take the above-named 5,000 piculs, there will remain nearly 92,000 piculs, which must be considered as about the actual quantity imported into China during 1880.

There is a circumstance regarding the importation of Opium during the last two years which is worthy of note, and that is that while the Opium passed through the Foreign Customs at all the Treaty Ports during 1880 was less in quantity and in value than during 1879, yet the importation into Hongkong, though also showing decrease in quantity, showed at the same time considerable increase in point of value. The explanation of this is that the price of Opium in China differed but little in the two years, while the price in Hongkong was much higher last year than it was the year before. Hence we may infer that the profits accruing from the trade between Hongkong and China fell off greatly during 1880. An examination of the statistics proves that last year's Opium trade was only moderately profitable. For example, the 71,655 piculs imported into China through the Foreign Customs were worth *Hk.Tls* 32,344,628 at the Treaty Ports, as stated on the preceding page; therefore, according to this ratio between quantity and value, the 92,000 piculs estimated above as the total importation into China would have been worth *Hk.Tls* 41,528,236. But we find that the 96,839 piculs imported at Hongkong were there valued at 864,235,582; consequently the value in Hongkong of the 92,000 piculs exported to China would at the same rate have been 861,025,760, or about *Hk.Tls* 40,683,840. If this sum be subtracted from the Treaty Port value of *Hk.Tls* 41,528,236, there will remain *Hk.Tls* 844,396, the difference between the value of the Opium in China and its value in Hongkong. This difference may be regarded as to a great extent profit accruing to Hongkong sellers, but it is a small per-centage on the total value of the trade.

After steadily increasing for a number of years, the importation of Opium has suddenly assumed a downward tendency. The cause of this will not, I think, be difficult to find. The poppy crops are reported as having been generally good in China during last season, and as the production of Native Opium has increased of late to such an extent as to rival the importation from India, it has become so that the latter depends very much on the former. Moreover, if to the abundance and consequent cheapness of Native Opium last year be added the fact that speculation on the Indian markets prevented the price of Foreign drug from giving way, as it naturally would have done under the circumstances, the comparative neglect of the latter will not be wondered at. There was another circumstance, too, which contributed to the decrease mentioned above, and that was the inferior condition of many of the later supplies of old Patna, which turned out to be "chop-dollar," or worm-eaten, and consequently greatly reduced in weight.

Native Opium used by itself has not yet attained to such favour with smokers as Foreign, but a mixture of the two has been found to suit the taste of many, and the advantage in

cheapness possessed by the former allows the compound to be sold at a price sufficiently reduced to be within the means of those who cannot afford to indulge in the pure Foreign article. The reason, however, that the Native drug has hitherto been unpopular consists in its inferiority of flavour, due to an imperfect process of extracting the poppy juice, as well as to inexperience on the part of those who cultivate the plant. But time will doubtless remedy these defects. Indeed, it would seem only to require the removal of official prohibition against the cultivation of the poppy in China to gradually deprive Indian Opium of its market through mere absence of demand.

The abundant Native poppy crops referred to above seem to have been almost general in their effect upon the importation of Indian Opium, for it will be noticed on looking through Part II of our Returns for 1880 that the decrease in the importation during this period was shared in by nearly all the ports, the only important exception being Amoy, which exhibited an increase of 24 per cent. To anyone looking at the Pakhoi Returns, however, it will appear as if the Opium imported at that place during 1880 greatly exceeded that imported during 1879; but it must be remembered that during 1879 trade in Foreign vessels at Pakhoi was only carried on for a few months at the end of the year, consequently this increase is only apparent, and cannot be taken as indicative of any marked growth in the trade of the place.

The year under review opened with every prospect of the Opium importation being fully equal to, if not greater than, that of the preceding year. The "Customs Gazette" for the January-March quarter shows increase at most of the ports when compared with the Gazette for the same quarter of 1879. During the month of April reports that the crop of Malwa was likely to prove defective had the effect of considerably raising the price of this kind and stimulating the market for it in China. It was not, in fact, until June, when rumours that the season was likely to be a successful one for Chinese Opium became current, that any marked falling off in the importation was apparent. At this time, too, the heavy rains and consequent inundations which occurred in the Kwangtung province stopped the transit of goods in the south of China to a great extent, and so caused the Native dealers to suspend purchases. This continued also throughout July. In August the rumours regarding the abundant yield of the Chinese poppy crops became confirmed, cheap and good Native Opium appeared on the markets, and the consumption of the Foreign drug received a check which retained its influence until the end of the year.

The following is a cursory review of the Hongkong market for Malwa and Bengal Opium during 1880; it may prove interesting to some as giving the details of what is summarily noticed above, and as showing the fluctuations of the trade month by month.*

Malwa.—The year commenced with a moderate demand for Malwa Opium. The stocks had become reduced to about 420 piculs; prices, however, underwent very little change, and stood at \$700 for new drug, advancing afterwards to \$710, as the quantity for sale became still further reduced. January's supplies arrived from India between the 13th and 26th of the month, and raised the stock from 149 piculs to 2,219 piculs, at which latter it stood on the 27th. Holders were, however, able to increase their prices to between \$720 and \$750 for new

* The prices of Opium are given here in Mexican dollars; one Mexican dollar and a half are equal to about one *Malwa* *tael*.

drug, and \$800 for old, and at these rates a good many lots changed hands. The allowance was 6 taels for both old and new drug.

On the 1st February the stock amounted to about 1,000 piculs, and although shipments to Shanghai and other ports were continued until the quantity for sale became reduced to 320 piculs, the price experienced no rise, but stood at the previous month's rate of \$750 for new, old drug meeting with no inquiries. On the 9th, 3,600 piculs arrived from India, and on the 20th another shipment of 1,500 piculs was received; but although a moderate business sprang up in the meantime, and continued until the quantity for sale became very much reduced, sellers were unable to keep up the price, which after the middle of the month declined to \$740 for new, with allowance to 2½ catties. Any sales of old which took place were, however, at the unchanged rate of \$800, but with allowance to 1 catty.

During March very little change occurred in the tone of the market. The demand was perhaps a little more brisk, but prices remained unchanged. At the end of the first week the stock stood at 577 piculs, and at the end of the third week, when some shipments had arrived from India, it attained to over 1,500 piculs. Towards the end of the month a good many sales of new were effected at \$740, with allowance from 2 to 3 catties, and some old drug was disposed of at the advanced price of \$820, with allowance of 6 taels.

The prices obtained during April were high. News arrived from India that the poppy crops there were defective, whereupon holders raised their prices, which on the 3rd stood at \$750, with allowance to 1 catty, and on the 6th had reached \$775, without allowance. The highest price of the year for old drug—namely, \$840, without allowance,—was obtained at the beginning of this month. The demand for new drug was constant and fairly brisk throughout the first half of the month. Transactions became considerably fewer, however, when rates advanced to \$780, with allowance of 1 or 3 catties, according to quality. The stock at the end of the month was over 1,270 piculs.

The month of May witnessed great variation in prices. The high rates of the previous month were found to interfere so much with sales that holders were obliged to make concessions, and at the commencement of May a serious decline took place in the price of new drug. Lots for which \$780 were asked came to be offered for sale at \$745, although a rise to \$750 was effected towards the middle of the month, after which, however, prices again fell, this time to \$720, with allowance to 2½ catties. But as the end of the month approached business assumed a brisk tone, and rates again rose until they had attained the fairly remunerative figure of \$765, after intermediate steps. There was very little allowance at the higher rates.

On the 1st June the market stock was 400 piculs. On the 10th a shipment of 900 piculs arrived, and after deduction of re-exports, the quantity left for sale amounted to about 1,150 piculs. The demand during this month considerably improved, especially towards the end. At first the rates were almost the same as those which ruled in the end of May, but after the above shipment had been received holders were enabled to considerably raise their prices, and during the second week a good many sales were effected at \$790, without allowance. Business continued brisk throughout the month; prices, it is true, receded in the case of some purchases

to \$750, and even to \$745, both rates accompanied with allowance to 2 catties, but a good many purchases were made at \$790, with 1 catty allowance, and at the end of the month the market was cleared of all its stock except about 330 piculs.

The high prices which prevailed at the end of June continued almost uninterruptedly throughout July. The market, too, preserved almost the same tone, and except that old drug made a temporary appearance, scarcely any novel feature was manifest. On the 7th, 760 piculs arrived from India, and on the 23rd a further shipment of 1,188 piculs was received. Business was fairly good, but without any excitement, and although transactions were pretty numerous, neither sellers nor purchasers evinced any marked anxiety. The price obtained for old drug was \$835, without allowance, and that at which new was disposed of fluctuated between \$770 and \$790, with allowance of 20 and 28 taels and 3 catties, according to circumstances.

The month of August was one of uniform rates. It began and ended with \$770 as the quotations for new drug. The allowance per picul, however, which must always be considered with the price, differed at various times during the month, and was sometimes 2 catties, sometimes 1 catty, and sometimes 10 taels. There was no market for old drug. The business done in new drug resembled closely that of the two preceding months, and was very uneventful. The supplies which arrived were heavy, and the stocks were at all times during the month higher than had been the case for some time previous.

September began with a stock of over 500 piculs on the market. The first arrival of supply from India was 1,124 piculs, on the 2nd; 1,215 piculs were received on the 16th; and 1,149 piculs on the 28th; thus making the month's supplies amount to 3,488 piculs. The monotony which had characterised the market for Malwa during the two previous months was fully sustained throughout September. The demand continued moderate, and sales were effected as supplies arrived. The prices realised during the month were variously \$770, \$760, and \$740, with allowance between 8 taels and 2½ catties. After receipt of the first shipment from India the stock stood at 1,520 piculs, and after the receipt of the second at 1,530 piculs, amounting at the end of the month to about 600 piculs.

A decline in price had commenced at the end of September, and this continued during October; sales were first at \$750, then at \$740 and \$720, until finally the very reduced rate of \$700 was reached. This latter was the lowest price at which Malwa Opium was sold during the year, being in fact a return to that which ushered in the month of January. The allowances were from 1 to 2 catties at the higher rates, and from 2½ to 3 catties at the lower. The demand was throughout the month moderate, with perhaps a little improvement towards the end; but buyers were able to a great extent to dictate terms and obtain from holders concession after concession. Inquiries for old drug, which had ceased for two months, were resumed, and some sales were effected at \$720 and \$745, with allowance to 12 taels. The stock at the end of the month was 320 piculs.

The price of Malwa Opium, which during October had fallen to a very low ebb, rose in November in response to an increase in demand. October, in fact, closed with quotations at \$720; this rate continued until the middle of November, when, on the arrival of supplies, the price stood

at \$735, decreasing, however, towards the end of the month, which ended with \$725, and allowance to 8 taels. This was for new drug. The price of old drug also advanced, and was quoted variously during the month at \$750, \$760, \$770, \$775, and \$790. The business of this month was slightly better than that of the two previous months.

The year's market for Malwa Opium ended uneventfully. The demand in December was not so good as it was in November, and although prices to a certain extent kept up, the amount of business done was limited. The arrivals were 1,804 piculs on the 10th, and about 1,100 piculs on the 26th, and on the 31st, after the various departures for Shanghai and southern Coast Ports, the stock remained at about 400 piculs. The rates during the month were, for new drug, \$725 (with 1 catty allowance), \$710, \$715, \$725, and \$730 (free of allowance), and for old drug, \$760, with allowance of 2 catties, and \$730, without any allowance.

Bengal.—The stock on the market on the 1st January consisted of 500 chests of Patna and 260 chests of Benares. The prices which ruled during the first week were, new Patna, \$565 to \$572.50 per chest, and new Benares, \$540 to \$542.50. Almost all the supplies from India which were received during the month arrived before the 8th, when the stock became increased to about 1,850 chests of Patna and 1,500 chests of Benares. The rates for both kinds gradually improved as the demand became greater and transactions more numerous, and at the end of the first fortnight the prices obtained were \$575 for Patna and \$550 for Benares. As the month advanced news was received from Calcutta that the market there had risen, and as Chinese buyers continued anxious to make purchases, further increase took place in Hong-kong rates, which finally reached \$605 for new Patna and \$575 for new Benares. A good many sales were effected at these prices, and before the month had ended stocks had become reduced to about 180 chests of Patna and 120 chests of Benares.

Business, which before had been pretty brisk, rather fell off during February. The approach of the Chinese New Year festivities, at which time buying and selling in all branches of trade became temporarily suspended throughout China, produced its effect on the Opium market. The looseness of the stocks, however, preventing anxiety to sell on the part of holders, prices were maintained at rates only slightly reduced, and it was not until the receipt of the month's supplies, and stocks had become large, that buyers succeeded in obtaining concessions. Prices fell to \$595 and \$592.50 for new Patna (but with subsequent advances to \$597.50 and \$600), and \$565 and \$572.50 for new Benares. At these prices a good many sales took place, and the month closed with the stock on the market considerably reduced.

The stock at the commencement of March consisted of 915 chests of Patna and 439 chests of Benares. Business, too, was dull, buyers preferring to await the arrival of the month's supplies before doing anything. Between the 5th and 7th of the month the expected shipments arrived, and when these were placed on the market inquiries commenced actively, and prices advanced to \$618.75 for Patna and \$590 for Benares, but afterwards decreased, as the demand fell off, to \$612.50 for the former and \$586.25 for the latter, rising again, however, as the stock became low, to \$617.50 and \$623.75 for Patna and \$590 and \$592.50 for Benares. A few superior lots of Patna were sold at \$625.

The month of April was one of steady increase in rates, followed by sudden decrease. The frequent purchases which took place towards the close of March had considerably reduced the quantity left for sale, and caused the advance in prices which has been already noticed. On the arrival of supplies prices further rose, and a good many lots of Patna were sold at \$643.75 and \$645, while the demand for Benares was active at \$602.50 and \$605. In the middle of the month prices were still higher, while business was as brisk as before. The shipments from India were almost entirely on account of large firms, and the market being thus in the hands of a few, prices were kept up, and again raised, this time to \$660 and \$665 for Patna and \$615 to \$620 for Benares. During the second half of the month, however, circumstances arose which caused prices to decline considerably. The rate of exchange on India advanced from \$226 to \$230½ per \$100, and sellers were in consequence willing to dispose of what they held more cheaply. But as buyers had during the first half of the month made all the purchases they needed, these concessions met with little or no response, and prices receded to \$645 for Patna and \$605 for Benares.

In May the demand revived to a certain extent on the receipt of supplies from India. These arrived between the 4th and 9th of the month, and a good many transactions took place at the following prices: new Patna, \$640 to \$660; old Patna, \$642.50 to \$650; old Benares, \$597.50 to \$602.50. This was before the 15th; after that date the activity subsided. Reports became current that a considerable increase was about to be made in the Likin taxes, and many who would under ordinary circumstances have purchased, perhaps freely, refrained from making any purchases at all. Prices naturally fell in consequence, and new Patna was sold at \$642.50, while old drug was quoted as low as \$635, and even \$625, although a few chests changed hands at \$642.50 and \$645. The prices for old Benares were between \$585 and \$590. The stocks at the end of the month were 1,238 chests of Patna and 249 chests of Benares.

The month of June commenced with a slight revival of activity in the market, and an advance in prices to \$650 for new Patna and \$647.50 for old, and \$602.50 for Benares. Before the middle of the month, however, prices had again fallen to \$642.50 and \$640 for new and old Patna respectively, and \$595 for Benares, but with subsequent temporary advances to \$650 and \$642.50 for the former and \$602.50 for the latter. The heavy rains and inundations with which the Kwangtung province was visited at this time, however, began to produce a marked effect in the demand. The transit of goods was stopped over a large tract of country, and Chinese buyers refrained from making purchases; holders had to make concessions, with the result that at the end of the month the price of new Patna had receded to \$641.25, and that of old Benares to \$595, a few select chests of the latter being, however, sold at \$600. Old Patna did not meet with many inquiries, although a few sales took place at \$642.50. It may be well to remark here that the inundations were almost without any effect on the market for Malwa Opium, a circumstance which is explained by the fact that in the districts supplied from Canton this kind of drug meets with very little sale.

Rates steadily declined during July; the inundations in Kwangtung continued to affect the demand, and further reduction in prices took place. After the end of the first week, and when supplies had been received from India, the stocks stood at 2,995 chests of Patna and 875

chests of Benares, with prices from \$637.50 to \$640 for new, and at \$630 for old Patna, Benares being sold for \$590. Notwithstanding these reductions, the demand continued to fall off, very few sales were effected, and at the beginning of the last week in the month the market was dull in the extreme. Prices had fallen to \$620 for new and \$605 for old Patna, and to \$577.50 for Benares. Subsequently, however, a reaction set in, and before the month had closed prices had again risen to \$637.50 and \$640 for new Patna, and \$592.50 for Benares.

August commenced with a stock of about 3,140 chests of Patna and 860 chests of Benares. The renewal of activity which began at the end of July was sustained throughout August; the prices for Patna fluctuated, but those for Benares considerably increased. After the month's supplies had been received, quotations were \$636.25 for new Patna and \$598.75 for old Benares. Holders of Patna, however, having evinced some desire to make sales, the price of this kind receded to \$627.50. The rates for Benares were better maintained, and purchasers found it difficult to buy at lower figures than \$592.50. As the month advanced the price of new Patna kept between \$635 and \$637.50, eventually falling to \$632.50, while that of Benares was marked by an almost steady increase, which at the end of the month had raised it to \$603.75. The few sales of old Patna were effected at the advanced rates of \$612.50, \$615, and \$620.

The stocks at the commencement of September consisted of 1,924 chests of Patna and 355 chests of Benares. The price of Patna began at \$632.50 and \$633.75 for ordinary chests, and \$636.25 for select chests; but the demand did not prove sufficiently active to enable holders to maintain their rates, which before the middle of the month had fallen to \$625 for ordinary chests of new Patna and \$630 for select chests. There were very few inquiries for old Patna, the stock of which had remained for some time at more than 620 chests, but notwithstanding this the price was maintained at \$615 to \$620. During the second half of September the sales effected were few, and the price for new Patna finally receded to \$620. The market for Benares was also characterised throughout the month by a steady decline in rates, which commenced at \$598.75, fell gradually to \$590, and subsequently to \$586.25.

The falling off in demand which marked the latter half of September had naturally the effect of considerably increasing the stocks, which at the commencement of October consisted of about 3,000 chests of Patna and 1,200 chests of Benares. A good many transactions took place during the first week, without, however, much animation in the market, and before the 15th prices, continuing the downward tendency which they had been exhibiting for a long time previously, stood at \$607.50 for new and \$610 for old Patna, and \$577.50 for old Benares. These figures represent what may be considered as having been the average rates, although some sales were made at \$5 or \$7 less. After the middle of the month and on to the end the market was very unsteady, sometimes the demand was good, while at other times it was rather dull. At the end of the third week the price of new Patna was \$600, and old was soon after quoted at \$570. Before the month had ended, however, purchasers having evinced some desire to increase their stocks, prices again went up, and Patna changed hands at \$610. Both old and new Benares were placed on the market this month. The former, after having

been sold at \$577.50, as above stated, fell to \$570, while the latter varied in price between \$600 and \$616.25.

The month of November was almost from beginning to end one of steady increase in prices. Business revived considerably, and transactions were numerous during the first fortnight. Rates, which had been at a low ebb when October closed, rose in response to a brisk demand, and advanced still further as stocks became smaller. By the middle of the month new Patna had risen to \$627.50, and old Benares to \$580, and before the end the prices of the two kinds stood at \$640 and \$602.50 respectively. New Patna, however, was afterwards quoted at \$637.50. The price of old Patna was during the first fortnight from \$628 to \$640; after the middle of the month, however, a good many of the shipments of this kind which arrived turned out to be "chop-dollar," or worm-eaten, consequently such sales as took place were by weight, instead of, as usual, by chest. The price thus reckoned equalled, variously, \$600, \$610, \$620, and \$625 per chest. On the last day of the month the stock consisted of 1,300 chests of Patna and about 50 chests of Benares.

The revival of activity which took place at the commencement of November was well maintained throughout December. Prices slightly increased, too, although on an average they exhibited little change. New Patna was quoted at \$637.50, \$635, and \$640 during the first fortnight, and \$635, \$637.50, \$640, and \$643.75 during the second. Old Patna continued to be sold by weight at prices which equalled about \$600 or \$605 per chest. The demand for new Benares was much more brisk during this month than that for Patna, the touch* of the former being much higher than it had been for some time previously. Throughout the month the price for Benares of high touch ranged between \$640 and \$643.75, while drug of low touch was sold at \$627, \$630, and \$632.50. Transactions in both kinds were numerous, and the year ended with rates between 9 and 12 per cent. higher than those with which it had begun.

COTTON GOODS.—After Opium, Cotton Goods form the most considerable factor of the Foreign Import trade of China. The total value of the importation of Cotton Goods during the year 1880 was in round numbers *Hk.Ths* 23,383,000; the value of the 1879 importation was *Hk.Ths* 22,600,000; thus we have an increase in favour of 1880 amounting to nearly *Hk.Ths* 800,000, or between 3 and 4 per cent. The difference between the values for the two years is slight, and, in fact, a considerable decrease took place in the importation of some of the principal classes of Cotton fabrics. But it must be remembered that 1879 was an exceptionally prosperous year in the history of Chinese Foreign commerce, and in most respects far ahead of any which preceded it, a small increase during 1880 as compared with 1879 might, therefore, be a considerable increase as compared with 1878 or preceding years. In illustration of this, I introduce on pages 18 and 19 a table which gives the importation of Cotton Goods during the last three years, and shows also the difference between the quantities imported during 1880 and those imported during 1878 and 1879 respectively. The values are also given. On looking at that table one is principally struck by the figures opposite the item Grey Shirtings, which fully exemplify the statement made above regarding the exceptional

* The touch of Bengal Opium means the quantity of pure drug contained in each ball, and consequently the higher or lower per-centage of yield in preparation for smoking.

increase of trade which marked the year 1879. While the quantity of Grey Shirtings imported during 1880 fell short by 948,816 pieces of that imported during 1879, it yet amounted to 1,866,097 pièces more than the quantity imported during 1878. It will also be observed that there are some items the importation of which during 1880, although only slightly in advance of that during 1879, yet shows considerable increase over the importation of 1878, and that, too, if we allow for the ordinary progress of trade. Examples of this will be found under White Shirtings, Shootings, Jeans and Twills, Chintzes, etc., Turkey Red Cloths, Handkerchiefs, and Cotton Yarn and Thread, all of which show very large increase during 1880 as compared with 1878. Against this, however, must be put the fact that some classes of goods, notably White and Dyed Figured Shirtings, and Drills, exhibit decrease during 1880 as compared with either of the preceding years. But, taking everything into consideration, it will be found that the importation of Cottons during 1880 was on the whole sensibly greater than during 1879, and very much greater than during 1878.

Grey Shirtings.—The quantity of Grey Shirtings imported during 1880 was less than the quantity imported during 1879 by 948,816 pieces. On referring to Part II of the Trade Returns we find that the ports which contributed most to this decrease were Newchwang, Tientsin, Chofoo, Hankow, Chinkiang, Shanghai, Ningpo, and Tamsui. The causes of the general decrease were thus various, and a knowledge of them will be best obtained from a perusal of the Reports which form the second part of this volume. I may remark, however, that in consequence of an increased demand in India for Cotton fabrics a good deal of difficulty has been experienced of late in making advantageous purchases for China. In addition to this, too, the large quantity of Grey Shirtings imported during 1879 overstocked many of our provincial markets, and thus rendered necessary a diminished importation in 1880. The following are a few remarks on the Shanghai market for Grey Shirtings during the year under review.*

January began with the stock amounting to about 895,000 pièces. In consequence of some brisk speculation, however, which had the effect of keeping up prices, coupled with slackness of demand on the part of Chinese buyers, this quantity became considerably augmented, and at the end of March the stock stood at 1,607,500 pieces, and exhibited very little diminution throughout the whole of April. With May activity commenced, a good demand sprang up, and continued until the end of June, when the stock had become reduced to about 998,000 pieces. Business was fairly brisk during the remainder of the year, which closed with a stock of 702,200 pieces. Prices were fairly maintained throughout. During January, 6-8s. Grey Shirtings were quoted at $\text{T}hs$ 1 to $\text{T}hs$ 1.07½, by the end of March they had reached $\text{T}hs$ 1.20, falling, however, until July, when they were again quoted at $\text{T}hs$ 1, but from this time they increased, and in December were quoted at $\text{T}hs$ 1.10 to $\text{T}hs$ 1.22. Similar fluctuations took place in the prices of the higher qualities. Shirtings of 9½ to 10 8s. were sold in January at from $\text{T}hs$ 1.88 to $\text{T}hs$ 2.35 per pièce, in April they had risen to $\text{T}hs$ 2 and $\text{T}hs$ 2.40, declining to $\text{T}hs$ 1.90 and $\text{T}hs$ 2.25 in the succeeding month, and remaining with slight variation at these rates until October, after which a rise took place, and was maintained until the end of the year, when the quotations were $\text{T}hs$ 2 to $\text{T}hs$ 2.32½.

* The remarks on this and the following pages regarding the business in Piece Goods and Metals have reference to the Shanghai market; the prices are therefore given in Shanghai taels: 58.76, 114.40 equal $\text{H}hs$. 76, 100.

TABLE giving the IMPORTATION of COTTON GOODS during the Years
the QUANTITIES imported during 1880 and those

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	Classifier of Quantity.	NET IMPORTATION IN					
		1878.		1879.		1880.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		<i>HL. 70s</i>	<i>HL. 70s</i>				
Shirtings, Grey.....	Pieces	2,787,639	3,846,811	5,602,552	8,141,999	4,653,736	6,441,232
" White	"	880,677	1,618,558	1,357,407	2,410,527	1,519,175	2,619,315
" Figured, Bro- caded, Spotted, etc. }	"	3,207	5,051	21,189	32,765	634	1,346
" Dyed	"	38,330	77,077	32,518	66,648	71,063	153,141
" Figured, Bro- caded, Spotted, etc. }	"	71,841	161,614	51,054	113,644	46,267	102,434
F-Cloths	"	2,887,559	3,306,922	2,415,528	2,609,681	3,607,951	3,879,908
Drills, English, Dutch, and American.....	}	1,028,748	2,051,262	1,172,082	2,531,738	936,401	1,845,247
Sheetings	"	429,232	926,288	688,626	1,607,086	877,806	2,075,073
Josms and Twills	"	185,358	274,389	299,364	406,412	406,049	779,800
Chinas, Furnitures, and Cotton Prints	}	133,031	158,309	213,228	250,170	240,167	278,034
Turkey Red Cloths	"	213,513	319,686	274,276	389,279	395,215	391,815
Dunacos, Dyed	"	16,384	59,116	6,791	23,704	13,237	44,044
Velvets, Velveteens, and Fustians	"	74,260	413,130	29,157	162,109	73,685	370,320
Jacquets, Cashmires, Lewins, and Maslins.....	"	99,242	64,167	90,805	59,064	155,390	93,677
Hankkerchiefs	Drams	195,842	78,216	354,827	131,162	301,247	148,184
Cotton Goods, Unclassified.....	Pieces	102,969	247,431	161,503	392,654	182,671	506,745
" Yarn and Thread.....	Pieces	108,360	2,520,514	137,889	3,190,517	151,519	3,648,112
TOTAL.....	<i>HL. 70s</i>		16,009,231		22,599,679		23,382,957

1878, 1879, and 1880, and showing also the DIFFERENCE between imported during 1878 and 1879 respectively.

INCREASE IN 1880 AS COMPARED WITH 1878.		DECREASE IN 1880 AS COMPARED WITH 1878.		INCREASE IN 1880 AS COMPARED WITH 1879.		DECREASE IN 1880 AS COMPARED WITH 1879.	
Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	<i>Rs. 7/8</i>		<i>Rs. 7/8</i>		<i>Rs. 7/8</i>		<i>Rs. 7/8</i>
1,866,097	2,594,421	...	...	...	...	948,816	1,700,367
638,498	1,000,777	...	...	161,768	268,808	...	...
...	...	2,673	3,905	...	...	20,555	31,419
13,633	76,064	...	...	20,445	86,493	...	...
...	...	26,474	59,180	...	...	5,687	11,210
720,392	671,986	...	...	1,192,423	1,270,227	...	...
...	...	102,347	205,513	...	...	276,584	685,991
446,574	1,146,285	...	...	189,180	467,087	...	...
300,691	505,411	...	...	186,685	293,388	...	...
107,136	119,725	...	...	26,939	27,864	...	...
91,702	76,129	...	...	20,939	6,536	...	...
...	...	3,147	15,072	6,446	20,340	...	...
...	...	875	42,790	44,528	268,221	...	...
56,148	29,510	...	...	64,585	34,593	...	...
195,405	69,968	...	...	36,420	17,022	...	...
79,702	259,314	...	...	21,168	114,091	...	...
43,159	1,127,558	...	...	13,630	457,395	...	...
Net Increase in 1880 over 1878, <i>Rs. 7/8</i> 7,533,726.				Net Increase in 1880 over 1879, <i>Rs. 7/8</i> 783,278.			

White Shirtings.—The importation of White Shirtings showed an increase during 1880 amounting to 161,268 pieces. This advance is slight, although satisfactory, as denoting continued progress. The demand for the article was steadily good throughout the year, and the business transacted was fairly advantageous to importers. The course of prices was very similar to that which ruled in the case of Grey Shirtings. 64-reed fabric was sold at Tls 1.80 to Tls 1.97½ in January, and rose in March to Tls 1.85 and Tls 2.05, falling again in May to Tls 1.85 and Tls 1.95; these latter rates held until October, when there was a reduction to Tls 1.80 and Tls 1.92½; in November a rise took place, and December ended with quotations at Tls 1.85 to Tls 2.05. The stock on the market in the beginning of January was about 223,000 pieces, and exhibited very little deviation from these figures during the greater part of the year.

T-Cloths.—These show an increase of 1,192,423 pieces when we compare 1880 with 1879. This increase is almost wholly accounted for by the large net importation at Shanghai, which amounted to over 1,000,000 pieces, while there had not been any taken for local consumption at that port during the year before. At the commencement of the year 486,000 pieces represented the stock upon the Shanghai market, which a fairly brisk, although gradually falling demand kept from being much augmented during the first half of the year. At the end of July, however, business began to be somewhat slack, and the stock rose to over 700,000 pieces; during autumn the demand considerably fell off, so that in the beginning of October sellers had on hand over 1,000,000 pieces; subsequently, inquiries from buyers became less and less frequent, and the year closed with the stock risen to the high figure of 1,200,000 pieces. The course of prices was what one might expect on being acquainted with the foregoing. 6-lb. fabric was sold at from Tls 0.84 to Tls 1 in January, and at Tls 0.88 to Tls 1.08 in March; in April a slight decline occurred, and prices were Tls 0.80 to Tls 1.05. This downward tendency continued without intermission until almost the end of the year; in June quotations had receded to Tls 0.75½ and Tls 0.88; in October to Tls 0.70 and Tls 0.85; in November to Tls 0.70 and Tls 0.80; in December, however, there was a slight increase, and some sales were made at Tls 0.87½. The prices of other kinds of *T-Cloths* were marked by similar changes.

Drills, English, Dutch, and American.—A falling off to the extent of 236,584 pieces took place under this heading; the importation was also less than that of 1878 by 102,347 pieces. The year during which the greatest quantity of this class of Cottons came to China was 1873, when the importation reached 1,302,578 pieces; in the year following, however, only 909,171 pieces were imported, so that when we compare the last eight years together, thus:—

	<i>Pieces.</i>		<i>Pieces.</i>
1873	1,302,578	1877	914,344
1874	909,171	1878	1,038,748
1875	762,194	1879	1,172,985
1876	1,289,215	1880	936,401

we find that the trade in Drills has been by no means steady.

It has of late been freely asserted that American Cottons are, by reason of their being free from adulteration, destined to largely take the place of English Cottons on the China markets, and there are many who seem to think that the time is at hand when this change will be brought about. But our statistics do not uphold such an assertion, so far at least as Drills are concerned. The importation of American Cottons has undoubtedly been increasing, but so has the importation of English Cottons, and I would refer any who desire information upon this subject to Mr. Commissioner HART'S Report on the trade of Shanghai, contained in Part II of this volume, where there will be found a table giving the quantities of English and American Drills and Jeans respectively imported at Shanghai during the last six years. It will be noticed that American Drills fell off exceedingly in 1880. This decrease must not, however, be taken to indicate any serious diminution in demand, which was, on the contrary, very satisfactory to holders throughout the year. It originated in America from some cause which resulted in short shipments to China, and those best informed on the subject are of opinion that a supply equal to that of any previous year might have been advantageously imported. The following is a list of the prices of Drills during 1880:—

PRICES OF DRILLS IN 1880.

DESCRIPTION.	JANUARY.	FEBRUARY.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.
AMERICAN, P. M. C.:—	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½
Highest.....P Pies	3	3	3	3.05	3.90	3.87½
Lowest....."	2.85	...	...	3	2.80	2.84
ENGLISH, Ordinary to Good:—						
Highest.....P Pies	2.05	1.93 to 2.05	2 to 2.20	1.94 to 2.15	1.80 to 2	1.80 to 2.05
Lowest....."	1.90	1.90 " 2.05	1.95 " 2.15	1.84 " 2.05	1.80 " 1.90	1.85 " 1.97½
DUTCH, Geldersmans:—						
Highest.....P Pies	3.45	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.45	3.35
Lowest....."	2.35	...	2.45	2.45	2.30	2.16½
DESCRIPTION.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPTEMBER.	OCTOBER.	NOVEMBER.	DECEMBER.
AMERICAN, P. M. C.:—	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½
Highest.....P Pies	3.02½	2.97½	3.00½	3.05	3.17½	3.25
Lowest....."	2.85	2.90½	3	2.95½	3.05	3.22½
ENGLISH, Ordinary to Good:—						
Highest.....P Pies	1.85 to 2.05	1.85 to 2.12½	1.82½ to 2.12½	1.80 to 2	1.75 to 2	1.72½ to 2
Lowest....."	1.85 " 2	1.82½ " 2.12½	...	1.77½ " 2	1.72½ " 2	1.75 " 1.95
DUTCH, Geldersmans:—						
Highest.....P Pies	2.32½	2.32½	2.32½	2.34½	2.45	2.45
Lowest....."	2.30	...	...	2.32½	2.34½	...

Sheetings.—The importation of Sheetings during 1880 exceeded that during 1879 by 189,180 pieces; it also exceeded the 1878 importation by 448,574 pieces. England and America compete under this heading in the China markets. Unlike in the case of Drills, however, the latter country has here a decided advantage. The quantity of American Sheetings imported at Shanghai last year was 678,589 pieces, while English Sheetings only reached 199,125 pieces, and as the importation of this class of Cottons at Shanghai in 1880 was almost as much as the total importation at all the ports during the same period, the foregoing figures may be taken as indicating with a very near approach to correctness the relative patronage which the two kinds meet with among Chinese consumers. With regard to the ports where most attention is paid to the American fabric, a study of Part II of our Returns shows that, with the single exception of Hankow, all the ports from Ningpo north to Newchwang, including the River Ports, took far greater quantities of American Sheetings than of English during 1880. Even at Hankow the importation of the former was by no means small, amounting as it did to 30,700 pieces, against 59,030 pieces of the latter. American Sheetings are much dearer than English, hence the foregoing is significant, and proves pretty conclusively that mere cheapness is not in every case an all-important virtue in the estimation of the Chinese. The following list of the prices of English and American Sheetings will afford a partial knowledge of the fluctuations in the trade during 1880:—

PRICES OF SHEETINGS IN 1880.

DESCRIPTION.	JANUARY.	FEBRUARY.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.
ENGLISH:—	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h
Highest.....P Piece	2.20 to 2.25	2.15 to 2.25	2.17½ to 2.30	2.17½ to 2.30	2.10 to 2.20	2.10 to 2.20
Lowest....." "	...	2.05 " 2.25	...	2.00 " 2.37½	...	2.05 " 2.30
AMERICAN:—						
Highest.....P Piece	2.80 to 2.95	2.90 to 3.15	3 to 3.15	3 to 3.15	2.85 to 3	2.80 to 2.95
Lowest....." "	2.75 " 2.90	2.80 " 2.95	2.95 " 3.15	2.90 " 3.10	2.80 " 2.90	2.70 " 2.95½
DESCRIPTION.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPTEMBER.	OCTOBER.	NOVEMBER.	DECEMBER.
ENGLISH:—	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h
Highest.....P Piece	2.05 to 2.30	2.05 to 2.30	2.05 to 2.30	1.95 to 2.20	1.88 to 2.10	1.85 to 2.10
Lowest....." "	...	...	...	1.58 " 2.00	...	1.82 " 2.10
AMERICAN:—						
Highest.....P Piece	2.70 to 2.92½	2.70 to 2.92½	2.70 to 2.92½	2.50 to 2.87½	2.50 to 2.85	2.50 to 2.85
Lowest....." "	2.70 " 2.95	2.70 " 2.90	2.50 " 2.88	2.50 " 2.85	...	...

Jeans and Twills.—These have shown a satisfactory increase latterly, although on looking at the statistics of past years it will appear that the trade in them has not been at all a steady one. The quantity imported in 1876 was 290,460 pieces, in 1877 it was 425,552 pieces, in 1878 it fell to 185,358 pieces, and in 1879 it rose again to 299,364 pieces. The importation during 1880 was 486,049 pieces. China is supplied with Jeans by three countries—England, America, and Holland. As in the case of Drills, the fabric manufactured in England receives the preference. The great bulk of the importation consists, in fact, of English Jeans. American Jeans are steadily increasing, but the Dutch article seems to have lost ground considerably. In 1875, 33,060 pieces of Dutch Jeans were imported at Shanghai, but in 1879 the importation had fallen, through intermediate descending stages, to 4,500 pieces; in 1880, however, the fabric seemed to meet with more attention, and 11,890 pieces were imported. The following table gives the prices of English, Dutch, and American Jeans during 1880:—

PRICES OF JEANS IN 1880.

DESCRIPTION.	JANUARY.	FEBRUARY.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.
ENGLISH, Ordinary to Good:—	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h
Highest.....P Piece	1.50 to 1.87½	1.54 to 1.80	1.54 to 1.85	1.52 to 1.85	1.45 to 1.80	1.34 to 1.70
Lowest....." "	1.52 " 1.80	1.52 " 1.80	1.54 " 1.80	...	1.54 " 1.70	...
DUTCH, Ordinary to Good:—						
Highest.....P Piece	1.80 to 2	1.80 to 2.05	1.90 to 2.05	1.87½ to 2	1.82½ to 2	1.70 to 1.94
Lowest....." "	1.75 " 2	1.75 " 2	1.80 " 2.05	...	1.75 " 1.90	1.70 " 1.90
AMERICAN, P. M. C. J.:—						
Highest.....P Piece	2.35	2.40	2.57½	2.57½	2.57½	2.30
Lowest....." "	...	2.30	2.35	2.55	2.40	...
DESCRIPTION.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPTEMBER.	OCTOBER.	NOVEMBER.	DECEMBER.
ENGLISH, Ordinary to Good:—	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h	7h
Highest.....P Piece	1.44 to 1.77½	1.40 to 1.80	1.35 to 1.80	1.30 to 1.75	1.30 to 1.75	1.32½ to 1.82½
Lowest....." "	1.34 " 1.70	1.35 " 1.80	1.33 " 1.80	...	1.30 " 1.75	1.30 " 1.75
DUTCH, Ordinary to Good:—						
Highest.....P Piece	1.75 to 2.05	1.75 to 2.05	1.75 to 2.05	1.70 to 2	1.70 to 2	1.70 to 2
Lowest....." "	1.70 " 1.94	...	...	...	...	1.70 " 1.92½
AMERICAN, P. M. C. J.:—						
Highest.....P Piece	2.35	2.35	2.35	2.30	2.30	2.22½
Lowest....." "	2.22½	...	...	2.17½	2.17½	2.17½

Cotton Yarn and Thread.—These are growing in importance as articles of import; although the quantity which annually comes to China has not steadily increased, yet the importation of 1880 was greater than that of any preceding year, and exceeded the importation of 1879 by 13,630 piculs. Chefoo, Amoy, Swatow, Canton, and Pakhoi are the principal distributing centres for Cotton Yarn and Thread, and all, except Canton, imported more in 1880 than in 1879. In fact, in many parts of China Native weavers prefer Foreign Cotton Yarn to Chinese, and a good deal of what is called Native Cotton Cloth is in reality Foreign, but manufactured in China by Native looms.

Finery Cottons.—Under this heading may be classed Dyed and Figured Shirtings, Chintzes, Furnitures, and Cotton Prints, Turkey Red Cloths, Dyed Damasks, Velvets, Velveteens, and Fustians, Jaconets, Cambries, Lawns, and Muslins, and Handkerchiefs. The quantity of the whole imported was 1,296,905 pieces, worth *Hk.Ts* 1,587,005, showing an increase over the importation of 1879 amounting to 223,060 pieces,* and a difference in value of *Hk.Ts* 358,440. Considered singly, all the foregoing articles, except Figured and Brocaded Shirtings, showed increase in 1880. The last mentioned fell off in quantity to the extent of 26,242 pieces, and in value to the amount of *Hk.Ts* 42,639.

Turning to page 11 in Part I of our Returns for last year we find that considerable quantities of Cotton Goods were re-exported. This re-exportation took place almost entirely from Shanghai and to Japan. The new commercial relations between Japan and Corea have greatly facilitated the entrance of Foreign goods into the latter country, which, when generally opened up to intercourse with the rest of the world, will no doubt afford ready markets for Western manufactures. This is in a measure proved by the fact that the Piece Goods trade between Newchwang and the Korean gate has almost ceased. This trade was conducted under many disadvantages, not the least of which was the long and tedious land journey which the merchandise had to undergo before reaching its destination. Now, however, the convenient sea route between Nagasaki and Fusan is year after year increasing in favour, and the time is undoubtedly not far distant when it alone will be employed.

Sizing.—Sized fabrics still meet with a good number of buyers, although they seem to have lost some of their popularity lately, probably because the Chinese have come to see that dearer and purer articles are better worth their money.

The practice of adulterating Cotton Piece Goods is one which has given rise to a good deal of discussion. It arose in a great measure from a desire on the part of manufacturers to respond to a constant and increasing demand for a cheaper article than could possibly be made from pure Cotton. The imparting a superficial finish to their goods suggested itself as a means by which the demand might be satisfied. It may indeed be questioned if the expedient were attended with success for any length of time, and in the long run it has undoubtedly proved an unwise one; yet the assertion so often made that the practice of sizing resulted in widespread imposture on the Chinese cannot, I feel sure, be maintained. The first instalments of sized fabrics which were placed on the China markets may no doubt have taken in a good many when distributed among the shops and offered for sale to the multitude, but any imposture which took place accrued almost wholly from the fact that the cloth purchased

* One dozen of Handkerchiefs are here counted as one piece.

appeared worth much more than washing proved it to be; it was still, however, worth as much as was paid for it. Seeing what had been considered a good bargain, however, become divested, under the hands of the washerman, of all the gloss which had constituted its chief attraction, and changed into perhaps a coarse netting, produced the feeling which always attends on a consciousness of having been deceived, and resulted in an outcry which operated very prejudicially against the profitable sale of cheap Cotton Piece Goods. But notwithstanding all this, sized fabrics still hold a prominent place in the China markets, and meet with a demand which proves conclusively that although a few purchasers were victimised at the outset, yet the goods possess merits which are appreciated, and that they find many willing to take them at what they are worth.

WOOLLEN GOODS.—Foreign Woollen Goods are not nearly so much patronised by the Chinese as are Foreign Cotton Goods. The fact is that the former, although greatly appreciated, are too expensive to be within the means of the vast majority of Chinese. A coat made from the cheapest kind of Woollen Cloth costs about \$4, whereas a coat of Cotton Cloth, wadded for winter wear, only costs about \$2, a serious difference in the consideration of those whose means are limited.

The value of the Woollen Goods imported during 1880 was *Hk.Tls* 5,810,688; comparing this with the value of the 1879 importation, *Hk.Tls* 4,954,472, there appears an increase in favour of 1880 amounting to *Hk.Tls* 856,216. The following figures show that during the last seven years the importation of Woollen Goods has, speaking generally, steadily, though slowly, increased:—

	<i>Hk.Tls</i>
Value of Woollens imported in 1874	4,049,073
" " " 1875	4,561,421
" " " 1876	4,259,281
" " " 1877	4,797,654
" " " 1878	4,875,594
" " " 1879	4,954,472
" " " 1880	5,810,688

Among the principal classes of Woollens, those which showed marked increase during 1880 were Dutch Camlets, Russian Cloth, Flannels, Lastings, and Lustras and Orleans; while those which showed marked decrease were Blankets and Long Elks.

Blankets.—During the last three years the importation of Blankets has steadily decreased, as the following comparative statement will show:—

	<i>Pairs.</i>
Importation of Blankets in 1878	19,552
" " " 1879	17,953
" " " 1880	8,495

The large importation of 1878 was probably due to there having been no importation at all in 1877; the decrease in 1879 was slight; the marked falling off in 1880 was no doubt caused to a great extent by slackness of demand in Japan.

Camlets.—English Camlets show a slight decrease. The importation of 1879 was 127,622 pieces, valued at *Hk.Ths* 1,330,109; the importation of 1880 was 124,492 pieces, valued at *Hk.Ths* 1,267,667: thus showing an advantage in favour of the former period to the extent of 3,130 pieces in point of quantity and of *Hk.Ths* 62,442 in point of value. But it is pretty certain that had it not been for the existence of exceptional circumstances the importation of Camlets would have been still less than it was. The probability of a war with Russia having necessitated the placing of the Chinese army on a war footing, large quantities of Camlets were purchased during the latter half of the year to supply the increased demand for soldiers' uniforms, which are to a large extent made of this fabric.

The following is a list of the prices which ruled for Camlets during the year:—

PRICES OF CAMLETS in 1880.

DESCRIPTION.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
S. S. G., Assorted:—	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s	7s
Highest <i>¶ Price</i>	11.35	12.10	12.10	11.80	11.90	11.75	11.50	11.70	11.80	11.70	11.90	11.50
Lowest "	11.50	11.75	11.70	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.40	11.55	11.50	11.60	11.60	11.40

It will be noticed in the foregoing table that prices were highest during the first six months, and fell off afterwards during the period when one might think that the demand ought to have been best. This anomaly finds its chief explanation in the mode of conducting the trade. Importing firms consider it necessary to keep certain kinds of *Fine Goods*—Camlets, for example—always before the market, and to attain this object auctions are held periodically at which such goods are invariably sold, whether the prices obtainable for them be remunerative or the reverse. During the latter part of 1879 the quantities of Camlets disposed of by auction were so large that prices fell to an unusually low figure; sellers thereupon began to hold back to a certain extent, and succeeded after a short time in establishing a more satisfactory proportion between supply and consumption. With the termination of the Chinese New Year festivities in the beginning of 1880 a good demand sprang up, and, stocks being reduced, prices again increased; larger quantities were then offered at auction, prices experienced a second decline, and remained comparatively low during the rest of the year. It is said that had it not been for the autumn demand, referred to above, prices would have fallen still lower than they did.

Dutch Camlets show an increase of 536 pieces. The quantity of this class of Woollens taken yearly by China has for a long time been almost stationary; from 1871 to 1875 it averaged 3,567 pieces, and from 1876 to 1880 it averaged 3,100 pieces.

Broad, Medium, and Habit Cloth.—The importation under this heading amounted to 33,951 pieces, valued at *Hk.Ths* 736,268, showing an increase of 3,184 pieces over the 1879 importation, making a difference in value of *Hk.Ths* 80,747. A curious sameness characterised the market for Broad, Medium, and Habit Cloth throughout the year. The prices in January

were $\text{T}h$ 1.20 and $\text{T}h$ 0.65 per yard for good and inferior qualities respectively, and these figures remained unchanged during the whole year, a circumstance from which one may infer that the balance of supply and demand was maintained pretty exactly.

Spanish Stripes.—These show an increase in quantity of 4,993 pieces, and in value of $\text{Hk. T}h$ 118,781. The importation of Spanish Stripes has been well kept up during the past five years; it was 66,830 pieces in 1876, but fell the next year to 50,530 pieces, rising again, however, in 1878 to 58,002 pieces, in 1879 to 64,075 pieces, and in 1880 to 69,068 pieces. The trade in Spanish Stripes seems to have been satisfactory, although the stocks rose during the second half of the year. Prices for best quality were highest in February and March, when they ranged between $\text{T}h$ 0.59½ and $\text{T}h$ 0.60. The lowest quotations were in December, when inferior quality was sold for $\text{T}h$ 0.54½. At times during the year other than those mentioned, prices ranged between $\text{T}h$ 0.55 and $\text{T}h$ 0.59 for best quality, and between $\text{T}h$ 0.55 and $\text{T}h$ 0.57 for inferior quality.

Russian Cloth.—The quantity of Russian Cloth imported during 1880 was nearly three times that imported during 1879. It amounted to 25,413 pieces, valued at $\text{Hk. T}h$ 762,390. Shanghai, the Yangtze and Northern Ports take almost the whole of the Russian Cloth that comes to China, Foochow being the only port in the south of China that imported any at all either in 1879 or 1880. The article seems, however, to be losing its popularity at Newchwang, where only 950 pieces were imported during the year under review, as against 1,370 pieces in 1879. Mr. Commissioner MAN says that it is being superseded by Lastings, and that the reason for the change is twofold. Lastings are laid down in Newchwang at less than one-third the price of the so-called "Oünga" Cloth, and are, from the buyer's point of view, intrinsically a better article, being less liable to be spoilt by the dust.

Flannels.—The importation of Flannels has latterly increased very much. In 1876 it was only 2,556 pieces, in 1877 it increased to 5,476 pieces, and in 1878 to 6,134 pieces, slightly falling off in 1879, when it was 5,099 pieces, but again increasing in 1880 to 9,004 pieces, the greatest annual importation as yet.

Lastings.—Of these, 95,783 pieces were imported in 1880, showing an increase of 14,103 pieces. Lastings have exhibited a steady increase for some years past; their average importation from 1871 to 1875 was 53,918 pieces, in 1877 the quantity imported was 74,067 pieces, and in 1879 it was 82,680 pieces. The trade in Lastings was fairly steady throughout the year, and supply and demand were at all times evenly balanced. I append a list of the prices ruling between January and December.

PRICES OF LASTINGS IN 1880.

DESCRIPTION.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
C. P. H., LIXO, BLACK:—												
Highest..... P Price	9.95	10.30	10.99	10.99	10.80	11.11	10.85	10.64	11.47	...	10.89	10.84
Lowest..... P Price	9.75	9.97	10.65	10.64	10.60	10.71	10.22	10.40	10.50	...	10.80	10.90

Long Ells.—A falling off is noticeable under this heading. The importation in 1880 was 114,571 pieces, against 128,383 pieces in 1879. The year 1880, however, is still considerably in advance of 1878, and it is generally believed that the above falling off was only due to the importation of 1879 having been in excess of the demand. Business in Long Ells was not very prosperous throughout the year; large sales at auction during 1879 overstocked the market, prices were low at the beginning of 1880, and still lower at the end, hence it may be inferred that importers did not reap very large profits. The following is a list of the prices for Long Ells in each month:—

PRICES OF LONG ELLS IN 1880.

DESCRIPTION.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
SCARLET, C. P. H.:—												
Highest.....P Piece	6.18	6.54	6.30	6.20	6.75	6.40	6.35	6.25	6.14	6.03	6.10	5.99
Lowest..... "	6.09	6.30½	6.16	6.13	6.18	6.30	6.18	6.17	6.05	5.99	5.95	5.90
U. U. SCARLET:—												
Highest.....P Piece	6.18½	6.40	6.25	6.15	6.15	6.30	6.12½	6.14	6.05	5.97½	6	5.95
Lowest..... "	6.08	6.29	6.11	6.05	6.07½	6.20	6.10	6.05	6.02	5.91	5.92½	5.90

Lustres and Orleans.—The quantity of this class of goods imported during 1880 was 244,196 pieces; 189,409 pieces were imported in 1879, there was therefore an increase during the past year amounting to 54,787 pieces. The importation of Lustres and Orleans has greatly fallen off since 1867, when it was 431,571 pieces; 1868 was also a good year, its importation having been 306,508 pieces. In the 12 years which have intervened, the average annual importation has hardly amounted to 200,000 pieces. There has been a steady increase during the last three years, but the article does not as yet seem likely to regain its former status as an import. It is said that the increase in 1880 was in a great measure due to the fact that at the beginning of the year importers, anticipating a good demand, ordered considerable quantities from England. Subsequent events, however, acted against the fulfilment of such hopes, and an abundant Silk crop caused the consumption of Orleans to fall off, so that a great deal of what had been ordered cut on speculation remained unsold at the end of December. The stocks exhibited a steady increase almost throughout the year. In January there were only about 25,000 pieces on the market, in March there were nearly 60,000 pieces, and in July 100,000 pieces; in October the quantity had risen to 125,000 pieces, but after this a slight decrease commenced, and the year closed with a stock of about 111,000 pieces. The variations in prices were largely in keeping with the changes in the stocks. Quotations were in January Th 2.85 to Th 3.22½; in February, March, and April they were Th 2.90 to Th 3.35; in May a falling off commenced, and while the best qualities were still sold at Th 3.35, inferior qualities had in some instances fallen to Th 2.80; in

June prices were *Tls* 3.15 and *Tls* 2.80 for superior and inferior qualities respectively, and these rates remained unchanged during the rest of the year.

Sundry Woollen Goods.—Under this heading I include such Woollen Goods as are not particularised above, though mentioned in the table on page 8 in Part I of the Returns. They are Alpaca, Bombazettes, and Bunting. Alpaca is a very unimportant item of import; it showed an increase in 1880 comparatively with 1879, the figures being 54 pieces for 1879 and 98 pieces for 1880. Bombazettes rank very little higher than Alpaca as an import; 223 pieces were imported in 1880, as against 179 pieces in 1879. Bunting is a more important item than either of the forenamed; it showed a decrease in 1880, when 515 pieces were imported, as against 962 pieces in 1879.

Miscellaneous Piece Goods.—These include Woollen and Cotton Mixtures, Linen Goods, and Canvas. The first mentioned showed increase, the quantity imported having been 9,119 pieces, as against 8,643 pieces in 1879. The importation of Linen Goods showed a considerable advance, and was 17,287 pieces, as against 11,504 pieces imported in 1879. Canvas also showed improvement, the importation having been 3,012 bolts in 1879 and 4,752 bolts in 1880.

Taking everything into consideration, the trade in both Cotton and Woollen Goods during the year under review was fairly satisfactory. It is true that some articles, Lustres and Orleans for example, were expected at the beginning to yield considerable profits, and that such expectations were but faintly realised; notwithstanding, losses were, generally speaking, few, and gains, although not great, were still sufficient to repay merchants for time and outlay, and to maintain hopes for the future.

METALS.—The value of the Metals imported last year is less than the value of the previous year's importation by *HK.Tls* 52,871, a small sum, however, considering that the importation of 1879 was represented by *HK.Tls* 4,132,067, and that of 1880 by *HK.Tls* 4,079,196. The articles under the heading of Metals which showed most important increase as regards quantity in 1880 were Nail-rod Iron, Tea and Sheet Lead, and Steel; and those which showed corresponding decrease were Bar and Rod Copper, Copper Sheets and Nails and Muntz Metal, Copper Ore and Unmanufactured Copper, Iron Wire, Pig and Kentledge Iron, Pig Lead, Quicksilver, Spelter and Zinc, Tin Slabs and Tin Plates. In short, the quantities of the various Metals imported in 1880 were in the majority of instances less than the quantities imported in 1879.

Bar and Rod Copper.—The quantity of Bar and Rod Copper imported during 1880 was 8,933 piculs; this, compared with the importation of the preceding year, 9,703 piculs, shows a decrease amounting to 770 piculs, a difference not sufficiently great to indicate anything more than ordinary fluctuation in the trade. During the last 14 years the annual quantities of Bar and Rod Copper imported have differed greatly. In 1867, 6,991 piculs were imported; and in 1868, 8,317 piculs; but in 1869 the quantity fell off to 4,397 piculs; in 1870, however, the importation rose to figures not nearly equalled since, namely, 15,277 piculs, the closest approach having been in 1877, when the quantity imported was 11,476 piculs. Looking at the prices as based on the proportion between the quantity and value given in our Returns for each year, we also find a good deal of variation. In 1867, the price thus calculated was *Tls* 15.60 per picul, in the year following it was only *Tls* 13, while in the year following that

again it was *Tls* 20, decreasing in the next year to *Tls* 15.20. Since 1875, however, uniformity has to a certain extent prevailed; the price in that year and in the three years following was between *Hk.Tls* 16.60 and *Hk.Tls* 17; in 1879 it was *Hk.Tls* 15; and in 1880, *Hk.Tls* 15.20.

Copper Sheets and Nails and Masts Metal.—There was a decrease under this heading of 2,362 piculs, the quantity imported during 1880 having been 6,352 piculs, as against 8,714 piculs imported during 1879. The quantities imported at several of the ports in 1880—Tientsin, Chefoo, Chinkiang, Ningpo, and Canton, for example—showed increase; and the decrease in the total importation was caused by comparatively small importations at four ports, namely, Newchwang, Shanghai, Foochow, and Amoy.

Copper Ore and Unmanufactured Copper.—The decrease under this heading is marked. 1,393 piculs were imported in 1879, and only 75 piculs in 1880.

Nail-rod Iron.—Of Nail-rod Iron, 334,783 piculs were imported during 1880, and 247,844 piculs in 1879, thus showing an increase in favour of 1880 amounting to 86,939 piculs. The 1880 importation was the largest which has yet taken place; that of 1878 was the nearest approach to it, having been 302,527 piculs. Although since a period 14 years ago the quantity of Nail-rod Iron annually imported has greatly increased, the increase has not been at all steady. In 1867, 64,224 piculs were imported; in 1868, 163,390 piculs; and in 1869, 268,898 piculs; this was steady advance, but in 1871 the quantity had fallen to 131,599 piculs, and did not rise much above this until 1875, when the importation was 227,249 piculs; in 1876 it fell again, and was only 165,878 piculs; since the last-mentioned year the increase has been fairly steady. On referring to Part II of our Returns for the year under review, it will be found that the above-mentioned net total increase of 86,939 piculs is, roughly speaking, made up of a comparatively large importation at Shanghai, minus comparatively small importations at the three Northern Ports, Chinkiang, and Swatow. The quantity retained in Shanghai for local distribution was 154,713 piculs, as against 25,609 piculs in 1879. Mr. Commissioner HUGHES says that the decreased importation of Nail-rod Iron at Chefoo was caused by the large importation there of Old Iron, such as boiler-plates, horse-shoes, scraps, etc.; these are made into horse-nails and various other articles.

Bar Iron.—The quantities of Bar Iron imported in 1879 and 1880 respectively were very nearly equal, having been 166,783 piculs in the former and 168,845 piculs in the latter year. The statistics of the various ports taken separately, however, show in some instances large increase, and in others large decrease; the channels of the trade, in fact, were different as to locality in the one year from what they were in the other, although the volume of the trade remained almost unchanged. Newchwang, for instance, imported 76,457 piculs in 1879, and only 32,870 piculs in 1880, while Shanghai retained for local distribution 49,073 piculs in the former year, and 103,246 piculs in the latter year.

Iron Wire.—The quantity imported was 23,135 piculs, which, compared with the 1879 importation, 31,480 piculs, shows a decrease of 8,345 piculs. The quantity of Iron Wire annually imported has greatly increased within the last twelve years. It was only 2,542 piculs in 1869. In 1870, 13,062 piculs were imported, but after this there was a falling off, which lasted until 1875, when the quantity imported was 13,925 piculs. The importation of 1880 is greater than that of any year except 1879.

Pig and Kentledge Iron.—Under this heading there was also a decrease, 69,928 piculs having been imported, as against 76,405 piculs imported in 1879.

Shanghai Iron Market of 1880.—At the commencement of the year there was a good demand for all kinds of Iron, and numerous sales were made at prices satisfactory to importers. During the first week in January the quotations were as follow:—

Dawes Nail-rod. (Per Picul.)	Best Staffordshire. (Per Picul.)	Belgian, No. 1. (Per Picul.)	Swedish Iron. (Per Picul.)	Pig Iron. (Per Ton.)
7½ 2.55 to 2.65	7½ 2.45 to 2.60	7½ 2.40 to 2.45	7½ 3.25 to 3.40	7½ 19 to 23

Business continued brisk during the whole of January, and prices gradually rose without there being any falling off in the demand. Immediately after the end of the first week in February, however, the intervention of the Chinese New Year caused a cessation of purchases on the part of Native buyers; prices, with the exception of those for Pig Iron, which fell slightly, were, notwithstanding, maintained at the figures to which they had risen during the last week in January, viz:—

Dawes Nail-rod. (Per Picul.)	Best Staffordshire. (Per Picul.)	Belgian, No. 1. (Per Picul.)	Swedish Iron. (Per Picul.)
7½ 2.80 to 2.90	7½ 2.70 to 2.80	7½ 2.55 to 2.60	7½ 3.40 to 3.50

But with the cessation of the New Year's festivities there did not come the expected revival of demand, as Chinese buyers deferred entering into transactions until the markets at the Northern Ports had been fully opened, and, subsequently, until the state of the home markets had become more settled. Holders were in consequence obliged to lower their prices so considerably that in the beginning of April quotations had become reduced to the following figures:—

Dawes Nail-rod. (Per Picul.)	Best Staffordshire. (Per Picul.)	Belgian, No. 1. (Per Picul.)	Swedish Iron. (Per Picul.)	Pig Iron. (Per Ton.)
7½ 2.50	7½ 2.45	7½ 2.30 to 2.35	7½ 3.25 to 3.40	7½ 18 to 24.50

Throughout April and May the market was very dull, and although Chinese dealers made a moderate amount of purchases, yet they only bought in small quantities, sufficient to meet their

requirements for the time being. Added to this, too, the Chinese, as a rule, deal in Metals but sparingly in the spring and early summer, as there is always a difficulty then in obtaining transit labour, owing to the peasantry being largely employed in agriculture. In the beginning of June a speculative movement sprang up amongst Foreigners, the demand improved somewhat, and about 1,000 tons changed hands. But the Native dealers still kept from buying to any great extent, and as shipments were being numerously received from home, and as prices in Europe were low, prices in China remained low too, and in fact continued to fall until by the beginning of July they had become very much reduced, and stood as under:—

Doves Nail-rod. (Per Picul.)	Best Staffordshire. (Per Picul.)	Belgian, No. 1. (Per Picul.)	Swedish Iron. (Per Picul.)	Pig Iron. (Per Ton.)
7½ 1.90	7½ 1.80	7½ 1.70 to 1.72½	7½ 3.10 to 3.25	7½ 19 to 21.50

Towards the end of June, however, the demand was moderately good, and transactions, particularly in Nail-rod, were numerous. Very little change took place in the state of the market during July; in the middle of the month, however, the demand became slightly better, and the price of Belgian rose to 7½ 1.80 and 7½ 1.85. In the beginning and middle of August there was an improvement in demand, and in prices too, which were quoted as follow:—

Doves Nail-rod. (Per Picul.)	Best Staffordshire. (Per Picul.)	Belgian, No. 1. (Per Picul.)	Swedish Iron. (Per Picul.)	Pig Iron. (Per Ton.)
7½ 2.20	7½ 1.95	7½ 1.82½ to 1.90	7½ 3.25	7½ 22

But these rates were not of long continuance; business again became dull, and quotations for all kinds except Swedish had fallen considerably at the beginning of October, from which time until the end of the year the market was almost uniformly dull, prices, with the exception of those for Pig Iron, not varying from the following figures:—

Doves Nail-rod. (Per Picul.)	Best Staffordshire. (Per Picul.)	Belgian, No. 1. (Per Picul.)	Swedish Iron. (Per Picul.)
7½ 1.95	7½ 1.85	7½ 1.75 to 1.77½	7½ 3.25

The price of Pig Iron fluctuated between 7½ 19.25 and 7½ 19.75 during the last three months of the year. Swedish Iron was sold at 7½ 3.25 during the greater part of the year. The Iron

market of 1880 was, as has been seen, most brisk in January and the first part of February. During far the greater portion of the year business was dull; transactions were betimes numerous, but without indicating a demand sufficient to allow of prices being raised to high figures. The beginning and end of the year presented, in short, a strong contrast to each other.

Lead.—There was a falling off under this heading; the quantity imported during 1879 having been 174,216 piculs, and that during 1880, 158,878 piculs, showing a difference of 15,338 piculs. The decrease was in Pig Lead; Tea and Sheet Lead showed increase. The importation of Pig Lead, unlike that of many other kinds of Foreign goods, has not been marked, latterly at least, by yearly increase. Thirteen years ago it was almost as great as it was last year, and in 1870 it was 268,297 piculs, a quantity nearly equal to that imported in 1878. In 1873 the importation fell to 89,440 piculs, rising, however, to 153,839 piculs in the next year, 1874; from this time there was an annual increase until 1878, when the importation was 295,314 piculs, the largest on record. The ports which contributed most to the decrease in 1880 were the three Northern Ports, Shanghai, Swatow, and Canton; the statistics of Hankow, Chinkiang, Foochow, and Amoy show increase. The importation of Tea and Sheet Lead was greater by 1,263 piculs in 1880 than it was in 1879.

Quicksilver.—There was a very considerable decrease here; only 2,096 piculs were imported in 1880, as against 6,657 piculs the year before.

Spelter and Zinc.—There was a decrease in the importation under this heading amounting to 4,738 piculs.

Steel.—The quantity of Steel imported during 1880 was 26,383 piculs, and during 1879, 22,064 piculs; an increase of 4,319 piculs thus appears to the credit of 1880.

Tin in Slabs.—There was a slight decrease under this heading, the importation having been 53,231 piculs in 1880 and 58,684 piculs in 1879. The decrease was, however, only in quantity; there was a rise in value to the amount of *Hk.Tb* 52,733. The largest consumer of this kind of Tin is Ningpo, "where," as Mr. Commissioner MOOREHEAD remarks, "there is a large industry in the manufacture of sacrificial paper, known as Ningpo 'Joss Paper.'" This article is made of paper covered with a layer of Tin. Shanghai retained for local distribution during the year under review a quantity almost equal to that imported at Ningpo. Next to these two ports come, as importers of Tin Slabs, Amoy, Swatow, Foochow, Klukiang, and Hankow; these imported respectively during 1880, 6,681 piculs, 5,520 piculs, 4,482 piculs, 4,817 piculs, and 2,217 piculs.

Tin in Plates.—Of these, 10,929 piculs were imported in 1880 and 11,950 piculs in 1879. During the last ten years the quantity of Tin in Plates imported annually has varied greatly. In 1871, for example, 2,301 piculs were imported, but in 1872 only 928 piculs; similarly, in 1877 the importation was 11,189 piculs, although in the next year it fell to 4,713 piculs. This irregularity has doubtless been largely occasioned by the importation of some years being too great for the demand existing at such times.

SUNDRIES.—After having passed in review our trade in Opium, Piece Goods, and Metals, one may be considered as having bestowed a fair share of attention on the Chinese Import

trade. There still remains, however, a number of articles classed as *Sundries*, the values of which, taken collectively, make up a very large sum. It will be seen on reference to Part I of our Returns, page 9, that the value of the *Sundries* imported during 1880 amounted to *Hk.Tls* 13,506,599, a slight decrease under the corresponding figures of the preceding year, which were *Hk.Tls* 13,880,230. Some of the articles under the heading of *Sundries* demand more than a passing notice. The most important in point of value is Coal.

Coal.—The quantity of Coal imported during 1880 was 214,421 tons, valued at *Hk.Tls* 968,337, an increase over the importation of 1879, which was 175,763 tons, value *Hk.Tls* 802,956. By far the greater portion of the Coal brought to China comes from Japan, and is imported at Shanghai; a small portion comes from Australia, and a smaller from England. The following table shows the quantity of Coal imported during each year since 1867, inclusive:—

	Tons.		Tons.
1867	113,430	1874	116,291
1868	157,727	1875	143,279
1869	126,763	1876	127,565
1870	78,705	1877	168,251
1871	85,555	1878	203,746
1872	134,393	1879	175,763
1873	115,113	1880	214,421

It will be seen from the foregoing that the importation of Coal has been increasing during the last 14 years, not annually increasing, however, for in some years there was a marked falling off; but the quantity imported in 1880 was greater than that imported in any of the preceding years, and the average for the second seven years will be found to be considerably greater than the average for the first seven years. How long this increase will continue it is difficult to say. China, as is well known, possesses immense natural resources in Coal, though as yet the development of these has not taken a prominent place among the national industries. But the number of mines in the country worked by Foreign machinery is annually increasing, and it is quite probable that, after a few years have passed, the importation of Foreign Coal will be numbered among the things that were.

Raw Cotton.—Of this commodity, 87,486 piculs were imported in 1880; 175,535 piculs were imported in 1879; the importation fell off by about one-half, therefore, during the year under review. Amoy, Swatow, Canton, Kiungchow, and Pakhoi are the only ports which took Foreign Cotton, so it is in the statistics of these places that the particulars of the above decrease must be looked for. With the exception of Pakhoi, each imported a much smaller quantity in 1880 than in the preceding year. Mr. Acting Commissioner EDGAR says, in his Report on the trade of Swatow, that the falling off in the importation of Foreign Raw Cotton there was partly due to deficient crops in Annam, though chiefly to the practice lately adopted there of cleaning the Cotton before shipping it to China, and thereby reducing the weight.

Seaweed and Agar-agar.—There was very little difference between the quantity of Seaweed imported during 1879 and that imported during 1880. In the former year the importation was 443,795 piculs, and in the latter 439,985 piculs. The great bulk—in fact, almost

all the Seaweed imported by China—is brought from Japan and the Amoor region. This commodity, as Mr. NOETZLI remarked in his Report for 1879, is eaten as a delicacy by the Chinese, so that its importation being kept up goes to prove continued prosperity among the people.

Timber.—The importation of Timber shows a slight increase, having been valued at *Hi. Ta* 591,836 in 1880 and *Hi. Ta* 540,964 in 1879.

Matches.—Scarcely any article of Foreign manufacture imported by China has increased so rapidly in favour with the people as Matches. In 1867 the importation was only 79,236 gross, in 1872 it had increased to 297,121 gross, in 1877 it stood at 554,812 gross, and in 1880 it attained to 1,419,540 gross—the highest figures on record. The use of Matches by the Chinese is still almost wholly confined to that portion of the population living at and near the Treaty Ports; but although the match-box has not yet established itself among the household requisites of the people at large, it is yearly gaining in popularity, and surely, if slowly, superseding the primitive flint and steel. It is to be expected, therefore, that the importation of Matches will in a few years more be much greater than it is at present, unless, indeed, the Chinese commence to make the article for themselves; although it is not probable that this will be attempted to any great extent for some time to come. Last year a few enterprising Chinese started a match factory in British Kowloon, with the expressed intention of entering into competition against the sale of Foreign Matches in China. The concern has, however, turned out a failure, from what cause I have not been able to ascertain. But it is quite likely, notwithstanding, that when Matches come to be more generally used in China than they are at present, the manufacture of them will be undertaken in the country by the Chinese, who should be able to provide themselves with a cheaper article than that imported.

Shell-fish, Asabi, Shrimps, etc.—The importation of these varied very little in 1880 comparatively with 1879, having been 48,552 piculs in the first-mentioned year and 47,307 piculs in the last mentioned.

Bicho de Mar.—The remark of the foregoing paragraph also applies to Bicho de Mar, the importation of which was 19,667 piculs in 1879 and 19,819 piculs in 1880, showing but a slight difference.

Ginseng.—The quantity imported in 1879 was 3,586 piculs, and in 1880, 3,614 piculs. Ginseng is used by the Chinese as medicine, and occupies a very important place in their pharmacopœia; they consider it a panacea, and hold that there is scarcely any human disease that will not disappear before its effects. How the root came to be thought so much of is extremely difficult to conjecture, because Foreign physicians who have tested its qualities say that it is scarcely any use at all as a medicine, acting at best as a very mild aperient. The Chinese, however, pay almost fabulous prices for the best Ginseng—that found in Manchuria,—and place the most implicit faith in its virtues. The Ginseng which is imported into China, and to which the above figures refer exclusively, comes from America, Japan, and Corea. The American Ginseng trade commenced a good many years ago, and a writer in the "Chinese Repository," vol. II, page 462, states that the profits afforded by it were at first 500 or 600 per cent, but subsequently decreased so much that, at the time he wrote, the commodity could scarcely be sold in China for first cost. This was in the year 1834; but notwithstanding that

the Ginseng trade was then so unprofitable, the importation was continued, and 11 years later, in 1845, appears to have been 2,532 piculs, valued at \$155,549, or about *Hk.Tb* 103,700. From this time until the year 1880 the quantity imported each year varied very slightly; for the 14 years beginning with 1867 and ending with 1880 the annual average is 2,903 piculs. A noteworthy feature presents itself, however, in connexion with this subject, and that is that while the quantities imported have differed only slightly, their values have varied immensely. Take, for example, the years 1845, 1877, and 1880. As above stated, the importation during the first-mentioned period was 2,532 piculs, worth *Hk.Tb* 103,700; in 1877 the quantity imported was 2,990 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tb* 1,003,585; and in 1880 it was 3,614 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tb* 451,737. The importation of 1879, too, was almost equal to that of 1880, while its value was more than twice as great. The explanation of the above is that there are a good many different kinds of Ginseng imported, and that these vary in price from *Hk.Tb* 700 or *Hk.Tb* 1,500 per picul for Korean or best Japan Ginseng to *Hk.Tb* 180 and *Hk.Tb* 12 for Crude American and Root and Beard respectively. Therefore, when our Returns exhibit marked falling off in the value of the Ginseng imported, it is because the quantity consists of a larger proportion of the common and cheap article.

Dry and Salt Fish.—The quantity of these imported was 66,582 piculs, showing an increase over the importation of 1879 amounting to 3,186 piculs.

Birds' Nests.—There was a decrease under this heading, the importation having been 774 piculs in 1879 and 655 piculs in 1880.

Kerosene Oil.—Since the year 1863, when it first made its appearance as a separate item in our Returns, Kerosene Oil has grown rapidly in importance as an article of import. The following table gives the quantity of Kerosene Oil imported during each year since 1863, inclusive. The figures given, particularly those for the earlier years, do not pretend to strict accuracy. In most issues of our Returns the importation is partially given in piculs, which it has been necessary to convert into gallons; in such cases, 22 gallons have been allowed to one picul. Again, Kerosene Oil is at some of the ports not a sufficiently important article of trade to be entered as a separate item in their Returns; hence it has not been found possible to arrive at the exact quantities imported. But the inaccuracy in the table resulting from those circumstances can only be slight, and I think that the figures are exact enough for ordinary purposes.

<i>Gallons.</i>		<i>Gallons.</i>	
1863	2,100	1872	320,888
1864	12,159	1873	744,006
1865	6,268	1874	70,843
1866	44,416	1875	1,291,486
1867	29,842	1876	905,125
1868	113,736	1877	292,023
1869	78,956	1878	2,408,192
1870	281,004	1879	4,222,929
1871	53,533	1880	3,429,473

One may see from the foregoing figures that the quantity of Kerosene Oil imported annually has not been invariably increasing. The statistics of 18 years show on the whole, however, an enormous increase in the consumption of the article in China, and lead to the conclusion that its importation is at present but small in comparison with what it may be in the future; provided, of course, that the Chinese do not take to utilising the ample mineral oil resources of their own country. That they may do this is quite possible, as anyone will know who reads the passage in Huc's "Chinese Empire," quoted by Dr. HIRTH in his Report on the trade of China for 1877. The oil-wells of Szechwan have as yet only been worked with primitive appliances, and their full value is but little known to the people. Attempts have been made with some success, however, to apply Foreign machinery to the oil-springs of Formosa, and it is quite possible that the Foreign article may after all be deprived of its market in China through the competition of a cheaper rival.

Needles are another of the Foreign manufactured articles which have found great favour with the Chinese. Their importation has been rather unsteady, as some years have exhibited marked decrease, but on the whole there has been increase, and the quantity imported during 1880 was far greater than that imported during any former year; it was 1,935,944 mille, against 892,236 mille imported during the year 1879.

I have now passed in cursory review the articles under the heading of Sundries which were during 1880 the most important in point of value; there yet remain a few of minor note for which a passing consideration will suffice.

Sugar showed increase; 57,382 piculs were imported, as against 45,446 piculs, the figures for 1879.

Betel-nuts increased twofold, 15,045 piculs having been imported in 1879 and 34,138 piculs in 1880.

Cloves and Spices.—Of these, 7,530 piculs were imported, which gives an increase amounting to 1,992 piculs.

Grain and Pulse, and Rice.—Each showed very great decrease. The falling off is satisfactory, however, inasmuch as it proves that the crops at home were sufficient to supply the wants of the people without aid from abroad.

Indigo.—The importation of Indigo was very much smaller during the last three years than it was before, as will be seen on looking at the following figures:—

	<i>Piculs.</i>
Indigo imported during 1874	38,137
" " " 1875	40,447
" " " 1876	25,719
" " " 1877	36,889
" " " 1878	4,410
" " " 1879	3,150
" " " 1880	1,906

Isinglass increased by 1,811 piculs in an importation of 9,868 piculs.

Mangrove Bark.—In this there was a great decrease, the importation of 1880 having been 41,907 piculs, as against 100,090 piculs, the importation of 1879.

Paints increased nearly twofold. The annual value of the *Paints* imported has varied greatly. In 1872 the value of the importation was *HK.Tls* 47,147, and in 1873, *HK.Tls* 108,137, but in 1874 it was only *HK.Tls* 29,412. Similar irregularity has characterised the importation of the past two years.

Pepper showed a decrease of 16,196 piculs.

Rattans increased by 6,316 piculs.

Sandalwood decreased by 10,554 piculs.

Sapanwood also decreased, to the extent of 55,572 piculs.

Window Glass showed a considerable increase; 55,067 boxes were imported in 1880, as against 32,456 boxes in 1879. This increase must not, however, be regarded as the result of sudden increase in demand for *Window Glass*, as it would seem to be that the comparatively large importations of 1877 and 1878 overstocked the markets to such an extent that an ample balance was left with which to commence 1879, hence a diminished importation was rendered necessary during that year. Thus it will appear that the increase of 1880 indicated nothing more than a continuance of the previously existing demand.

EXPORT TRADE.

The value of the *Export trade* of 1880 was *HK.Tls* 77,883,587, an increase of *HK.Tls* 5,602,325 over the corresponding figures for 1879, which were *HK.Tls* 72,281,262. The 1876 *Export trade* still remains, however, the largest on record; but it must be remembered that the exceptionally high figures for that year were due to very unusual excitement in the *Silk* markets, and that in 1877 business returned to its ordinary state. The statistics of 1880 may be taken, then, as manifesting a continuance of the progress which has marked the *Export trade* of *China* for many years. The increase of last year was mainly due to comparatively greater exportation to *Great Britain*, *India*, and the continent of *Europe*; the figures for other countries also show increase, with the unimportant exception of those for *South Africa*, *Japan*, *Cochin China*, *Siam*, *Java*, and the *Sandwich Islands*.

Proceeding to notice separately the various items which make up the *Export trade*, I shall commence with the one which is in the *West* more associated with the country of its origin than any other product of *China*; namely, *Tea*.

TEA.—In order to form a just idea concerning the statistics of the present exportation of *Tea* from *China*, it is necessary to know something about the quantities exported during past years. The history of the *Tea* trade has often been written, and its outline is familiar to most people. I am inclined to believe, however, that a few remarks on the subject may be in place here, as sparing readers the inconvenience of reference to works which may not always be at hand.

The *China Tea* trade may be considered as the growth of two centuries, and as having commenced in the year 1678, when the *East India Company* brought to *England*, as a venture 4,713 lbs. of *Tea*. The speculation was attended with promising results; the importation con-

tinned, and, after a time, began to increase year by year. In 1711 the quantity imported was 141,995 lbs.; in 1735 it attained to over 1,300,000 lbs.; in 1760 it was more than 2,000,000 lbs.; and the importation for the year 1800 amounted to upwards of 20,000,000 lbs. Shortly after this the American and Russian trades began to assume importance. The exportation to the United States was more than 11,000,000 lbs. in 1832, and about the year 1819 the quantity carried overland to Russia *via* Siberia was annually upwards of 5,000,000 lbs. According to the "Chinese Repository," vol. VIII, the total exportation from China in the year 1832 was about 53,000,000 lbs., and in 1839 about 65,000,000 lbs. The market prices in Canton were in the beginning of the latter year as follows:—

Congou	Tls 22 to	Tls 30	per picul.
Caper Congou	18 "	25 "	"
Souchong	42 "	52 "	"
Hungmuy	26 "	34 "	"
Pekoe	40 "	85 "	"
Orange Pekoe	24 "	37 "	"
Hyson	45 "	65 "	"
Young Hyson	30 "	50 "	"
Hyson Skin	18 "	26 "	"
Gunpowder	48 "	62 "	"
Imperial	45 "	59 "	"

Twenty-four years later the exportation had increased nearly threefold, so that in the year 1863, just after the new Treaties had come into force, the total quantity exported was 170,292,267 lbs.; again, during six years more, the increase continued, so that in 1869 the exportation was 203,753,200 lbs.; in 1870 it fell off rather, and only amounted to 184,133,067 lbs.; but since then the advance has been on the whole fully kept up, as the table contained in the following four pages will show.

Our Returns for the past 10 years may be considered as showing the correct quantities of Tea exported from China during that time. Prior to the year 1871, however, it was not found possible to obtain statistics of the very considerable portion of the Russian overland trade carried on from Hankow by way of Fanch'ing (樊城). It would also be very difficult to obtain reliable data concerning the exportation during any consecutive number of years before 1860. The figures which I have given above are, therefore, for periods separated from each other by considerable intervals; but I think that, notwithstanding, they will show sufficiently by what steps the Tea trade has risen to its present dimensions.

I here introduce a table which shows the exportation of Tea to each Tea-consuming country during each of the past 10 years. The principal facts set forth in the table may be summarised as follows:—That the annual exportation of Tea from China has increased from 1,881,827 piculs to 2,204,754 piculs during the last 10 years; that a good deal more than half of all the Tea exported from China is taken by Great Britain and its possessions; that the exportation of Tea from China to the United States has decreased; and that the exportation to Siberia and Russia has increased.

EXPORTATION OF TEA FROM CHINA TO

DESTINATIONS.	1871.				1872.			
	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Great Britain	976,700	64,573	595	1,041,868	976,373	79,045	942	1,057,260
Hongkong	77,099	6,638	7	83,744	77,592	7,553	431	85,576
India	543	3,910	...	4,453	757	5,245	...	6,002
Singapore and Straits	3,170	2	...	3,172	1,615	...	...	1,615
Australia	91,991	28	...	92,019	107,624	65	...	107,689
New Zealand	5,553	11	...	5,564	5,215	11	...	5,226
British America	26	5,015	...	5,041	...	...	...	...
South Africa	1,409	...	...	1,409	6,864	2	...	6,866
Gibraltar .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
British Channel for Orders	17,308	...	...	17,308	...	...	...	...
Total to British Possessions.....	1,173,799	80,177	601	1,253,578	1,176,040	91,821	1,373	1,270,234
United States of America	147,030	151,519	...	298,549	151,098	162,454	120	314,572
Continent of Europe, Russia excepted ...	2,171	647	...	2,818	3,683	737	...	4,420
" " Russia	14,880	...	...	14,880	35,115	...	...	35,115
Siberia and Russia <i>via</i> Kinkho	16,818	...	83,403	100,221	37,980	...	94,927	132,907
Mongolia and Siberia <i>via</i> Fanch'ing .....	...	...	202,184	202,184	...	...	148,964	148,964
Russian Manchuria	382	...	792	1,174	868	...	990	1,818
Japan	206	49	95	350	405	10	659	1,074
Philippine Islands	144	...	...	144	167	...	...	167
Cochin China	2,980	...	...	2,980	1,935	...	...	1,935
Siam	594	...	...	594	1,632	...	...	1,632
Java	3,751	...	...	3,751	6,401	...	...	6,401
South America	879	225	...	1,104	3,690	442	...	4,132
Suez .....	...	...	...	...	246	...	...	246
Sandwich Islands .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL.....	1,362,634	231,617	286,576	1,881,827	1,420,170	256,464	246,993	1,923,627

FOREIGN COUNTRIES, 1871-1880.

1873.				1874.				1875.			
Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.
Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.	Pivols.
909,131	74,449	446	984,026	1,032,724	88,192	3,399	1,124,315	983,295	70,006	2,592	1,055,903
90,088	6,640	2,062	98,790	120,815	3,238	629	124,682	119,849	2,750	491	123,090
514	3,812	...	4,326	496	4,846	...	5,342	274	7,274	...	7,448
1,047	...	...	1,047	2,179	...	...	2,179	1,960	...	...	1,960
87,845	253	...	88,098	99,904	90	...	99,994	106,024	171	...	106,195
8,272	45	...	8,317	9,321	83	...	9,404	10,292	65	...	10,357
...	826	...	826	116	3,332	...	3,448	3,428	...	...	3,428
...	...	...	...	2,644	...	...	2,644	3,861	...	...	3,861
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	7
...
1,096,897	86,024	2,308	1,185,229	1,268,239	99,781	4,028	1,372,048	1,228,940	80,226	3,083	1,312,249
74,539	149,210	373	224,122	96,646	112,868	...	209,514	91,993	129,889	...	221,792
445	71	...	516	2,058	98	...	2,156	12,270	90	...	12,360
33,204	...	...	33,204	32,820	3	...	32,823	53,995	...	4	53,999
47,213	...	100,315	147,528	28,237	...	73,480	101,717	26,029	...	161,767	197,796
...	...	192,311	192,311	...	...	60,246	60,246	...	...	147,019	147,019
1,990	1	4,785	6,776	2,071	...	688	3,659	1,413	...	4,640	6,053
160	9	33	202	195	27	...	222	832	77	...	909
144	...	...	144	238	...	...	238	317	...	...	317
1,909	...	...	1,909	2,075	...	...	2,075	2,177	...	...	2,177
1,552	...	...	1,552	1,482	...	...	1,482	951	...	...	951
9,582	...	...	9,582	8,376	...	...	8,376	10,664	...	...	10,664
3,495	98	...	3,593	662	53	...	715	...	...	...	...
2,602	...	104	2,706	50	4	...	54	...	...	...	...
...
1,274,232	235,413	300,429	1,810,074	1,444,240	212,834	138,442	1,795,515	1,438,611	210,282	316,513	1,965,406

EXPORTATION OF TEA from CHINA to

DESTINATION.	1876.				1877.			
	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.
	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>
Great Britain	960,363	68,154	3,809	1,032,326	1,006,068	61,951	11,418	1,079,437
Hongkong.....	118,777	2,389	74	121,240	188,125	2,525	...	190,650
India.....	440	3,386	...	3,825	1,092	5,870	...	6,962
Singapore and Straits	1,147	43	...	1,189	5,158	...	...	5,158
Australia.....	113,465	47	...	113,512	102,409	116	...	102,525
New Zealand	6,174	15	...	6,189	8,221	19	...	8,240
British America.....	383	...	...	383	...	...	...	...
South Africa.....	3,378	5	...	3,383	6,644	...	...	6,644
Gibraltar.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
British Channel for Opium.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to British Possessions.....	1,204,036	74,038	3,883	1,281,957	1,317,717	70,481	11,418	1,399,616
United States of America.....	98,096	115,535	...	214,531	143,782	126,895	31	270,708
Continent of Europe, Russia excepted ...	11,672	136	...	11,808	2,273	15	...	2,288
" " Russia.....	38,427	1	...	38,428	...	...	...	...
Siberia and Russia via Kiakhta.....	49,030	...	148,653	197,683	69,113	...	145,117	214,230
Mongolia and Siberia via Fanch'ang.....	...	...	183,364	183,364	...	...	128,520	128,520
Russia Manchuria	2,130	...	5,054	7,193	1,775	...	2,610	4,385
Japan.....	511	...	254	765	171	...	52	223
Philippine Islands.....	163	...	...	163	207	...	...	207
Cochin China.....	1,925	...	...	1,925	2,670	...	...	2,670
Siam.....	2,234	...	...	2,234	1,782	3	...	1,785
Java.....	5,301	...	...	5,301	12,955	...	...	12,955
South America.....	15	...	...	15	...	...	...	...
Bass.....	...	4	...	4	6	16	...	22
Sandwich Islands.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	1,415,349	189,714	341,188	1,946,251	1,557,450	197,410	287,248	1,754,908

FOREIGN COUNTRIES, 1871-1880—Continued.

1876.				1879.				1880.			
Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Leaf, Dust, and Brick.	Total.
<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>
992,083	52,846	14,224	1,059,153	934,217	47,366	5,270	986,853	1,051,892	47,537	13,445	1,112,874
172,182	2,323	163	174,868	166,934	4,884	761	172,579	161,109	7,083	273	168,467
1,262	2,956	...	4,218	802	8,244	...	9,046	1,310	11,987	...	13,297
3,825	27	...	3,852	3,580	7	...	3,587	3,673	56	...	3,729
97,347	162	...	97,509	98,279	137	...	98,416	143,563	307	...	143,870
9,065	36	...	9,101	6,452	23	...	6,475	8,507	72	...	8,579
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	190	2,704	...	2,894
10,977	32	...	10,999	7,679	12	...	7,691	3,981	6	...	3,987
...
3,818	...	...	3,818	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,290,557	58,572	14,387	1,363,516	1,217,943	60,673	6,031	1,284,647	1,373,275	69,752	13,220	1,456,247
114,381	11,3407	...	227,988	144,934	122,019	...	266,953	150,743	118,743	254	269,740
2,638	...	...	2,638	2,008	40	...	2,048	3,651	65	...	3,716
479	...	...	479	13,648	...	...	13,648	41,155	...	63	41,218
84,496	846	190,058	275,400	130,098	450	267,456	400,004	77,210	...	219,639	296,869
...	...	55,149	55,149	...	...	90,246	90,246	...	...	107,636	107,636
2,857	...	2,583	5,440	3,641	...	7,323	10,964	5,270	...	13,468	19,238
161	1	1,485	1,647	101	43	...	144	468	2	...	470
209	...	...	209	167	...	...	167	235	...	...	235
4,273	...	...	4,273	2,490	...	...	2,490	1,574	...	...	1,574
1,909	...	...	1,909	762	...	...	762	1,653	...	...	1,653
15,611	...	...	15,611	4,686	...	...	4,686	3,859	...	...	3,859
69	...	...	69	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
87	...	...	87	453	9	...	462	7	61	6	74
...	...	...	...	518	...	...	518	25	...	...	25
1,517,617	172,826	263,662	1,954,105	1,523,419	183,234	373,096	2,079,709	1,661,325	188,643	334,806	2,204,774

The Tea Trade of 1880.—The Tea season which began in the summer of last year seems to have been an unsatisfactory one. Following closely upon a period of unusual prosperity, it was marked in a great measure by reaction. Purchases for the Foreign markets were in the majority of cases unproductive of profit, and merchants seem to have met with disappointment throughout. Former Trade Reports, notably Mr. HIPPISLEY'S for 1876, have described very fully the various characteristics of the Chinese Tea markets, and I could hardly venture to add anything on the subject without danger of repetition. One thing, however, I may notice here, and that is the mutual agreement which Foreign Tea merchants entered into during the past two years to abstain from competition to purchase the first Teas of each season, and thus to deprive the Chinese of their arbitrary power over prices. The steps taken were attended with a good deal of success in the 1879 season, as the Foreigners united with a hearty goodwill to effect their purpose. The new-born zeal proved, however, of an evanescent nature, and at the commencement of the season under review the combination was not resumed with much energy. The Chinese, on the other hand, profiting by their experience of the previous year, acted as one man, and with a determination to hold their position. They kept back the new leaf from the Hankow market until the 15th May, and, in addition, offered at first only the best chops; the Russian merchants are always willing to purchase these at any price, hence the ordinary Teas which followed were made to appear unusually cheap by comparison, and so were bought at higher rates than they would have commanded under ordinary circumstances. Thus the Chinese, by judicious union, regained the ground from which they had been temporarily driven.

The following few notes concerning the opening of each principal Tea market may prove of some interest.

Hankow.—The season opened on the 15th May with the purchase of a chop of Ningchows at Tls 48 per picul. The first sale of Hankow district leaf took place on the day following, when a chop of Laoyangs was purchased by an English firm at Tls 24.50 per picul. The settlements effected during the first week were as follow:—

Ningchows	67,440 half-chests at Tls 28 to Tls 52 per picul.
Hohows	7,630 " " 22 " 27 "
Opacks	49,980 " " 20 " 30.50 "
Oonams	39,460 " " 19 " 29 "
Oonfaws	43,290 " " 25 " 34.50 "
Seangtams	14,300 " " 14 " 16 "

Shanghai.—The season for Black Tea opened on the 10th June. The new leaf was not equal in quality to that of the previous year. Settlements during the first fortnight amounted to about 34,000 half-chests at the following prices:—

Hohows	Tls 14 to Tls 22.50 per picul.
Tungmokwans	" 20.50 " 27 "
Keemuns	" 25 " 30 "
Ningchows	" 16 " 26 "
Oonams and Oonfaws	" 14 " 22 "
Opacks	" 15.25 " 20 "
Winchows	" 24 " 25 "

The market for Green Tea commenced on the 16th June, the purchase of a chop of unusually fine Pingsueys at T\$ 31 being the opening transaction. The crop of Pingsueys turned out better than the average both in the cup and in purity of leaf, though in colour it differed little from the crop of the previous season. The yield of the various kinds of Green Tea was abundant, and prices ranged comparatively low. The settlements during the first week were almost entirely on American account, and amounted to 2,132 half-chests of Pingsueys at T\$ 19.50 to T\$ 31.

Foehoe.—The market opened in the beginning of June with the following quotations for Congous:—

Sueykuts and Kienyongs	T\$ 12.50 to T\$ 21 per picul.
Sayunes	" 13 " " 25 "
Tonghingongs	" 18 " " 21 "
Yunghows	" 18 " " 25 "
Panyongs	" 23 " " 34 "
Paklings	" 18 " " 32 "
Paklus	" 25.50 " " 38.50 "
Seumoes and Kaisows	" 20 " " 36 "

Business in Pakling Congous was fairly brisk at the above rates, and Kaisows were also in good demand.

Amoy.—The market regularly opened on the 8th June. Mr. Commissioner WOODRUFF says, "The quality of the first crop was about on a par with previous seasons. The common, fair, and good grades were scarce; the superior, fine, and better sorts in full supply." On the 10th June a settlement of Amoy Oolongs, consisting of 9,000 half-chests, was made on American account. Amoy Congous did not meet with much attention until some time after the market had opened. A good business was done in Formosa Oolongs at \$31 to \$45, duty paid.

Canton.—The season fully opened in the beginning of April. The crop was considered a good one, although slightly inferior to that of the previous season; the infusion of the leaf was strong and bright. Business done was, as usual, large. Settlements from the commencement of the new arrivals to the end of the month were, in Canton, 27,500 boxes Congou, 1,500 boxes Orange Pekoe, and 8,000 boxes Scented Capers; in Macao, 23,000 boxes Congou. Considering the quality of the leaf, prices were in advance of the previous season's opening prices by T\$ 6 to T\$ 8. The highest prices were obtained in the beginning of the month, a slight decline having taken place towards the end. Quotations were:—

Congou, "good medium to fine"	T\$ 22 to T\$ 25
" "medium"	" 18 " " 21
" "common"	" 15 " " 17.50

The stock at the end of the month amounted to nearly 30,000 boxes.

Some Remarks concerning the Position and Prospects of China Tea.—Much has been written of late about the dangers which are threatening the supremacy of China in the Tea markets of the world, and times are certainly changed since she held the monopoly of Tea

production. India has for the past 20 years been strenuously aiming at rivalry, and has succeeded in producing an article which has gained a good deal of favour in England. The United States, too, are coming into notice as growers of Tea, although a considerable period must elapse before their competition can exercise very much influence. But that Americans are sanguine of successfully establishing the industry in their country, and are commencing the cultivation of the leaf energetically, the Reports of the Department of Agriculture, published in Washington, amply testify.

Many circumstances have combined to place Indian Tea in the position it at present occupies. The chief among these is that it is grown and manipulated under the supervision of Europeans, who can thus prepare the different varieties or qualities to suit the requirements of the markets. Another very important advantage exists in the fact that the yield of each season's crop can always be estimated beforehand with sufficient accuracy to guide buyers in making their purchases. In China the case is different. The Tea is grown and made ready for the market by Native agriculturalists, who pursue year after year a stereotyped system of preparation, with scarcely any knowledge of the changes which are ever taking place in the prevailing taste of Foreign consumers; the quantity likely to be forthcoming during any season, too, can only be roughly guessed at from the vague reports of compradors, etc., whose statements are as often misleading as not. It thus happens that buyers of Tea on the Chinese markets are constantly forced to pursue their operations to a great extent in the dark; not knowing the state of the crops, they are always ignorant of in what measure the supply will meet or outstrip the demand. Seeing that things are so, one may well ask how it comes that the Chinese are so careless regarding the trade of their country as not to have made any effort during all these years to place matters on a more satisfactory footing. It has to be taken into consideration, however, that China is a Tea-consuming as well as a Tea-producing country, differing herein essentially from India. Various estimates have from time to time been formed regarding the quantity of Tea annually consumed by the Chinese, and trustworthy authorities have placed it at 2,000,000,000 lbs.; but from calculations which I have made I am inclined to think that these figures are much lower than the actual quantity. Take, for example, the consumption of Tea in a European country. In the year 1879, the quantity of Tea retained for home consumption in the United Kingdom was 160,432,284 lbs. The population of the United Kingdom is about 35,000,000, and that of China about 300,000,000, or more than eight times greater; 160,432,284 multiplied by 8 gives 1,283,458,272, so that, supposing the Chinese to consume individually the same quantity of Tea that the people of the United Kingdom do, it follows that the annual consumption in China ought to be about 1,283,458,272 lbs. As is well known, however, Tea occupies an almost equal position among the wants of a Chinese with, collectively, tea, coffee, spirits, etc., among those of a European. Hence it will be quite fair, I think, to reckon the consumption of Tea in China at twice as much in proportion to the population as in England, and therefore at over 2,500,000,000 lbs. annually, or about eight times more than the total quantity exported to Foreign countries. If, then, almost all the Tea produced by China goes to supply the wants of her own population, it is not surprising that the Chinese do not take such pains as they might to suit the tastes of their Foreign customers. But the demand on Foreign markets for China Tea is as active as ever, and has been year after year steadily increasing. I think, therefore, that so

long as the Chinese abstain from adulteration, and try to prevent the making up of such spurious compounds as "Maloo Mixture," there need not be much fear of the leaf they produce losing its ground through Foreign competition, for increase of wealth and population and the spread of luxury will ensure constant and increasing demand for all the Tea that is likely to be grown in China and elsewhere.

SILK.—The exportation of Silk during 1880 amounted to 114,721 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 29,831,444. In the matter of quantity, this is more by 15,445 piculs than the exportation of the great Silk year, 1876, although in point of value less by *Hk.Ths* 5,080,894, thus proving a serious decline in prices since then. Comparing the figures for 1879 and 1880 with each other, we find that there appears on the whole an increase in favour of the latter year of 8,888 piculs; the several items also show increase, with the single exception of Coarse and Wild Silk, which exhibits a falling off of 615 piculs. Refuse Silk shows a very great increase, viz., 5,066 piculs in an exportation of 18,861 piculs, a fact which goes largely to prove Mr. NOETZLI'S statement of a year ago, that fabrics made from this kind of Silk are rapidly coming into favour in Europe. Refuse Silk, when woven together with Cotton, forms a very durable and serviceable cloth, which has the advantage, moreover, of being sufficiently cheap to be within the means of most people.

As regards the Silk trade of 1880, there was little to distinguish it from that of ordinary years; some losses occurred, but profit was realised in many cases, and, generally speaking, exporters fared satisfactorily, while the Chinese dealers made gain almost throughout the year. The following are short summaries of the principal features of the Silk markets of Shanghai and Canton during the year.

Shanghai.—The year commenced with a good demand for nearly all kinds of Silk; the following were some of the quotations:—

Koo Fongsing's	<i>Ths</i> 415
Mountain	395
Gold Elephant	372.50
Yellow Silk:—	
Mienchows	245
Szechwans	230

Towards the end of January prices for Tsatees declined *Ths* 10 to *Ths* 12.50, but remained unaltered for Taysaams and Yellows. In the beginning of February a few transactions took place in chop and market Tsatees, with the effect of slightly raising prices. A large business was done, too, on American account in Re-reels, best chop Tsatees selling at *Ths* 462½ to *Ths* 472½. After the Chinese New Year holidays a few transactions took place in fine Yellows for the Continent, and also in coarse Yellows and Taysaams for India. Blue Elephants were sold at *Ths* 390. About the middle of March discouraging news was received from home, and buyers abstained from making offers. Tsatees fell *Ths* 5 to *Ths* 10 per picul, but without inducing purchasers to operate to any great extent. Re-reels were at this time briskly inquired after for the American market. The total settlements for the 1879-80 season amounted on the 1st April to 62,000 bales. After the first week in April business became more lively, prices rose, and numerous sales of

best Tseatles were effected; Taysaams were also in good demand, but the stock of them was limited. A large purchase of Dancing Bear took place at **Tls** 382.50, and a small lot of Mountain Chop changed hands at the same price. Business in Re-reels for the American market was brisk, and a good many sales of Tseatles were made at rates varying between **Tls** 365 and **Tls** 460. In the beginning of May news was received that the crop in Europe promised well, and as a good yield was also expected in China, prices fell generally about **Tls** 10 per picul. No. 4 Tseatles were sold at **Tls** 362.50; some purchases of market Kahings and Fooyungs also took place, the former being sold at **Tls** 305 to **Tls** 317.50, and the latter at **Tls** 235. Shortly afterwards there were a few sales of Red Peacocks at **Tls** 365, and of Large Elephants at **Tls** 370. During the first half of May there was a good demand for Re-reels, Tseatles being sold at **Tls** 350 to **Tls** 460, and Hainings at **Tls** 360 to **Tls** 385. The 1879-80 season ended in the beginning of June, the total settlements amounting to 69,500 bales, against 65,200 bales the season before.

The new season's Silk appeared on the 8th June, when some settlements took place at the following rates:—

Mountain No. 1	Tls 357.50
Blue Elephants	" 350
Bird Chop	"
Fonglings	"
S. S. S. Dollar	" 330 to Tls 332.50
T. C. K. Phoenix	"
Fongyuen	"
Market No. 5 Tseatles	" 310 " 312.50
9/12 Moss	" 260 " 280

Throughout June business continued brisk, rates advancing **Tls** 5 to **Tls** 7.50, accompanied by a rise in exchange, which increased the cost laid down in Europe 6d. the pound. The commencement of July brought a decline in the prices of Tseatles and White Kahings amounting to **Tls** 10 to **Tls** 15 in the case of the former, and **Tls** 2.50 in that of the latter. New Yellow Silks were placed upon the market during the first week of July, the following being the opening rates:—

Fuyangs	Tls 328.75
Minchows	" 282.50
Szechwans	" 205 to Tls 210

There were also some sales of Tseatle Re-reels for the American market at rates varying between **Tls** 340 and **Tls** 440. During the middle of the month prices for some kinds again fell, although business remained fairly active; No. 4 Tseatles were sold at **Tls** 335 to **Tls** 337.50, and Blue Elephants at **Tls** 330 to **Tls** 332.50. Best Kahings were scarce, and their value was kept up, No. 1 chops being sold at the high price of **Tls** 360. In the first week of August a certain stringency in the money market caused an almost general decline in prices to the extent of **Tls** 5 to **Tls** 10; Best Kahings, however, still sold for **Tls** 360. About the middle of the month a good demand sprang up for Wénchow, Fuying, and Szechwan Silks, prices for which advanced

Tb 5. Some settlements of Re-reels were made for America, when Tsatlees were sold at from **Tb 315** to **Tb 410**, and Hainings at **Tb 355** to **Tb 400**. The total settlements for the new season were at the end of August 33,500 bales. During September the demand was generally good, and the month closed with the total settlements increased to 41,000 bales. In October there was a scarcity of money among Chinese dealers, who became anxious, in consequence, to dispose of their stocks; prices for higher qualities fell **Tb 2.50** to **Tb 5**, though the decline was not so great as might have been expected under the circumstances. Business was brisk during November, but at first there was reduction in rates for Yellows, which fell **Tb 10** to **Tb 20**; transactions for Europe were fairly large and Re-reels for America were also in good demand. Prices rose towards the end of the month, and Tsatlees were firm at **Tb 350**, while Fuyungs were sold at **Tb 227.50**. The aspect of the market changed very little during December; a slight decline took place in the value of some chops, No. 4 Tsatlees were offered at **Tb 340** to **Tb 342.50**, and Hangchows were freely dealt in at **Tb 260** to **Tb 290**. The total settlements from the commencement of the season to the end of December were 66,000 bales.

Canton.—A review of this market is given by Mr. Commissioner McKEAN in Part II of this volume, so, being studious of brevity, I will merely reproduce here, for the sake of convenience, a few of its principal features, as detailed in Mr. McKEAN'S Report.

The year was to a great extent an unsatisfactory one for exporters of Canton Silk. The demand for Europe and America was small, but, as if to balance this, shipments to India were on a much larger scale than usual, and stocks were thus prevented from accumulating, as they would otherwise have done, to the serious disadvantage of holders. Prices for Raw Silk fluctuated little during the year. The new season's Silk began to arrive in May, but did not find any purchasers until June, when a fair business was done on Continental account, but at lower rates than those which had ruled in the preceding April for the previous season's Silk. Business was desultory from June to the end of September; during October there was a slight improvement, but in the beginning of November prices again fell; towards the close of November, however, a rise of **85** or **90** took place, the advance being maintained until the end of the year.

SUGAR.—Next in our list of Exports after Tea and Silk, but at a great distance from either, comes, in point of importance, Sugar. The quantity of Sugar exported from China during 1880 was 1,238,196 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tb* 3,263,889; the quantity exported during the previous year was 726,836 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tb* 2,223,882: thus we have an increase of 511,360 piculs, and a difference in value of *Hk.Tb* 1,040,007. The increase is almost wholly due to the fact that nearly twice as much Brown Sugar was exported in 1880 as in 1879; White Sugar shows a slight falling off, and the increase in Sugar Candy is but trifling. The ports of Takow and Swatow were the principal contributors to the increase in Brown Sugar, the former in a special degree. Mr. RUSSELL, in his Report on the trade of Takow, attributes the advance to two causes: firstly, "a report was current in Europe that the best-root crops in France were likely to be a failure; and secondly, the American Customs in the earlier portion of the year raised the Tariff rate on imported Sugars, but such Sugars as were on their way to the States, or as could be proved to have been settled before the fixed date, were passed in under the old duty. Hence a tremendous rush was made to secure Sugars."

STRAW BRAID.—There was a great increase in the exportation of Straw Braid, which amounted to 48,070 piculs, as against 35,898 piculs exported in 1879. The increase was almost equally shared in by Tientsin and Chefoo, although there was proportionately a greater increase at Tientsin than at Chefoo, as the exportation from the former port is not so large as the exportation from the latter. Straw Braid has rapidly increased in importance as an article of trade between China and Foreign countries, and a great future may be in store for it, provided only that the Chinese who manufacture it can be made to vary their patterns more, and thus better meet the changes which fashion is ever bringing about.

CASSIA LOGNEA.—The exportation under this heading during 1880 amounted to only 38,785 piculs, a very great decrease when compared with the exportation of 1879, which was 99,633 piculs. The falling off is attributed by Mr. McKEAN to the fact that the quantity exported in 1879 was so far in excess of that for which there was demand that the markets both in Europe and the United States became largely overstocked. It is even said that this is affecting the exportation of 1881, which is expected to be less than it might have been had circumstances remained as usual.

MATS AND MATTING.—The quantity of Mats and Matting exported during 1880 was 384,680 pieces, valued at *Hk.Tls* 533,027, as against 482,479 pieces, valued at *Hk.Tls* 290,021, exported the year before. It will be noticed that there is a considerable decrease in quantity, but, on the other hand, an increase in value still more considerable. This proves, of course, that the Mats exported in 1880 were of a much more valuable kind than those exported in 1879.

CHINESE CLOTHING, BOOTS, AND SHOES.—These are exported from China for the use of Chinese who have settled abroad. The value of the exportation of 1880 was *Hk.Tls* 327,548, as against *Hk.Tls* 448,598, the value of the 1879 exportation; thus exhibiting a decrease amounting to *Hk.Tls* 121,050.

CHINAWARE, EARTHENWARE, AND POTTERY.—Of these, 75,142 piculs, worth *Hk.Tls* 379,574, were exported in 1880, and 89,913 piculs, worth *Hk.Tls* 338,371, in 1879, showing a decrease in quantity of 14,771 piculs, although an increase in value of *Hk.Tls* 41,203, which is, of course, due to a difference in cost between the articles exported in the one year and those exported in the other. A good deal of the Chinaware which leaves the country should, according to Mr. Commissioner DETRING, be classed under the heading of Curios, consisting as it does of articles of virtu rather than of articles of utility.

HAIR shows an increase of 1,392 piculs in a total exportation of 19,570 piculs.

FIRE-CRACKERS.—Like many other articles in the list of Exports, Fire-crackers are exported for the use of Chinese in various places, and so cannot be regarded as of much importance in the trade between China and Foreign countries. The quantity exported during the year under review was 27,051 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 260,010, as against 35,521 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 334,700, exported the year before.

HIDES.—This was a very insignificant article of export prior to the year 1871, and even then the quantity of Hides exported was only 329 piculs; in the year following, however, the

exportation amounted to 3,971 piculs, and it increased afterwards so quickly that in 1877 it had reached 56,627 piculs; since that time it has fallen off considerably, and was only 20,623 piculs in 1880. The great exportation of 1877 was partly caused by the unusually large demand for military accoutrements, occasioned by the war then going on between Russia and Turkey. The decrease of late has been doubtless due to ordinary causes.

MUSK.—There was very little difference between the quantity of Musk exported in 1879 and that exported in 1880. The figures for the latter year are 30.17 piculs, representing a value of *Hk.Tb* 234,162, as against 34.32 piculs, value *Hk.Tb* 238,424, the figures for 1879, thus showing a decrease during 1880 of 4.15 piculs, and a falling off in value of *Hk.Tb* 4,262.

NUTGALLS.—Of this commodity 23,330 piculs, value *Hk.Tb* 227,605, were exported, as against 24,656 piculs, value *Hk.Tb* 177,844, exported in 1879. It will be remarked that although the quantity shows decrease, the value shows increase, a fact which proves either improvement in quality or higher prices for the same class of article, or perhaps both.

RHUBARB.—The exportation of Rhubarb has been increasing slowly during the past fourteen years. It was 2,174 piculs during 1867, but for the eight years between that and 1876 it only averaged annually about 3,500 piculs; a considerable increase took place in 1876, when 5,248 piculs were exported; in 1878, however, the exportation fell to 4,835 piculs. The last two years exhibit satisfactory increase, the quantity exported during 1879 having been 5,292 piculs, and that exported during 1880, 6,153 piculs.

PRESERVES.—By far the greater portion of the Preserves exported from China is shipped from Canton. The Preserved Ginger manufactured by the confectioners of that city is a highly esteemed sweetmeat both in Europe and America. The quantity of Preserves exported from China in 1880 amounted to 24,360 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tb* 205,169, being the greatest exportation on record.

MEDICINES.—Of these, 28,676 piculs, worth *Hk.Tb* 194,451, were exported, as against 18,402 piculs, worth *Hk.Tb* 108,071, exported in 1879.

RAW COTTON.—Of this commodity 18,077 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tb* 180,071, were exported, showing an increase over the exportation of the previous year amounting to 5,716 piculs. The increase is doubtless largely due to the fact that last season was a favourable one for the cultivation of Cotton in China.

GLASSWARE, BANGLES, ETC.—The exportation amounted to 8,769 piculs, worth *Hk.Tb* 169,132, as against 7,935 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tb* 153,312, exported in 1879.

TOBACCO.—According to Mr. Commissioner WHITE, about 4,000 piculs of Tobacco were shipped to Great Britain during the year under review. Many parts of China are capable of producing Tobacco of excellent quality, and if the Chinese growers possessed a knowledge of what suited Foreign taste, they would no doubt find means to cultivate a leaf that would find a ready market in Europe. The quantity of Tobacco exported during 1880 was 19,077 piculs, worth *Hk.Tb* 167,931, as against 16,207 piculs, worth *Hk.Tb* 161,842, exported the year before.

BEANS AND BEANCAKE.—These are exported in the first place from Newchwang and Chefoo. The greater part of what is produced is consumed in the country; what is exported goes chiefly to Japan. The exportation of 1880 was 154,645 piculs, as against 70,848 piculs exported in 1879; the large increase was probably caused by improved demand in Japan.

SKINS.—Representing as this heading does all kinds of Skins, from Rabbit to Sable, which are shipped from China, it is not surprising that the quantity and value entered under it do not always bear the same proportion to each other. Both, however, show increase in 1880, the quantity exported having been 244,193 pieces, valued at *Hk.Tls* 152,486, as against 145,852 pieces, valued at *Hk.Tls* 96,615, the exportation of 1879.

HEMP.—There were exported of this 19,548 piculs, worth *Hk.Tls* 160,602.

GRAIN AND PULSE.—There was a decrease under this heading of 47,692 piculs.

SAFFLOWER.—Of this commodity 1,781 piculs were exported in 1880 and 2,552 piculs in 1879. Safflower is used generally as a dye, and large quantities of it are employed in China in the manufacture of rouge; the Chinese also use it for medicine.

GRASSCLOTH.—This is largely exported for the use of Chinese abroad, but it is also used in Europe and America, to a limited extent, for making ladies' summer dresses. The quantity exported in 1880 was 1,185 piculs, as against 1,548 piculs in 1879.

CAMPHOR.—Chinese Camphor comes from Formosa; 12,327 piculs were shipped from Tamsui in 1880, as against 11,133 piculs the year before, showing an increase of 1,194 piculs. Mr. Commissioner LAY attributes this increase to competition among the steamer companies and consequent low freights, which induced shipments. The demand for the article in Hongkong was, it appears, dull throughout the year.

COAST TRADE.

The designation of Coast Trade, being applied in our Returns exclusively to the trade carried on between the Treaty Ports of China by means of vessels entering and clearing at the offices of the Foreign Customs, includes but a portion—in some respects a small portion—of the actual home trade of the country. In so far as concerns the transport of Foreign goods from one port to another, our statistics may be taken as comprehending almost the whole, but the interchange of Native products between port and port is so largely effected through the medium of junks, of whose cargoes there are no published records, that its extent and value cannot even be guessed at. These facts have been often put forward before; still it may not be amiss to once again remind those interested in the Returns of the Treaty Ports that the Coast trade treated of there is only a peculiar portion of a trade the actual dimensions of which are unknown to any.

The table contained on pages 26 and 27 in Part I of the Returns divides the Coast trade into two parts, outwards and inwards, the former having reference to all the merchandise shipped at one Treaty Port for another, and the latter to all arriving at one Treaty Port from

another. As both parts, therefore, represent to a great extent the same goods and vessels, the value of the trade and the tonnage employed in it are expressed by the figures pertaining to either. It will be noticed, however, that these figures do not agree; this is because vessels leaving a port near the end of one year do not perhaps arrive at their destination until the beginning of the next, and are thus not carried to account in the Returns of both ports for the same period. Another reason is that the values under the heading of Outwards are those at the port of shipment, whereas the values under the heading of Inwards are those at the port of discharge, which are presumably higher.

The value of the Coast trade outwards during the year 1880 was *Hk.Tls* 136,038,509, showing an increase over the corresponding figures for 1879 amounting to *Hk.Tls* 2,253,296; the value of the Inward trade was *Hk.Tls* 155,306,523, an increase in comparison with the Inward trade of 1879 amounting to *Hk.Tls* 8,318,627. Looking at the statements of the shipping engaged, we also find increase, the clearances of vessels at all ports having been 9,177, representing a carrying capacity of 5,880,106 tons, as against 8,812 vessels, with a capacity of 5,353,860 tons, cleared during 1879. The entries at all ports were 8,038 vessels, representing 5,059,635 tons, as compared with 8,455 vessels, representing 5,332,347 tons, the entries of the year before.

The Coast trade carried on in Foreign vessels has been steadily increasing since its commencement, and there is no doubt that it will continue to increase in the future. Each year extends the feeling among the Chinese that Foreign vessels possess immeasurable advantages over Native, and as time wears on we may expect to see the antiquated junk pass out of use and become forgotten. I think that the telegraph system just commenced will go far towards hastening this change, as it will accelerate the conduct of business and create a general want for the quickest means of transport.

TRANSIT TRADE.

The value of the merchandise carried inwards and outwards between the Treaty Ports and the interior of the country under cover of Treaty Transit Passes was during the year 1880 as under:—

INWARDS.	OUTWARDS.
<i>Hk.Tls</i> 12,384,402	<i>Hk.Tls</i> 2,441,644

When we consider that the value of the Foreign goods imported was *Hk.Tls* 79,293,452, and also that the value of the Native goods exported was *Hk.Tls* 77,883,587, it will appear that the Transit Pass privilege is not availed of to any great extent. The principal cause of this is that the Likin taxes are, as a rule, no greater than the half-Tariff Duty, and that there is, in consequence, no inducement to depart from the old system. Another cause may lie in the fact that until the end of last year the Transit system was at most of the ports carried out

under the provisions of the Treaty of Tientsin, only Foreign goods owned by Foreigners being considered entitled to the cover of Transit Passes when conveyed to the interior; now, however, that the provisions of the Nanking Treaty are allowed to operate generally, and that Passes can be taken out at all ports for Chinese-owned goods of Foreign origin, there will perhaps be an increase in the Transit trade, and it will be interesting to watch the effect produced in our Returns by the change. Mr. Commissioner HANNEN thinks that so far as Foochow is concerned the only difference will be in the number of Passes; these will now be taken out by the small Chinese dealers, and there will thus be more Passes granted, but each will cover a smaller quantity of goods than was the case when the privilege was only open to Foreign and, consequently, large firms. The following statement shows the value of the Transit trade of each port last year:—

Port.	Transit Trade Inwards.	Transit Trade Outwards.	Total Transit Trade.	Port.	Transit Trade Inwards.	Transit Trade Outwards.	Total Transit Trade.
	<i>Rs. Rs.</i>	<i>Rs. Rs.</i>	<i>Rs. Rs.</i>		<i>Rs. Rs.</i>	<i>Rs. Rs.</i>	<i>Rs. Rs.</i>
Newchwang .....	...	...	...	<i>Brought forward</i>	11,845,430	1,074,328	13,819,658
Tientsin .....	...	...	...	Winchow	12,309	...	12,309
Chefoo .....	...	...	...	Foochow	310,083	208,755	518,838
Ichang	989,188	689,095	1,678,183	Tamsui .....	...	2,423	2,423
Hankow	5,053,366	386,674	5,439,040	Takow .....	...	...	...
Kinkiang	878,191	...	878,191	Amoy	215,400	251,176	466,576
Wuhu	279,092	...	279,092	Swatow .....	...	...	...
Chinkiang	2,922,652	197,386	3,120,038	Canton .....	...	...	...
Shanghai	864,672	568,959	1,433,631	Kiangchow	522	4,547	5,069
Ningpo	857,369	131,214	988,583	Pakhoi	649	515	1,164
<i>Carried forward</i>	11,845,430	1,074,328	13,819,658	TOTAL	12,384,402	2,441,644	14,826,046

The Transit trade of Ichang has increased rapidly since the place was opened to Foreign commerce, and bids fair to become a large one. It is probable that after a time Ichang will become a very important distributing centre for Foreign goods, and monopolise the trade at present carried on between Hankow and Szechwan. The outward Transit trade at Ichang was last year greater than that at any of the other ports; the commodities brought under Pass for shipment to Foreign countries were Medicines, Musk, Rhubarb, Safflower, Silk, White Wax, and other articles of minor note. Hankow, as seen above, has the largest inward Transit trade of all the ports; this is largely due to its central and generally convenient situation. Eight provinces are named in our Returns as supplied with all kinds of Foreign goods from Hankow; these are Hupeh, Hunan, Honan, Szechwan, Kweichow, Shensi, Shansi, and Kwangsi, but it is likely that the latter province will before long be entirely supplied from Pakhoi, as it belongs naturally to the trade district of that port. The outward Transit trade of Hankow is

small, and consists only in Tea and Tobacco. Kiukiang occupied the fourth place last year as a distributor of Foreign goods; a great portion of the articles imported by China are represented in the Transit trade of this port. The area of distribution from Kiukiang, too, seems to extend farther in one direction than it naturally should, as Mr. Commissioner GLOVER points out in his Report that Passes were granted last year to cover goods to Wuchang-fu, the city on the opposite bank of the Yangtze to Hankow. It is most likely, however, that these Passes were taken out on behalf of Native boats belonging to Wuchang and trading to Kiukiang; the supercargoes of these boats, if unable to obtain cargoes of Native produce, would probably purchase of Foreign goods what was necessary to defray the expenses of the homeward voyage, and place the goods, perhaps, under cover of Transit Passes. This is the explanation given of similar occurrences by Mr. HIPPLISLEY in his Report for 1876. The inward Transit trade from Wuhu is large in proportion to the Import trade of the place; Mr. Acting Commissioner PALM is of opinion that it would be still greater if Wuhu possessed better accommodation for the storage of goods. Chinking comes next to Hankow in the value of its Transit trade inwards. A good deal of the merchandise which ought naturally to be distributed from Wuhu is distributed from Chinking, because, as mentioned above, the former port does not possess good storage accommodation, and therefore is not a place where goods can be conveniently collected pending opportunity for sale. Shanghai has a very small Transit trade in comparison with its Import and Export trade; the value of its trade outwards under Pass was, however, greater than that of any of the ports except Ichang. Ningpo ranked sixth last year in the value of its inward Transit trade, and came immediately after Shanghai. The inward trade of Ningpo was considerably greater in 1880 than in 1879, on account of increase in the quantity of Lead and of Kerosene Oil, for which Passes were taken out. The Transit trade of Foochow and Amoy is small in proportion to the Foreign trade of those ports.

The following are the names of the provinces supplied under Treaty Transit Pass with Foreign goods, and also the names of the various Treaty Ports from which the provinces are supplied. The particulars have special reference to the year 1880:—

NAME OF PROVINCE.	PORT FROM WHICH SUPPLIED.	NAME OF PROVINCE.	PORT FROM WHICH SUPPLIED.
Shensi.....	Hankow.	Shantung.....	Shanghai, Chinking.
Shensi.....	"	Kiangsu.....	Wuhu, Chinking, and Shanghai.
Honan.....	Hankow, Wuhu, Chinking, and Shanghai.	Anhui.....	Kiukiang, Wuhu, Chinking, Shanghai, and Ningpo.
Hapeh.....	Hankow and Kiukiang.	Kiangsi.....	Kiukiang, Chinking, Shanghai, and Ningpo.
Szechwan.....	Ichang, Hankow, and Shanghai.	Chikiang.....	Shanghai, Ningpo, and Wenchow.
Honan.....	Hankow.	Fukien.....	Shanghai, Ningpo, Wenchow, Foochow, and Amoy.
Kweichow.....	"	Kwangtung.....	Kiangchow.
Kwangsi.....	Hankow and Pakhoi.		

SHIPPING.

The entries and clearances of vessels at the Foreign Customs of the Treaty Ports during 1880 amounted to 22,070, representing 15,874,352 tons of shipping, being an increase over the corresponding figures for 1879 of 1,561 entries and clearances, and 1,047,131 tons. The following statement shows the number of entries and clearances and the tonnage in each of the past 10 years:—

YEAR.	Entries and Clearances.	Tonnage.	YEAR.	Entries and Clearances.	Tonnage.
		<i>Tons.</i>			<i>Tons.</i>
1871.....	14,063	7,381,517	1876.....	17,046	10,226,421
1872.....	17,090	8,486,473	1877.....	18,807	11,083,591
1873.....	15,381	8,227,754	1878.....	20,928	13,446,394
1874.....	15,622	9,305,801	1879.....	21,409	13,027,221
1875.....	16,094	9,867,641	1880.....	22,070	15,874,352

The ratio of the number of steamers to the number of sailing vessels engaged in the China trade is becoming larger year by year; this is almost entirely caused by increase in steamers, sailing vessels not having lost ground to any great extent. In 1871 the entries and clearances of steamers numbered 8,218, and those of sailing vessels 6,745; in 1880 the former amounted to 17,300, and the latter to only 5,670. The average tonnage per vessel, too, has increased as regards steamers, but remained nearly stationary as regards sailing vessels.

The increase in shipping last year was participated in by most of the nationalities whose vessels trade in China waters, the only falling off having been under the Dutch, French, German, Siamese, and Spanish flags. There was a considerable decrease in the number of Dutch vessels, although the tonnage exhibited very little change. Chinese shipping reached higher figures in 1880 than in any former year. The rapid increase under this heading has been already noticed. Foreign-built Chinese vessels have now a much greater share in the carrying trade than any other vessels except British, but the difference between the number of Chinese vessels and the number of British vessels engaged in the trade will probably after some years be greatly reduced. American shipping, after steadily falling off for some years, showed increase in 1880. The vessels under the Japanese flag are increasing in number rapidly: the entries and clearances of Japanese vessels in 1875 amounted to only 92, representing 96,555 tons; last year there were 201 entries and clearances, representing 167,902 tons. During the last 10 years the annual number of Russian vessels trading to China has varied greatly. In 1871 there were 88 entries and clearances under this flag recorded in our Returns; in 1872 the number fell off to 31, but rose the next year to 62, again decreasing, however, to 40 and 30 in 1874 and 1875 respectively; the year after there was an increase to 47 entries and clearances, but a gradual falling off took place after this, and in 1879 the number had fallen to 12,

In 1880 there were 41 entries and clearances of Russian ships. The share taken in the trade by Siamese vessels has decreased considerably since 1875; in that year there were 150 entries and clearances under the Siamese flag, while last year there were only 60; the tonnage also has fallen off proportionately. The entries and clearances under the Spanish flag decreased from 316 in 1879 to 75 in 1880.

REVENUE.

The total amount of the dues and duties received by the Foreign Customs last year was *Hk.Ths* 14,258,583, an increase of *Hk.Ths* 726,913 over the receipts of 1879, and the largest Revenue collection on record in our Returns. Owing to the great falling off in the importation of Opium, the Import Duties showed a decrease of *Hk.Ths* 224,751; they were, however, much greater than those of any year except 1879. There was a large increase in Export Duties; the receipts under this heading amounted to *Hk.Ths* 8,268,682, as against *Hk.Ths* 7,385,070, the collection of 1879. The increase is, of course, explained from the table of Exports, by which it is seen that greater quantities of Silk, Tea, etc., were exported in 1880 than in the previous year. The Coast Trade Duties showed an increase of *Hk.Ths* 72,749. There was also an increase in Tonnage Dues; these amounted to *Hk.Ths* 249,591, as against *Hk.Ths* 247,833 collected in 1879. Transit Dues fell off by *Hk.Ths* 6,455.

I have, etc.,

JAMES ACHESON,

Acting Assistant Statistical Secretary in Charge.

To

ROBERT HART, ESQUIRE,
Inspector General of Customs,
PEKING.

PART II.

REPORTS

OF THE

TRADE OF THE TREATY PORTS OF CHINA

Within the Cognizance of the Maritime Customs under the Foreign Inspectorate,

For the Year 1880.

NEWCHWANG TRADE REPORT,
FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 10th April 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,

YINGTZEI, NEWCHWANG, 1st March 1881.

SIR,

THE trading year, 1880, upon which, as concerning the three provinces of Manchuria, it has now become my duty to remark, may be said to have commenced with the opening of the port of Newchwang at a somewhat unusually early period in spring. By the 15th of March the ice in the Sira Muren or Liao River had, consequent upon the prevalence of southerly winds, already shown certain signs of weakness, and on the day in question it broke suddenly up. A few hours of fierce tide swept the channel partially clear for several miles, and the opportunity was promptly grasped by the master of a well-known liner, who crossed the bar in safety, and, proceeding along the lane of water, skilfully navigated his steamer to an anchorage in front of the concession about noon on the 17th. Thus, for the first time in the history of Yingtzei, the Native coasters were outdone by their Western competitors. Hitherto, spurred by the prospect of immunity from taxation granted yearly to the pioneer of their fleet, the Chinese sailors have always been able to reach our harbour some days in advance. The shapeless yet handy craft they man have braved the ice such rude forms seem little calculated to resist; and season after season we have been used to look for a clump of bare masts over the Point as a harbinger of the square sails or the dark funnel of a Foreign vessel.

This year the *Tienstein*, in successfully breaking through the ice she met, broke through, likewise, the idea just alluded to; but she did not escape scot free. The floes, as they surged upwards a second time on the flood, caused her to drag both her anchors, and to experience during the next 48 hours no small amount of danger. They blocked the way of the junks emulating her venturesome course, and drove again out to sea, on the 21st, the solitary one that had then effected a portion of the passage. Not until the 24th was the river moderately safe, and, naturally enough, not until then could lighters be hired in any number for the shipment or discharge of cargo. It is a question that few possessing knowledge of the circumstances will hesitate to answer in the negative whether any good result is attained by vessels coming here before the 26th, at the soonest. Without peril to property—to life,—not even an iron screw

steamer can rest quietly off this settlement at the time of the first breaking up of the ice. Experience has shown that, taking one year with another, a margin may be considered to lie between the 15th and 25th of March, and that on those few occasions when ships have entered the port within these limits they have invariably been subjected to ill-treatment, have had great difficulty in obtaining labour, and have, in the end, gained no time worthy of mention, or to be placed for a moment in comparison with the risks run.

Numerous Customs Reports speak of these facts,* and I am aware that they have been insisted upon also by Consular authority. But competition being the order of the day on this Newchwang line as elsewhere, advice is wasted unless the firms interested can agree in the necessity for a caution I would fain re-urge. The local agents of the most powerful companies fully coincide with me, and in their so doing I find at once an excuse and a warrant for the words I am writing.

The state of our markets on the approach of spring will be shown as I proceed, and the actuating motive of that eagerness to be first in the field, which was the cause of the ice blockade being raised as above recorded, will become apparent. Taken alone, the inward freight lists of the *Tienstein* and of the vessels quickly following in her wake hardly afford a sufficient key; for, turning to printed statistics, it is at once to be noted that the

IMPORTS

of 1880 exhibit a decline when compared with those of the previous twelve months. Not, it is true, as regards the first quarter, for Table III, at page 4 of "Customs Gazette," No. XLV,

* "I perhaps should add, as information of advantage to the public, that the shipmasters who arrived here on the 21st of March found that they had entered the river prematurely. Their vessels were exposed to danger from the floating ice, and were obliged to be beached, and for some days were unable either to discharge or ship cargo. It seems to me that no vessel should cross the bar before the 27th of March."—Mr. Commissioner MACRENNIS: "Trade Reports," No. III, March 1866, p. 4.

"The first vessel that arrived was the *Milca*. She came in on the 15th March, long before the river was free from drift ice, and was, in consequence, obliged immediately to run ashore, in order to escape the imminent risk which she would otherwise have encountered in the river."—Mr. Assistant-in-Charge ECKENHART: "Trade Reports" No. 1, New Series, March 1868, p. 35.

"On the 16th March the steamer *Tapewaga* entered the river and arrived within sight of the settlement, but was unable to approach it on account of the solid ice. On the 20th the river opened here, on which day the steamer *Kiaska* arrived and landed her mails, but was obliged to leave almost immediately on account of the floating ice. On the 21st the steamer *Tapewaga* anchored abreast of the settlement, but was also compelled to leave on the same day. On the 22nd the steamers *Tapewaga*, *Kiaska*, and *Chim* anchored off here, but their operations were much impeded by the large masses of floating ice in the river. On the 25th the steamer *Kiaska* left for Shanghai; on this day no communication was possible with the vessels in port, owing to the great quantity of ice and the prevalence of a strong north wind. Even on the 31st there was still much floating ice in the river."—Mr. Acting Commissioner LEWIS: "Customs Gazette," No. V, March 1870, p. 9.

"The ice broke up above the Custom House on the night of the 17th March, but, owing to the large masses that kept floating about for several days afterwards, the river remained un navigable until almost the close of the month."—Mr. Deputy Commissioner-in-Charge J. H. HAY: "Customs Gazette," No. XIII, March 1872, p. 20.

"The steamer *Shanghai* arrived in the lower river on the morning of the 18th, but was unable to come up to the anchorage until the 21st, on which day the ice in front of the Custom House broke up. On the 24th the steamer *Tata* arrived. For four days both steamers were much troubled by the floating ice, being dragged by it several times, and one of them losing two anchors."—Mr. Acting Commissioner TALSTON: Report to Inspector General, March 1873.

"The river was this season ice-bound until within a few days of the termination of the quarter. Junks, indeed, managed to cross the bar and, at great risk, ascend the stream a short distance on the 27th. No Foreign merchant ship, however, was foolhardy enough to venture the passage before the 28th."—Mr. Commissioner MAX: Report to Inspector General, March 1874.

shows the blank due to that rather exceptional season of 1879, but during the time—April—June—which covers the really steady period of our opening activity. I shall not be far wrong if I put down the year as, upon the whole, a dull one, answering in most particulars to the conclusion likely to be arrived at by any inquirer who might chance to study the matter through the medium of our periodical "Returns of Trade."

Let us lightly analyse a few of the figures there to be found, taking always round numbers.

COTTON GOODS show, on the total, a falling off of *Hk.Tls* 270,000 in value and 190,000 pieces in quantity. This decrease, subdivided under the chief varieties, is principally made up of Shirtings, 130,000 pieces; Drills, 50,000 pieces; Muslins and Lawns, 12,000 pieces. On the other hand, a single instance of improvement is found in the advance of T-Cloths, 38,000 pieces = *Hk.Tls* 32,000.

WOOLLEN GOODS have been imported to a net value of *Hk.Tls* 164,000, a falling off when compared with 1879 of, say, *Hk.Tls* 5,000. Lustres and Orleans have declined by over 5,000 pieces, but Lastings, presently making up the bulk of our Woollen Imports, have improved by 2,000 pieces. The latter description of Piece Goods has of late been gradually coming more and more into repute amongst our well-to-do classes, both of town and country, and it occupies to-day the place of that Russian manufacture formerly almost exclusively used. The reason for this change is two-fold. Lastings are laid down here at less than one-third the price of the so-called "Oöuga" cloth, and are, from the buyers' point of view, intrinsically a better article, being less liable to be spoilt by the dust in which he moves and lives.

As regards both Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, I think that the cause of the adverse figures above noted can be traced by glancing back at the conditions locally governing this branch of trade since 1878. That year was, during the open months, unprecedentedly favourable to importers, and, because of the good business done at the chief trading centres supplied from this port, heavy consignments were thrown on the market before the close of the season. These consignments—largely of American origin—were not taken off quite so rapidly as had been anticipated, and as the excellence of their quality most surely deserved. Hence, although 1879 opened with many of our distributing marts more or less gutted, considerable stock remained on hand, and was added to by importations from Shanghai in the first half-dozen steamers. It is not to be wondered at that a reaction was soon experienced, and that the demand during 1880 should show the change and its consequent effect upon our tables.

Furthermore, owing to a want of confidence in a peaceful issue to the dispute with our northern neighbour, there was amongst all classes of Native traders a general hanging back from speculative transactions. Many influential hongts made no secret whatever of their feelings in this connexion, and took every pains to keep their floating capital at a safe distance from what they appeared to consider a possible seat of war.

Another event has worked against us, affecting injuriously the prospects of the year. The business formerly done at Yingtsü with or for Fênghuang-ch'ing buyers has, during the period we are noticing, almost completely come to an end. Korean traders—sometimes through brokers at the frontier gate, less frequently in person—have heretofore purchased on our market large quantities of heavy Shirtings and moderate supplies of English Drills. These articles being now more conveniently obtained at the door lately thrown open to Japanese commerce at Fusan,

a prognostication of five years ago* has been verified, and, as said above, it touches our Returns adversely. Yet even so, it is not a matter about which it is possible to express deep regret. This port at best served but as a side entrance to the tributary state—a side entrance approached by a steep pathway and fenced in by jealously-guarded stipulations of ancient date. Those who came from the stranger side to use it have, too, not proved themselves altogether desirable constituents to the Chinese with whom they dealt. Very surely, however, it is not to be supposed that such pedlars as they as a rule were, fairly represent the mercantile classes of Corea, and perhaps in their case, as in that of others of more moment, the absence of controlling power in the shape of an official Consular officer has had much to answer for.

METALS.—The decrease in the value of these Imports is just one-half—say, from *Hk.Ths* 400,000 to *Hk.Ths* 200,000,—and is not confined to any particular branch of the trade. With the exception of a gain of some *Hk.Ths* 1,500 on Iron Wire, all the items show a large individual decline. The following are the descriptions mostly contributing to the fall: Bar Iron, *Hk.Ths* 80,000; Nail-rod Iron, *Hk.Ths* 17,000; Old Iron, *Hk.Ths* 49,000; and Quicksilver, *Hk.Ths* 10,000. Of the last named, none was imported during the year. Old Iron figured in our Returns for the first time in 1879. It began coming here towards the latter end of the previous year, and there quickly ensued for it a great demand. Chancing just then that the supply of Native ore was extremely limited, it was soon discovered that the wonderful assortment of broken and discarded Foreign implements, technically called "Old Iron," could be made to answer admirably for all the purposes the rough home-manufactured metal had heretofore been applied to; while, at the same time, the price of the articles required to be produced could actually be lowered. Many of our people at once rushed into this new business, and ordered from Shanghai large consignments. At first start the profits realised were handsome, but as supplies quickly succeeded supplies, the market became eventually overburdened, and the stocks at the end of 1879 precluded the import of the year following from being of anything like equal importance. Even now much remains on hand, and prices are consequently kept low. Dealers, in fact, have begun to despair of retrieving to any appreciable extent their heavy losses.

OPUM shows the large decrease of 1,300 piculs in quantity and *Hk.Ths* 700,000 in value. Sufficient is this one item to account alone for about one-half of the falling off in the net value of the whole trade, when we place it in comparison with figures proper to the previous year.

Judging from appearances at the commencement of the season, a belief might well have been formed that a result such as above recorded would not only be impossible, but that, on the contrary, an increase was certainly to be looked for. The spring of 1880 opened with conditions tending towards a large importation. The Native poppy crop of 1878 had proved a very short one, owing at first start to want of rain, and later on to an incessant downpour. The yield of 1879 had been much restricted.† The latter failure was due to a drought that distressed the major portion of Kirin, and was co-existent, so it chanced, with an outburst of repressive energy on the part of the authorities. Consequently on express orders peremptorily issued at the capital, a

* "If the treaty said to have been arranged with Japan bore fruit at all, it cannot fail to strike a death-blow to 'the Gate' and to the influence of Yingtai in her connexion with that relic of a fast disappearing system of restricted barter."—*Reports on Trade*, 1875, p. 62.

† It fell from 3,000 piculs to little more than 1,000 piculs.

proclamation was posted throughout the province named, exhibiting in Chinese and Manchu (whilst the paper it was printed on withstood the weather) the well-known admonitions.

Whatever the cause, it is certain that in March last no home-grown stocks of any consequence interfered with the Foreign drug, of which what remained over from 1879 had been almost entirely consumed. With these facts before them, dealers were sanguine of fair profits being realised, and as a direct consequence the few vessels reaching here at the end of the first quarter of 1880 brought up about the heaviest consignments of Indian and Persian Opium known to have entered this port during any corresponding period since it became an emporium of Western trade. By the amount thus thrown suddenly on the market, the high prices ruling throughout the winter months received a check; but a check not of sufficient importance to warrant immediate change in the opinion already formed by the persons interested. These speculated on the probability of a large import being required for the year, basing their calculations on the experiences of the preceding seasons. Hardly, however, had they taken action, and hardly had the heavy arrivals just mentioned come in, when news came also that the prospects of the poppy all over the northern districts were extraordinarily good. The reports thus circulated had the effect of causing at once a rapid falling off in the demand for the Foreign article, and when the favourable impressions formed of the Native crop were verified, towards the end of the month of May, it was seen, too late, that the decision come to had been founded on untrustworthy data. Those who had committed themselves to the costly venture received in the result a lesson they are not likely to soon forget; and in an outturn of Native Opium, now ascertained to be far in excess of the most sanguine expectations, we have a renewed proof—if proof be needed—that the much-condemned culture is nevertheless certainly destined to retain the high place it has taken in the agricultural economy of these three provinces.

The average prices during the year under review were for the Indian drug **Tls 620**, and for the Native **Tls 350**, per 100 catties.* Besides this, its recommendation of comparative cheapness, the last named is gradually gaining ground with smokers for the sake of its own special qualities and effects—or, rather, want of effects. The Foreign drug, it is well known, causes a feeling of lassitude, and, not unfrequently, leads to continual craving for further indulgence. The use of the Native Opium, on the other hand, does not, I am told, produce these baneful results, and a man may inhale it in moderation without running the grave risk of becoming a slave to its sensuous pleasures. Hence daily increasing numbers prefer its use.†

The fiscal disadvantages under which Foreign Opium labours, when competing with that Native grown, are enough, one would suppose, to turn the scale against it. The former has to pay Tariff Duty at the rate of **Hk Tls 30** and a Likin tax of **Tls 20** per picul; the latter is charged only Likin, and that at a reduced rate of **Tls 19**. Not a chest of the Foreign drug can escape the octroi charges, the particulars of its import being easily ascertainable by the Likin officials;

* The prices of prepared Opium at the divans in Yingtai are as follows:—Indian, **Hk Tls 0.0.4**; Persian, **Hk Tls 0.0.4.6**; Manchurian, **Hk Tls 0.0.4.2**, per 1 mace = $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. avoirdupois.

† To show the extent to which this preference has gone, I may mention that when the Native supply fell short towards the middle of summer, the dealers supplemented their fast-decaying stock by importing from Shanghai **8.45 piculs of Szechwan drug**, valued at **Hk Tls 2.720**.

but of the Native Opium that reaches Yingtzi, a mere fraction is assessed. For example, when it is packed at the up-country depôts, the drug is placed in the same long square pine boxes with Bean Oil, a small compartment being cleverly prepared for its reception. It is thus inside surrounded by oil, and the chance of detection is rendered next to nil, from a very simple cause pertaining to the habits of the land. Carts travel southward along the high roads in groups or caravans, necessarily accompanied by numerous well-armed attendants, with whom the Yamen runners are for good reasons exceedingly loath to interfere. A stoppage of any single vehicle for the purpose of searching its contents would assuredly lead to a block in the traffic, to consequent collisions one cart with another, to wrangling, and to free fights. In the end an appeal to the nearest magistrate might, quite as likely as not, result in a decision adverse to the over-zealous agents of the law. The town consignee and the up-country merchant have, of course, a mutual understanding, and the Oil once taken delivery of by the former is stored in his premises and the Opium safely exhumed at leisure.

At the time of the closing of the port there were about 150 chests of Malwa in our godowns, and by the end of December only a few of these had been disposed of. This of itself appears a striking result when we bear in mind that for former winters a stock of 300 or 400 chests has not usually been considered excessive. Large supplies of Native drug are now entering the town, and it is tolerably evident that, *notwith* official discouragement, and in spite of competition which will die hard, an event long foreseen, and by the farmers of Manchuria long hoped for, must ere long be brought about. I fully expect that this year's Returns will show Opium numbered amongst our Exports.

The net value of the various articles grouped under the heading FOREIGN SUBSIDIES shows, in the aggregate, a rise of about *Hk.Ths* 60,000, notwithstanding that certain commodities have fallen. Dyes and Colours, Window Glass, Matches, Seaweed, and White Sugar contribute to the increase; Sapanwood and White Sharks' Fins are factors reducing the total.

Dyes and Colours have advanced *Hk.Ths* 13,000. They have thus largely been imported to assist in the development of an industry that has lately taken root here. Paper of the 2nd Quality is, after undergoing the process of colouring, passed off as 1st Quality at a much enhanced price. Dyes and Colours could be purchased cheaply at Shanghai during the early part of the year, and shops in Yingtzi engaged in this business took advantage of the fact.

Window Glass has improved by *Hk.Ths* 4,800, and *Matches* by *Hk.Ths* 24,000. These figures point to the steady progress to be expected in manufactures of a kind such as are in daily use, and require but to be better known throughout the regions beyond the Wall to ensure for them a market as good as that they now claim in other portions of the Empire. Window Glass is put to another use besides that implied by its name. Considerable quantities are sent to Moukden, and are there utilised in the making of looking-glasses and the small fancy mirrors for which that city has a speciality. The demand for Glass so much exceeded the supply laid in that by the end of the year it was difficult to obtain even a single box. Heavy consignments may be looked for when the port opens.

Seaweed arrived in excess of last year's import to the value of *Hk.Ths* 17,000. The bulk of it was Russo-Manchurian, and reached here *via* Chefoo. The use of Seaweed as an article of

diet has for a long time been general amongst all classes in these provinces, and since new outlets for population have been found in the reclaimed hunting grounds and in the heretofore neutral territory on the Yalu, it has become to many an article of positive necessity. Carts that bring in our heavy produce and return otherwise empty-handed, supply a ready and cheap means of transport; they being willing for small remuneration, to go out of their way in order to deliver loads at the country depôts. An interesting feature in connexion with the trade in Seaweed last year was the arrival in October of the American brigantine *Codeo*, which had taken in a full cargo at Vladivostock. She is the first vessel entered direct from the Muscovite settlements since Yingtze was thrown open to Foreign trade.

White Sugar has risen from *Hk.Ths* 18,000 in 1879 to *Hk.Ths* 27,000 in 1880. With the exception of very small quantities imported by the way of Shanghai and Chefoo, it has reached here from Hongkong, and was chiefly "refined." The increase in this import was not brought about by any great local demand, but was a consequence of the very unfavourable rates of exchange on this port that ruled in the South. Native merchants were induced to accept return goods rather than pay high premiums on their remittances. This view is borne out by the fact of transactions in this branch of trade having been far from profitable.

Serpentisool.—The decrease in the import and in the value of this commodity was owing to the surplus that remained over from 1879. Its low price here during the entire course of the year did away with the possibility of a margin to would-be speculators.

Sharks' Fins.—As the market consumption of White and Black Sharks' Fins combined is stated to be annually about the same, the falling off in value of the better variety this season has been put down by some to the unusually large import of the coarser quality by junks.

NATIVE SUNDRIES show a net total decline of about *Hk.Ths* 78,000, chiefly owing to much smaller arrivals from Canton and Amoy.

Raw Cotton has fallen *Hk.Ths* 36,000, that being the amount of the previous year's importation under Foreign flags, against a blank now appearing to the credit of our Returns. It must not be supposed from this that Cotton has ceased altogether to enter the port. The case is simply one of change in the mode of carriage. The over-sea supplies that reached Yingtze during 1880 were brought up entirely by Native craft, and do not, in consequence, appear upon the records I have to deal with. Still, I believe that the actual quantity imported was smaller than during 1879 by several thousand bales, and that this was due to the crop in many parts of Manchuria having been a heavy one. It is, however, necessary to bear in mind that we have no absolutely reliable statistics to guide us in this matter; for the Cotton trade, always shared in to a large extent by the Native carriers, is one over which, as this year proves, they still retain an unrelaxed grasp.

Paper.—1st Quality has declined *Hk.Ths* 20,000, its place being usurped by that inferior or 2nd Quality which the newly sprung-up industry before mentioned manufactures into and substitutes for it.

Silk Piece Goods have dropped by *Hk.Ths* 12,000, and *Silk Ribbons* by *Hk.Ths* 10,000, consequent on the high prices ruling in the South, and the natural hesitation of well-to-do folk,

who habitually wear expensive dress, to spend money thereon during a year that, to many of them, was likely to result in unfavourable trading balances.

Brown Sugar shows a loss of *Hk.Tls* 51,000. This falling off is in the value more than in the quantity, there being only a positive difference of 7,000 piculs under the latter heading. The lesser import is accounted for by three vessels sugar-laden from Amoy having been compelled through stress of weather to relinquish their voyages. As regards the fall in value, the difference in price (*Tls* 3.11 in 1879, *Tls* 2.77 in 1880) between the two years almost accounts for it.

Against the articles commented upon as showing a decline, Nankkeens, Prepared Tobacco, and certain items of minor importance have increased.

Nankkeens, as a rule, are imported in Native bottoms. This year Foreign shipping was, for some cause unexplained, constantly availed of. The increase amounts to *Hk.Tls* 25,000.

Prepared Tobacco has advanced to the value of *Hk.Tls* 47,000. A brand that hitherto had almost the monopoly in Manchuria was that of a well-known Canton firm, who usually made up the weed into 9-candareen packets. But within the last two years an establishment in Shanghai has entered into the business, has imitated the original trade mark, and has undersold its predecessor. The rivalry between the two has of late become very keen. Both are now wooing the market with an improved article at a cheaper rate, and, as a consequence, persons who before only thought of the crude now find themselves able to smoke the prepared leaf.

The total value of the

EXPORTS

from this place last year was, say, *Hk.Tls* 3,400,000, against *Hk.Tls* 3,700,000 for 1879. The reasons for this decrease in value, in the face of the increase our Returns show in quantity, are three, viz., a falling off in prices, attributable to the large stocks at the opening of the season—stocks which had to be disposed of; an exceptionally good harvest, lying ready to fill up our granaries when their contents should run out; and the poor demand for Beanceake during the autumn, consequent upon the drought at Swatow and the floods at Canton. On the other hand, the cause of the augmented shipments tabulated of nearly every item of our chief Exports, except Beanceake, is to be found in the lesser number of junks and lorchas trading here last season, and in the, therefore, additional employment of Foreign tonnage. It would seem from this that steamers and square-rigged vessels are surely, if slowly, monopolising the transport of our heavy staples, and that speed, safety, and facilities for insuring cargo are advantages to which the Chinese of this port have at length fully awakened.

The books at the Superintendent's office go to prove that the duties there collected fell very short. Consequently, although the statistics of the Foreign Inspectorate may, for the reasons adduced, exhibit an increase, I yet fear that the real total export—*i.e.* the total by both Native and Foreign bottoms—was, in truth, considerably less in 1880 than in 1879.

Notwithstanding the decline in prices last season to figures far below those obtaining for several past years, the Export trade, on the whole, was fairly remunerative to the majority of our merchants. This is due to the fact that though a great drop in rates would prove disastrous to Foreigners embarked in local produce speculations here, it would not so materially affect

Chinese houses, because the latter have in the places of production agents who are employed solely for the purpose of keeping their principals advised as to the state of the crops and other matters likely to effect fluctuations in the market. By this means they are to a certain extent prepared for and secured against any sudden change.

Owing to the singularly good harvest last year and to the excellent condition of the roads throughout Lower Manchuria this winter, very large quantities of bulky produce are now stored in Yingtze, Tienchuang-t'ai, and Neuchwang, awaiting shipment. Low quotations for many of our commodities may consequently be expected after the opening of the port. In the course of a few months a tolerably close estimate of the new crop will be ascertainable, and prices rule accordingly.

The period between November and March is that when our inland transport is in full vigour. It is this season computed that 4,000,000 piculs of Pulse and Sorghum have come to hand. If we allow, on an average, 60 piculs as the carrying capacity of each waggon, we have, in round numbers, 67,000 entering the east gates of this town with grain alone during the four months we are shut in. These figures show how extensive is the wheeled traffic of Shêngking and Kirin, for the carriage of but one article has been taken note of. To arrive at a grand total, it would be necessary to add the numberless vehicles bringing other kinds of merchandise from the immediately surrounding country and from afar.

Millet of various kinds can be purchased at Kwangchung-tze for from $T\text{hs } 0.05$ to $T\text{hs } 0.05$ per *tee* of 40 cattles, and it sells here at from $T\text{hs } 0.18$ to $T\text{hs } 0.25$. Beans are bought at Kwangchung-tze for $T\text{hs } 0.06$ per *tee* of 36 cattles, and are sold here at an average of $T\text{hs } 0.22$. The cost of covering the 330 miles of road separating us from the great central *dépôt* of the northern districts is $T\text{hs } 22.50$ for each waggon employed, or at the rate of $T\text{hs } 0.15$ per *tee*. A sum of 50 cash per *tee* is paid here for storage, unless the time for shipment is extended over a second winter, when a similar amount is again demanded. Carts take under five weeks to accomplish the journey, and the expenses incurred *en route* are ordinarily about $T\text{hs } 12$ for the single trip.

Fifty-two per cent. of the total value of our Exports is represented by the item Beans. In it the excess over the previous year is 267,000 piculs in quantity, but $H\text{ts } T\text{hs } 5,000$ only in value. The quantity is over the average of the past eight years by more than 600,000 piculs. The mean price per picul was 15 per cent. less than in 1879, and 40 per cent. less than in 1877; say the medium rate per picul was $T\text{hs } 0.82$ in 1880, $T\text{hs } 0.94$ in 1879, and $T\text{hs } 1.15$ in 1877.* Coastwise, 2,000,000 piculs were shipped. Hongkong took 37½ per cent. of the whole; Canton, 9½ per cent.; Swatow, 29½ per cent.; Amoy, 17 per cent.; Foochow, 2½ per cent.; and Shanghai, 4 per cent. Excepting the first-named port, Japan is the only Foreign country on our list; it took upwards of 134,000 piculs.

The partial destruction of the crops down South was doubtless the cause of the renewed demand for Beans in that part of China. This demand had no immediate effect in advancing the

* It would be manifestly unfair to compare 1880 with 1878, because markets during the last-named year received a stimulus in consequence of the famine then raging over the north of China. The extension of the Sugar-cane cultivation in Fukien and Kwangtung, following the European demand for that article, still further tended to an increased demand for our fertilizing agents, and, few doubts happening to arise, our people were encouraged to ship every picul of their produce.

price here, for it continued to fall until near the end of the season, when it rose, owing to the non-arrival of the last contingent of the boat fleet from the Upper Liao. The river transit had, it appeared, been temporarily stopped by the construction of a pontoon bridge not far from Moukden, built to ensure an easy passage to the *cortège* which was just then solemnly conducting the Imperial genealogies to the ancient home of the reigning House. The pressing of carts at this time, for national service during a campaign then supposed to be imminent, further affected the expected deliveries of new Beans, and in consequence of these hindrances several vessels cleared out in ballast or but half loaded.

Beans is the second most important factor in our Export tables, covering about 27 per cent. of their total valuation. The quantity removed to the coast of China and to Japan was less than the return of the previous year by 450,000 piculs, but more than the average of the past 10 years by 400,000 piculs. This article was quoted at $\text{T}h$ 0.77 per picul during 1878 and 1879, against $\text{T}h$ 0.67 for 1880—a falling off in value of 15 per cent. If we take the mean rate of these three years and compare it with the $\text{T}h$ 0.90 of 1877, a difference of 20 per cent. will be observed. Swatow is our largest customer, absorbing 72 per cent. of the total coast export; Shanghai comes next with 21 per cent.; Amoy takes 6 per cent.; Foochow, 1 per cent.; and Chefoo, 1 per cent. The demand for Beans in Japan was greater than it had been for some years. The total imported by that country was 59,000 piculs, showing an excess over the preceding season of 47,000 piculs. The demand in Swatow was comparatively a small one; neither was the season at Shanghai favourable. The low prices offering for Sugar did not admit of the southern farmers using much Beans as manure for their fields, and the heavy losses so recently incurred prevented neighbouring business men from purchasing on speculation. The re-establishment of sea communication in March found prices at $\text{T}h$ 3.50 per 10 pieces. They almost at once dropped to $\text{T}h$ 2.80, but rose again before the closing of the port to $\text{T}h$ 3.60. The whole of the last season's stock was eventually got rid of.

In 1876 a cargo was shipped at Yingtze direct to Ceylon, with a view to its trial on the coffee plantations of that island. I have been told that the merchants who made the venture did not actually lose by their spirited attempt, but that the margin of profit was too fine to give them encouragement in pressing the enterprise. Very possibly the depression that has sadly marked the last few years in the British colony has prevented our staple from gaining a footing on this new and important market. It is therefore with great satisfaction that I record a renewed effort, albeit on a small scale, which was made last season to push the matter. Early in the summer a parcel of Coko was sent from Shanghai to the order of a Colombo house. The result will be awaited with some interest.

Ginseng.—This celebrated nostrum of the Chinese pharmacopœia occupies a high place on our records, and its several varieties appear well represented in the tables just published.

The root brought from Corea, and divided in mercantile parlance into 1st and 2nd Quality, is, unitedly, third in importance amongst the Exports from Yingtze, amounting to nearly 5 per cent. of their total value. There is an increase in quantity of over 12 piculs, or 1,600 lbs. = $\text{Hk.}\text{T}h$ 5,000, or, say, £1,500. The first-class article fell—not from deterioration, but from excess of supply over demand—to an average of $\text{T}h$ 14.50 per catty of 13 lbs. It had stood firmly for a number of years at about $\text{T}h$ 17.

The cultivated Manchurian root takes not quite 4 per cent. of our total Export values. In this case the increases over last season are 227 piculs and *Hk.Tls* 12,000.

The Wild Native root is the most prized of all. Sundry boxes of this much-vaunted specific passed examination during the year, but their total shows an advance scarcely appreciable upon the figures of 1879.

The planting of Ginseng is extending step by step over the newly occupied country on both banks of the Yalu and over the adjacent territory to the north and west of that river. Under these circumstances, the high quotations of the past can hardly be hoped for, more especially as I find that old beliefs in the extraordinary medicinal properties of Ginseng have now a much less steadfast hold than formerly upon the public mind. We already see a difference in the price it commands upon this market; the years 1877, 1878, and 1879 showed an average of *Tls* 62.50 per picul, whereas in 1880 the rate was *Tls* 50.

In Bean Oil there is the marked increase of 15,000 piculs—an excess of 11,000 piculs over the average exportation since 1872. Like nearly all other items, this one shows, however, a great decline in value. The price at the opening of the port was *Tls* 3.70, which gradually declined to *Tls* 2.70. Speculators incurred heavy losses. Although the demand at Shanghai was small, in consequence probably of the widespread use of Kerosene, still our Returns, as above stated, record an increase in the export. This is due entirely to the decreased shipment by junks. These craft, from the fact of their holds being specially constructed with a view to the carriage of oil boxes, have always been in high favour with the trade; but during the season we are considering, dealers were permitted to transport Oil by steamers at a low freight, and they largely availed themselves of the privilege. I may mention that, according to rumour here, the use of our Bean Oil has been discovered to be far more economical than the southern Wood Oil for builders' and painters' purposes.

Silk.—Transactions last year are said to have been highly profitable to speculators, fortunate individuals realising even 30 per cent. The demand was great, and quotations rose, ere the stores were exhausted, from 4 to 8 candareens per tael weight. Comparing this single year 1880 with the total export for the three seasons 1877, 1878, and 1879, the increase is remarkable, *i.e.* 1,031.19 piculs = *Hk.Tls* 89,777, against only 498.78 piculs = *Hk.Tls* 33,362. In 1877 the ruling price was *Tls* 72 per picul; in 1878, *Tls* 65; in 1879, *Tls* 60; and in 1880—such was the eagerness of purchasers—it jumped to *Tls* 88.

The oak-fed Silk produced in Shêngking is bought, in its raw state, by dealers from China who, towards the end of each spring, arrive at the small outposts of the province. These men rarely secure the cocoons of what is styled the first crop; that growth is, as a rule, kept back for home consumption. It is the second crop that furnishes the Silk for export, and it leaves the country immediately upon the rivers opening the following year.

Cocœ is known to furnish, by way of Fênghwang-cheng, certain supplies of white mulberry Silk to the dealers above spoken of; but to what an extent this traffic affects our Exports, or whether it has itself been affected by the opening of Fusan, cannot be ascertained with any degree of exactitude.

There can be little doubt but that the Treaty town in which we are immediately interested has heretofore practically failed to attract a most valuable branch of the local

trade. The reason is not clear. Kaichow, a city once the sole emporium of the low country and the actual port of Moukden, has retained almost all the profits derivable from this source. Takushan, on the eastern side of the Kwantung peninsula, has alone shared in them—although unimportantly.

If it be true, as currently reported, that the Silk which left our ports by steamers and by junks during 1880 is eventually destined for Europe, a vista of prosperity has assuredly opened before the eyes of the frugal peasant farmers of this old dominion. Favourably situated as they are, both in regard to the producing qualities of their mountain slopes and to the propinquity of these to convenient sea outlets, any fresh market for the raw material cannot fail to encourage an industry which is here undoubtedly capable of very considerable and important extension.

Skins.—The steadily increasing demand in America and Australia for Manchurian skins of all kinds is instanced by the number of pelts shipped this season having exceeded the total of the three preceding years by over 29,000 pieces. Dogs, Goats, Sheep, Wolves, Bears, and Deer of many kinds, each contribute their quota to these figures. But the values do not keep pace with the increased export, for the reason that some of the most expensive varieties are not presently to be purchased of the great size and fine quality once common. Thus, those of the Tiger in particular are now individually much smaller, with shorter hair, than were the truly magnificent specimens formerly brought in by the trappers. Neither does the Revenue collection keep pace, *pro rata*, with the extension of the trade, because many valuable furs of the less bulky kinds, such as the Sable and the Otter, although they certainly reach this port in large numbers from the wilds of Kirin and Tsitsihar, and are as certainly exported hence, yet appear as a mere fraction only upon our records. Moukden remains the chief dépt of the trade, but the frontier traffic northwards, that not very long ago was described with perfect accuracy as "considerable," would seem almost to have died out. The better and more certain market to be found at Yingtê has overcome the element of distance in this case also.

Furugus, Deer Horns, Medicines, Samsku, and Liquorice Root are items of our Exports having figures set against them indicating in each case healthy advance. They do not, however, appear to call for further or special mention.

SHIPPING.

The Flag Returns.—During the year 1880, 337 Foreign-built vessels visited Yingtê, and although this total is less by 18 than that of 1879, the registered carrying capacity it represents is 846 tons more, *i.e.* 160,867, as compared with 160,021 of the previous year. This increase in tonnage, with at the same time diminution in numbers, is consequent on the development of steam navigation; and I may, in example of this, quote from the entry boards of this office for the past season, where five steamers are shown to aggregate upwards of 6,000 tons.

To particularise: Great Britain is at the head of the list with a total of 144 sail = 77,719 tons, or nearly half of the whole; as against 142 sail = 70,996 tons, in 1879. A fact at the same time curious and significant is that these 144 British vessels are exactly divided betwixt steamers and sailers.

The actual numbers of separate British vessels engaged in the coasting trade, as it is represented by entries at this port, were, last year, 19 steamers = 15,323 tons, and 50 sailing

vessels = 17,860 tons. Of these, 1 steamer of 404 tons and 21 sailing vessels of 7,769 tons are registered in Indian and Colonial ports and in Shanghai. To these must be added 8 steamers of 5,656 tons, which, although bearing on their sterns the names of towns in the United Kingdom, yet belong to the local fleets of two of our shipping companies, and were built for and are exclusively employed in the China coasting trade. Of the entire British tonnage, therefore, 9 steamers and 21 sailing vessels may fairly be called "country ships," the remaining 10 steamers and 29 sailing vessels being from home.

Germany is again second with a total of 117 sail = 47,404 tons, made up by 11 steamers = 9,755 tons, and 106 sailing vessels = 37,649 tons. Her real floating strength in these waters was 4 steamers and 64 sailing vessels, of 3,877 and 24,042 tons respectively. We see at once from these last figures that she still heads the British return very considerably (viz, by 14 sailing vessels of 6,182 tons) on a line where strength in tonnage should, and in fact generally does, imply the possession of strength of another kind, which is perhaps apart somewhat from the purely commercial aspect of the question. I mean, of course, the power of producing native sailors given to a fleet manned through the operation of judiciously-framed apprentice laws. Most deservedly, German sailing vessels are popular on this coast, both with the Foreign critic, who can appreciate the sobriety and general good behaviour of their crews, and with the Native freight-givers, who think solely of the safe conduct they thereby find ensured. The last few years have, however, shown plainly enough the direction our coasting trade is likely to take in the immediate future. The beautiful barque from the Hanse towns, which has so long graced the waters of Asia, is, I fear, destined to give place to floating iron godowns under the British and Chinese flags. It is permissible for me to express an earnest hope that this foreshadowed change may not be altogether fatal to the existence of a body of mariners whose characteristics have been in pleasing contrast to those distinguishing too many pseudo-seamen belonging to the English race.

The United States and France ran closely for the fourth place, but the former, having a slight advantage in tonnage, though fewer vessels, is entitled to precedence. When compared with last year, the American shows an increase, whilst the European Republic shows a decrease in both the number and the tonnage of vessels. The difference in both cases is so slight as to be unworthy of special comment. The exact figures are:—

	1879.	1880.
United States	8 sailing vessels = 4,000 tons.	9 sailing vessels = 4,314 tons.
France	14 " = 4,461 "	12 " = 4,117 "

Siam is on our list with 8 sailing vessels of 3,568 tons; Denmark, with 7 = 1,902; Scandinavia (Norway 2, Sweden 1), with 3 = 1,221; Holland, with 2 = 526; and Russia, with 1 steamer of 451 tons.

China in 1873 first entered on the roll with Western-built shipping. In that year her flag covered 2 steamers of 1,266 tons. In 1880 she took, for the second time in succession, the third place on this list, with a total of 34 steamers, representing 20,645 tons, against 26 of 19,377 the previous year. The dragon flag was worn by 8 individual steamers, showing 5,924 registered tons. Our old friend the little *Millet*, alias *Meli*, paid us no less than 13 visits, and the yacht-like *Houbowang* is entered six times.

The number of junks taken note of by the Intendency during 1880 was as follows:—

362	from Shanghai, Ningpo, and Foochow;
322	" ports in Shantung;
833	" " Chihli, and
260	" Tientsin, after discharging Tribute grain.

1,777

Comparing these figures with those given in the Reports for 1878 and 1879, a great falling off is observable. I am told that a very large junk owner has lately failed in business, and that his difficulties were brought about by the depression of freights for this class of carriers at the northern ports.

Casualties, etc.—Accidents to shipping have, unhappily, been rather numerous in this district during the year under review.

On the 7th April the Russian steamer *Grand Duc Constantin*, inward bound, and under the care of a pilot, came into collision with a junk in the Liao River, near Everlasting Point. On the 16th of the same month the German barque *Anton Günther*, outward bound, and without a pilot, collided with a junk lying in the anchorage called Deep Hole, near this port.

On the 13th May the Chinese gunboat *Chéntung*, forming part of a small Imperial flotilla then on a cruise of instruction, touched upon an unknown sunken danger lying about a mile to the westward of Haiyin Island, in the Yellow Sea. Owing chiefly to the great presence of mind displayed by the European officers serving with the squadron, this valuable vessel was saved, and navigated to Shanghai. The position of the rock has now been ascertained with accuracy, and a hydrographical notification concerning it has been issued by the British Admiralty.

On the 3rd October two collisions took place outside the bar of the Liao. In one case the American pilot-sloop *Geo. F. Seward* was run into, whilst in the act of heaving-to in a gale of wind, by a Tientsin junk; both vessels were seriously damaged. The other collision was between a German barquentine, the *Forsosa*, and a small Native craft; it resulted in no loss. On the 24th a sudden tornado from the north-west burst over the settlement, and three vessels, the British barques *Woodville* and *Alexander Newton*, and the German barque *Hansa*, were blown on shore in the harbour. Two of them floated the same day; but the *Woodville*, which was under weigh when the squall struck her, in charge, fortunately, of one of our most skilful pilots, took the ground as she was being brought up, and did not get off until the 26th. She sustained no damage.

On the 25th November a tremendous gale set in from the north, causing large quantities of ice to form in the Liao River and in its estuary. The former was completely frozen over next day, and H.B.M.S. *Mosquito* was beset in front of the Custom House, and lay for some hours in extreme peril. Providentially, about noon on the 27th the ice broke up, and the gunboat was enabled to steam through it to a place of safety. During the height of the gale the British barque *Minnie Carvell* and the British three-masted schooner *Moust Lebanon* were driven on shore at the Deep Hole. They were both seriously injured by the ice cutting into them, but, being handled by able pilots, eventually escaped.

I have on former occasions drawn attention to the danger to which Siamese vessels are exposed when visiting these seas towards the termination of the season. Manned by Natives of warm climates, they are utterly unfit, from this cause, and from the general rickety state of their equipment, to encounter the fierce gales and Arctic cold so often experienced. Of the eight vessels that left Yingtzi in 1880, homeward bound, one is as yet unaccounted for, having too probably shared the fate of not a few of her predecessors, and of another I have lately, from those whose unfortunate lot it was to be the sufferers, heard the last. She was Bangkok built, of 329 tons, called the *K'iwungnye*, and cleared for Hongkong with a cargo of pulse on the 27th October. Soon after getting clear of the Gulf of Liaotung, fearful weather was met with, a leak was sprung, and early on the morning of the 2nd November, Mr. KOPOEN, her Danish master, resolved to make for the nearest land. Late that night, there being then seven feet water in his ship's hold, he obtained an anchorage. For two days every endeavour was made to repair the damage, but at 10 A.M. on the 5th, while standing in for the west Korean coast, then five miles distant, the barque *founded*. Out of a total number of 29 souls on board, only two—the mate (a Dane) and one Siamese seaman—were lost. The poor folk reached the shore in an absolutely destitute condition, and in deadly fear; they were at once met and hospitably treated by the inhabitants. The master learnt that the locality was known as Pjin-hsien, and it is probably the peninsula to the north of Basil Bay. On the 30th November, or 25 days after the catastrophe, the shipwrecked people set out—the men on horses and bullocks, Mrs. KOPOEN and child, and the wife of the boatswain, in chairs—for the Korean capital, whither they were escorted by a guard of soldiers. Seoul was distant 460 li, and this journey, along a road described as rough and rocky, they accomplished in 10 days, passing on their way the large town of Yashan, and being there most liberally treated by the Governor. Seoul itself they were not permitted to enter. It appeared a city of mud houses situated on hills, near a wide and deep river, with forts instead of a wall for its defence. Having rested for 24 hours at an inn in the suburbs, they started for the Chinese frontier, and, after a few days hard travel, reached the prehistoric capital of Corea—Pingjang.* Two days more brought them to the Yalu, where they were handed over to the Chinese authorities, and in due course sent to Yingtzi. I received them on Saturday, January 22nd. One Siamese seaman perished of cold after entering Manchuria, one lost both his feet, and several others were less seriously frost-bitten. It speaks volumes for all concerned that the two females and the child retained perfect health.

On the 9th August 1866, the British barque *Swiftsure*, Captain STRUCKMANN, which had left Yingtzi the day previously, in charge of one of the men who then filled the ranks of the pilot body, went on shore at the north end of the East Bank, near the mouth of this river. She finally became a total wreck, and sank in the quicksands. Salvage operations were soon begun upon her by a company of Chinese belonging to this place, and last summer they succeeded in raising the hulk and depositing it on the hard beach. She has since been broken up, and I am told that this finale to operations which for 14 years have been persevered in by means the most primitive, and in the face of difficulties quite exceptional, has resulted in the return of an excellent profit to the speculators.

* It was here that, 15 years ago, the crew and passengers of the American schooner *General Sherman* were put to death.

I will close this Report with a brief notice of an act of great gallantry performed here on the afternoon of the 8th December. A ferry-boat crossing over to the town had, the morning before, been swept away by the ice, and was supposed to be lost. About 3 P.M. on the day in question it again, however, came in sight, and the alarm being given by the sentry posted on the Bund, a corporal and five privates of the police force* launched a large sampan, and, at the imminent risk of their own lives, pushed off through the floating masses to attempt the rescue of their perishing countrymen. They just succeeded; being themselves within an ace of being lost. The occupants of the ferry-boat were completely prostrated by 30 hours' exposure, without food or a sufficiency of clothing to protect them from 25 degrees of frost, and but for the aid thus bravely given must inevitably have succumbed.

We Westerns now and again find out that our old school-book ideas asent the absence of certain high qualities in Chinese human nature are not slightly absurd. To the grand modern discovery that men of the Middle Kingdom can show resolution and valour on the battle-field, I venture to contribute, by the facts above recorded, an humble rider. The virtues we so justly prize would appear capable of expression amongst this people, not alone during the heat of combat and under the impulse of European example, but in cold blood, and, be it remembered, without hope or prospect of reward.

I have, etc.,

J. ALEX. MAN,

Commissioner of Customs.

To

ROBERT HART, Esquire,
Inspector General of Customs,
PEKING.

* The appended Despatch, from the Inspector General to the Commissioner, explains the origin, nature, and strength of what is referred to as a "police force" here and elsewhere.

No. 34.

Newchwang Series.

PEKING, 19th September 1873.

SIR,

1.—IN view of the lawlessness which reigns at Newchwang every winter, and the comparatively unprotected condition of the place, I think it advisable to authorise you to employ and equip a small Native guard to co-operate with the Customs employés for self-protection in the event of the approach of the brigands with whom the province is said to be swarming.

2.—Counting the members of both In-door and Out-door Staff, there will always be a dozen Foreigners under your orders; in addition to the Foreigners, there will be some 20 boatmen and coolies strong enough to handle rifles. To these I propose to authorise you to add 20 specially enrolled men, to make up a force of, say, 50 men, all told. For these you will be authorised to procure as many stand of arms, Sniders or Martinis, and a proper supply of ball cartridge. With such a number of well-armed men, acquainted with the use of their weapons, and bound to you by pay and constant employment, you will be quite able to hold your own against even 10 times the number of undisciplined marauders.

3.—As regards the 20 men you are authorised to employ, you will take particular care to find a good set of men—active, muscular, and of good character. You may pay them $\text{T}hs\ 4$ or, if necessary, $\text{T}hs\ 5$ a month each to begin with, promising them an increase of a tael a month by-and-by if they work well.

4.—As regards the 20 stand of arms, etc., possibly the Municipal Council at Shanghai could let you have them from the volunteers' Sniders, lately discarded for Martinis; if not obtainable at Shanghai, they can most likely be got at Hongkong. It is, however, so near the close of the season that but little time remains to find them.

5.—As regards the disciplining of your force and accustoming them to the use of their rifles, what you have to particularly remember is that it is a small irregular force, and not a regiment. The chief thing will be to make each individual a good rifle shot; the second, to divide the force into, say, four parties, giving each party a chief, and to make each man know to which party he belongs and which leader he is to follow; and the third, to accustom all ears to a few simple words of command. Any attempt to play at soldiers will draw an inconvenient kind of notice on the little force; and for any hope that pains taken with individuals may fit them for other positions, you have only to think of Gordon's sergeants and Brown's cavalry. All you need aim at will be to put 50 good shots at the Commissioner's disposal, for the Commissioner's own protection first of all, and after that to assist his neighbours as much as may be.

6.—Mr. CLARKE, the Examiner, was a sergeant or sergeant-major in an infantry regiment, and drilled the first body of Foreign-armed troops at Canton: you will find him of much use as an intelligent and painstaking man, and it may be well to place him in charge of the arms and ammunition; and Mr. ST. CROIX, an old volunteer officer and an excellent shot, will be able to assist you materially.

7.—As for uniform, a boatman's dress with the words "Customs Police" on it will be the best style to adopt.

8.—The additional 20 men can be employed to keep watch on the traffickers in arms, and may be specially rewarded for every seizure they make. Their pay is to be accounted for in $A/c\ A$, Chinese wages' heading.

I am, &c.,

(signed)

ROBERT HART,

Inspector General.

J. ALEX. MAN, Esquire,
Commissioner of Customs,
NEWCHWANG.

TIENTSIN TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 16th June 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,
TIENTSIN, 10th June 1881.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report on the trade at the port of Tientsin during the year 1880 as follows.

VALUE OF THE TRADE.

The figures representing the value of the various branches of the trade of Tientsin, as put down in the statistical compilations accounting for the transactions of the year under review, show that, on the whole, commerce has not been prosperous in the same degree as in 1879. Its total net value, amounting to *Hk.Tls* 24,365,442 in 1879, sank in 1880 to *Hk.Tls* 21,668,434, owing to a fall of over *Hk.Tls* 3,000,000 in Foreign Imports, the total estimated value of which in 1879 was *Hk.Tls* 13,279,624, while in 1880 it only could be estimated at *Hk.Tls* 10,169,133. The decrease in the value of Native produce was but a slight one, *Hk.Tls* 8,940,205, against *Hk.Tls* 9,105,582 in 1879.

As to the value of Exports, the fact of an increase of nearly *Hk.Tls* 580,000 is to be rejoiced in as a token of the steady growth of the productive powers of the region of which Tientsin is the outlet: while the estimated value of goods exported from Tientsin in 1879 amounted to *Hk.Tls* 1,980,236, the Returns of 1880 represent it by the figure *Hk.Tls* 2,559,096.

Deducting the latter sum, plus *Hk.Tls* 5,389,610 of Treasure shipped off in 1880, from the estimated value of Imports (*Hk.Tls* 21,668,438), there remains a sum of *Hk.Tls* 13,000,000 unaccounted for, which in one way or other—probably by banking operations—must be remitted by the North to the South in order to establish the economical equilibrium.

SHIPPING.

During the year there entered the Peiho 409 merchant vessels of the Foreign type, of an aggregate tonnage of 246,860 tons; the number of steamers counted therein being 292, with 209,944 tons, and that of sailing vessels, 117, with 36,916 tons. This shows, compared with the Shipping of the three previous years, when the more or less complete failure of the crops in the north of China gave an extraordinary spurt to the grain-carrying trade, a decrease in the number of trading vessels and their tonnage.

Foremost in importance again stands Chinese shipping, with 161 steamers and 124,718 tons; second, British interests, with 128 steamers and 56 sailing vessels, of 83,828 tons and 18,037 tons respectively; while German shipping—third in importance—was only represented by 44 sailing vessels, of 13,598 tons burden, showing, therefore, that the coasting trade carried on under the German flag is still steadily on the decline.

Comparatively few accidents were noted during the year. On the 1st October the German schooner *Adone*, having, through bumping on the bar when entering the river, sprung a leak, sank into deep water between Taku and Hsinchéng, and became a total wreck. On the 4th November the British brig *Victory* ran ashore on the Shaluteen Banks; at the request of the British Consul, the Chinese gunboat *Chenson*, Captain JOHNSTONE, was sent to her assistance, and succeeded in towing the vessel off and, for repairs, to Taku. Through the sudden setting in of the ice on the 23rd December, the China Coast Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Pechili*, while discharging a cargo at Taku, got caught, and, all efforts to cut her out having proved ineffective, had to winter there. By the consummate skill nowadays displayed by the commanders of the steamers regularly trading to the port, collisions in the river—in former years so numerous—have dwindled down remarkably, although the number of junks did not differ materially from the number observed in the various anchorages in previous years.

Two events deserve special notice as interesting the Shipping of the port. On the 27th August the lightship *Taku*, specially constructed for service outside the Taku Bar, exhibited for the first time a dioptric light, in the place of the temporary light shown, since the foundering of the hulk *Aden*, from the lighter *Gorilla*. The second event referred to was the opening of a dry dock at Taku on the 20th November by His Excellency the Imperial Commissioner Li. The dock is capable to accommodate vessels drawing 15 feet, and 300 feet long. It was constructed in the course of 1880, and originally intended for the use of vessels of the Imperial navy; but it is understood that its use will also be accorded to merchant vessels in need of repairs. It is the intention of the Government to supply the dock with all appliances wanted for building and repairing ships.

IMPORTS.

The noticeable decrease in Foreign Imports, already referred to, may be attributed to two main causes,—rumours of impending war, and over-trading towards the close of 1879. The dark clouds which overhung the political horizon of China throughout the past year had, as a matter of course, a depressing influence on trade, but still Chinese buyers did not by far feel so concerned and restrained in action by the general uncertainty prevailing as Foreigners, placed in their position, would have felt and acted. As to the other cause, one must bear in mind that the year 1879 opened with a lively demand for Foreign Imports, and that traders were only too apt to try and make up for the past meagre years. Thus it happened that during 1879 a greater quantity of Foreign goods was thrown on the Tientsin market than its powers of consumption demanded. The consequence was that the year 1879 closed, leaving great stocks on hand, and that a good part of 1880 was required for reducing them.

OPIMUM.—In 1879, as much as 5,246 piculs were imported, while in 1880 the demand was met with 3,219 piculs only. Comparison, therefore, is showing a falling off of more than 2,000 piculs.

OF COTTON GOODS, Grey Shirtings fell from 1,218,885 pieces to 975,075 pieces; White Shirtings, from 442,067 pieces to 421,881 pieces; and T-Cloths, from 570,767 pieces to 494,130 pieces; while American Drills, which in 1879 had found favour in the Tientsin market to the extent of 259,380 pieces, sank again to 114,780 pieces.

WOOLLEN GOODS.—Of all species there were imported 42,444 pieces, against 66,913 pieces imported the previous year.

METALS show an increase of nearly 8,000 piculs; the total of the various kinds of Metal imported during 1880 being 49,127 piculs, against 41,032 piculs the year before.

SUGAR, for which there was a good demand throughout the year, shows a considerable increase; the importation of Native and Foreign Sugar amounting to 389,912 piculs, against 291,808 piculs imported during the year 1879.

As to direct importations from Foreign countries, one vessel arrived, as for some years past, from Antwerp with Sundries, mostly of German origin; and another vessel brought a cargo of Kerosene Oil from New York. Apart from these arrivals, direct communications with Foreign countries were limited to Japan and Hongkong. From Japan came Coal, Copper, Tea, Camphor-wood, etc., the aggregate value of which during 1880 was *Hk.Tls* 206,373. Imports from Hongkong consisted chiefly of European commodities and Native goods from southern ports. With the exception of Opium and a few articles, such as Dyes, Matches, Needles, and Kerosene Oil, Coal for the use of coasting steamers, spasmodic arrivals of Japan Tea, Seaweed, a few Metals, and Sundries of minor importance, the main Import trade in Foreign goods remained in the hands of Chinese merchants, who, whether they be Tientsin wholesale dealers or merchants trading in the interior, continued purchasing their goods through agents or branch establishments in Shanghai; nor can any of the above-mentioned exceptions be considered the uncontested monopoly of Foreigners.

The importation of Native goods (Brick Tea, perhaps, excepted) has entirely remained in Chinese hands.

EXPORTS.

The Tientsin Export trade has shown more than the customary yearly advance in importance, chiefly owing to the unprecedented large exit of Camel's Wool and Straw Braid. It is, however, to be regretted that purchases in China were made with too little judiciousness, whereby only few of the invoices sent to the European and American markets realised profits, while, on the whole, ventures in these articles are reported to have met with more or less severe reverses.

STRAW BRAID, produced in Chihli and Honan, of which 19,061 piculs were exported, against 10,937 piculs in 1879, is an article in the manufacture of which great and constant care should be displayed, and which should be enforced by the Foreign exporter, by his subjecting to thorough scrutiny and personal examination every bale and every bundle before taking it off the

hands of the Native manufacturer or dealer, and running the risk of sending it into the market where competition is rife. Last year much carelessness was shown in this. Besides, the eagerness with which many exporting firms bought up *on* Braid coming into the market caused dealers and manufacturers to think that Straw Braid made up anyhow would do to realise profits. Thus it came that, for the sake of momentary gain, the reputation and future of this important branch of the North China trade has been seriously jeopardised. It is to be hoped, as well in the interest of the population of the Straw Braid-producing districts as in that of the Foreign merchants, who still hold the export of this important article in their hands, that its increase will be promoted by increased vigilance displayed in its selection and manufacture.

CAMEL'S WOOL.—In 1879 there were 9,802 piculs exported, and during 1880 exportations rose to 16,442 piculs, a figure also quite without precedent in commercial annals of the port; the largest exportation anterior to 1880 being that of 1877, when 13,384 piculs were shipped off from Tientsin. Camel's Wool, it appears, has as yet not become an article for which there exists a regular, well-sustained demand in Foreign markets. Its chances of profitableness, therefore, still very much depend on the general state of the Foreign Wool markets. This seems to be confirmed by the report of losses experienced on the Camel's Wool sent from Tientsin to London last year.

BLACK TEA AND BRICK TEA.—77,212 piculs of the former and 219,271 piculs of the latter were passed through Tientsin in 1880, against 132,098 piculs of Black Tea and 269,937 piculs of Brick Tea, which passed through in 1879. To the political uncertainties prevailing during the year the obvious decrease must be ascribed. Some of the Tea transported beyond the Wall in the fall of last year was insured against the risk of war.

RHUBARB is an article which seems worthy of more than a passing notice, as by study and attention to its sources it may be brought to play a more important part in the Export trade of Tientsin than it has hitherto. The Returns show great fluctuations in the quantities exported during various years; its exportation depends, therefore, seemingly upon desultory arrivals from the producing districts. It is natural to suppose that the supply would become more regular if Tientsin could be made a regular market; this would no doubt also stimulate its production. That its export is capable of expansion was shown during 1875, when it reached 1,485 piculs.

Rhubarb (大黃) is the dried root of a genus of plants, the Rhesus, undoubtedly indigenous in China, growing wild in most of the northern and western provinces, as well as Thibet, but which is nowhere, as far as I can ascertain, brought under cultivation. The roots are dug up when from six to seven years old, just before the flowering season, which occurs during the third or fourth moons, and again during the seventh or eighth moons, after the seed has ripened. They are then peeled and cut in lengths measuring from 4 to 5 inches, bored through the middle, placed on strings, and hung up to dry. This process, however, seems to be only applied to the larger and better roots, as the sections of thin roots that form the bulk of the cheaper grades met with here have seemingly received no further care than a thorough drying. The Rhubarb exported from Tientsin is produced in the north-western districts of Chihli, in Honan, Shensi, and Kansuh. It is not improbable also that some of the best is brought from Thibet by merchants following in the wake of the Tribute and Government caravans constantly passing to and fro. It varies greatly in quality, and

bears external evidence of being the product not only of widely separated tracts of country, but distinct varieties of the Rheum plant. There is reason to believe, too, that some of the inferior quality is the root of the Dock plant, Yangti (羊蹄), which, on account of its resemblance to that of the Rheum, is honoured by the name of Rhubarb, and is sold as such. The great difference in value would alone seem to point towards such an assumption. The following are the best-known varieties of Rhubarb in this market: Hsining (西貢), which stamps it as coming from the place of that name, in Kansuh, and Chungchi (中吉), worth from Tta 15 upwards; the next grades, Chihuang (紀黃) and Taihuang (台黃), are worth from Tta 3; and Shanhuang (山黃), only Tta 2.50 per picul. The best of the former is firm in texture, dry, of good weight, and, when cut, of a reddish yellow colour; the three last-mentioned kinds are very hard, darker coloured inside, and, when chewed, deficient in taste and flavour. No record has been kept of the proportion in which the various qualities are exported, as all kinds of Rhubarb pay duty alike, according to Tariff rate; but, as near as I can ascertain, the better grades predominate. About five years ago Rhubarb was exported from Tientsin by Foreign merchants, who have since then withdrawn from the trade, but whether on account of inability to procure a good quality and steady supply here, or unremunerative prices at home, I am unable to say. It will be remembered that in former days most of the Rhubarb consumed in Europe was obtained from the Chinese at Kiakhta, and brought overland to Russia, where, naturally enough, the best was selected for home use, and the rest disposed of to other countries under the name of "Turkish Rhubarb." But this monopoly in the prized drug gradually passed out of Russian hands as the Chinese found nearer markets at the Coast and River Ports, when these were opened to Foreign trade. I have, unfortunately, no data at hand from which to ascertain how much, if any, is now sent overland to Russia.

CURIOSITIES.—Under this heading are classed cloisonnés, émaillés, old bronzes, laquer-ware, paintings on silk, and numberless other articles of vertu, the great bulk of which is destined to figure in the curiosity shops of London and Paris. A great deal of valuable old Chinaware exported from this place might also be brought under the same heading, were it not passed, according to Tariff, as Fine Chinaware. A marked increase has taken place in the export of Curiosities since the late famine, when so many well-to-do families were forced, on the verge of starvation, to part with cherished heirlooms, which, doubtless, in a great many instances had been treasured up for centuries. Foreign connoisseurs were not slow in improving such an opportunity for the acquisition of "rare bits," and agents of European houses were busily engaged during the year in collecting and sending away all kinds of curios, which brought up the value of those enumerated under "Curiosities" alone to nearly *Hk.*Tta 30,000.

CLOISONNÉ.—The making of cloisonné at Peking and its export from this place is steadily increasing. As the art is quaint and interesting, and the process of manufacture not generally known, a description may find room here of the various processes an ordinary vase has to undergo before it becomes that quaint bit of grotesque colouring which so delights the soul of the *bric-à-brac* hunter. The requisites for its manufacture are a copper vessel beaten out into the required shape, bits of copper wire flattened and bent to form the desired pattern, a kind of glass or silice substance, great skill, and, above all, consummate patience and plodding perseverance. The flattened copper wires which form the divisions or walls between [the

various colours are dexterously shaped into curves or leaflets of a given pattern by little boys, who have no other implement than a pair of pincers in each hand. These bits of wire are then grouped upon the surface of the copper vessel to make the outlines of flowers, birds, or arabesques, and temporarily secured with glue. When the whole pattern is complete it is firmly fixed to the background by strewing a quantity of silver filings thereon and exposing it to the sharp heat of a charcoal fire. It is now ready for the filling in of the coloured glass, which is crushed and mixed with water, in order to make it adhere to the surface. Each colour is carefully filled into its proper compartment by means of a tiny spoon or ladle. The filling in being completed, the whole vessel is entirely surrounded with charcoal fire, until the glass is melted, and then taken out to cool. This process of filling in and burning has to be repeated several times before every cavity is filled to the surface, and once more after the whole has been ground down, if any inequalities are discovered. When a completely equal surface has been thus obtained, it is elaborately polished and the copperwork gilded. But what has taken so short a time to describe takes several weeks to accomplish.

The manufacture of cloisonné had its rise and fall, like everything else. It flourished especially during the KING TAI (景泰) reign of the Ming dynasty, and again during the reigns of KANG HSI (康熙) and KIEN LUNG (乾隆), of the Ta Ch'ing dynasty. Among the productions of those epochs are to be found many pieces of high art, for which there exists an increasing demand. During the reigns of TAO KWANG (道光) and HSIEN FÉNG (咸豐), this industry, like that of porcelain, fell off very much, and during the times of rebellion the art in it got almost extinct. However, since Foreigners are residing at Peking, a great demand has gradually been springing up for the article, and much progress made towards conquering for it the admiration bestowed 20 years ago only on the cloisonné produced in days gone by.

REVENUE.

The total amount of Revenue collected was *Hl.Ta* 382,679, standing thus with nearly *Hl.Ta* 40,000 behind the collection of 1879, and being entirely due to the great falling off in the importation of Opium.

GENERAL.

Telegraphs.—The event of the year under review has been the resolution passed by the Imperial Government to have a telegraph line between Shanghai, Chinkiang, Nanking, and Tientsin. The construction of the line has been confided to the Great Northern Telegraph Company, which bids fair for the technical execution of the first great land line. The line will follow as closely as possible the embankment of the Grand Canal; it will have two wires, and it is to be in working order before the end of 1881. At Tientsin a college has been opened in which a number of young Chinese are being instructed in the rudiments of the use of the telegraph.

The importance of the step taken by the Imperial Government in this matter can hardly be overrated. Although as yet no definite arrangements have been made for extending the

line to Peking, yet, it may be confidently expected that this link will not long be missing once direct telegraphic messages between Tientsin and Shanghai are exchanged. It likewise may be expected that after one wire has crossed the high walls of the capital, the telegraph will prove in China as irresistible as it did in every other country, and that its meshwork will before the close of the century expand all over the Empire: *ce n'est que le premier pas qui coûte*. It is to be hoped that the Foreign tree—the telegraph—transplanted on Chinese soil will not be devoid of the sap—*i.e.*, a sound administration,—which alone can make it flourish, and that the first great line will not turn out a great financial failure. That Tientsin will be commercially benefited by the telegraph there is no reason to doubt.

Railways.—Although as yet not, like the telegraph, an established fact in China, the railway is, it may be argued, not far from becoming one. It is no secret that in the course of the past year a strong movement, prompted by the political and military difficulties of the moment, was set on foot in favour of its introduction; that all possible advantages and disadvantages of the institution were freely and exhaustively discussed by the leading statesmen of the Empire; and that even many memorials bearing on this interesting subject were deposited on the steps of the Throne. That a decree ordering or authorising the construction of railways would change the whole political, military, and commercial status of the Empire, who, conversant with the history of the past 60 years, could doubt? China is still by many considered as being 200 years behind the countries of the West. The discussion that marked proceedings last year sufficiently proves that China is getting aware that nowadays she, too, must follow in the wake of nations in order to hold her own in the hour of competitive test. Discussion, it is true, has for the present ceased, but there are signs that soon it will be revived, and once revived it will lead to action.

Mining.—In various directions Native explorers have been busy to perfect the estimates of the mineral wealth of this province and the adjacent regions beyond the Great Wall; and, to judge from certain reports circulated and specimens of ore exhibited, it would appear that rich copper mines have been discovered between Kupéikou (杏北口) and Jehol (熱河). These mines, it is understood, will shortly be worked. At Kaiping (關平) mining operations have been pushed on with great vigour, and the managers expect to furnish the Tientsin market with the required quantity of coal before the end of 1881. A tidal canal, over 60 li in length, by which the coal is to be brought in barges to Lutai (蘆台), on the Peitang (北塘) river, has been dug out according to programme, notwithstanding opposition on the part of some of the owners of the land through which the canal had to pass.

In Chihli, as in other parts of the Empire, the mining question—with and without Foreign appliances—is practically legalised, but it is still to be feared that mining will not develop, pay, and offer inducement for carrying it on on a larger scale until the railway question is solved too. To illustrate this, it had better be mentioned that by inquiries made in the course of last year, it was ascertained that at the Chaitang (寨堂) mines, about 180 li to the west of Peking, coal, equal to the best Welsh coal, can be had at 7½ t per ton. These mines, worked in the primitive Chinese style, are fully capable of turning out 200 tons a day, and it would appear that by the use of Foreign appliances the cost of extracting the fuel could hardly be diminished. The whole difficulty of securing to coal of such excellent quality as Chaitang coal is generally

acknowledged to be, an extensive consumption at Tientsin and elsewhere lies in the present costliness of transportation, for the minute inquiries referred to led to the result that the coal, costing at the mouth of the pit $\text{T}h$ 1 a ton, could not be delivered at Tientsin without loss for less than $\text{T}h$ 9 a ton; while, on the other hand, it was clearly established that by the construction of a tramway from Chaitang, north of Peking, to Tungchow, the same coal could be brought to and sold at Tientsin, with great profit, for from $\text{T}h$ 4 to $\text{T}h$ 5 a ton.

Canalisation.—Besides the canal already mentioned as dug from Lutai to the Kaiping mines, a great deal has been done by the Government for drainage and irrigation in those parts of the province which for a succession of years have been suffering from either drought or floods, especially in the prefecture of Hochien (河間). In spring last year a canal of over 100 li in length was made by the military from the camp of Machang (馬廠) to that of HsiaoChan (小站), whereby the river going under the name of "Grand Canal" (運河) will be relieved during the rainy season of a portion of the volume of water it brings down. The chance of seeing the plains around Tientsin under water have thereby been considerably removed.

Climate.—The year was, as far as the health of the population is concerned, a very good one. Rain fell in proper time to help on the crops, and the harvest turned out what the Chinese call a seven-tenth harvest. There was little of the misery to be seen in and around Tientsin which characterised the preceding two or three years.

I have, etc,

DETRING,

Commissioner of Customs.

To

ROBERT HART, Esquire,

Inspector General of Customs,

PEKING.

CHEFOO TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 22nd March 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,

YÉNTAI, 25th February 1881.

SIR,

THE large increase in the number and tonnage of Shipping, in Foreign and Native Imports, Exports, values, and duties collected, recorded in the Chefoo Annual Report for 1879, which rendered that year the most prosperous, from a Customs point of view, of any since the opening of the port in 1863, has been followed by a considerably reduced trade during the year under review. As compared with 1879, there is a marked decrease in Shipping, a decrease of over *Hk.Ths* 1,000,000 in the values of Opium and Cotton Piece Goods imported, and a decrease of nearly *Hk.Ths* 17,000 in Native Imports. The Export trade shows an increase of about *Hk.Ths* 150,000. The value of the Import and Export trade together, though less by *Hk.Ths* 1,000,000 than in 1879, is yet greater than in any previous year since 1863. There is no reason to doubt that but for the rumours of approaching war and the constant movement of troops in this and the adjacent province, which kept the people in a state of intense excitement, the trade of this year would have fully equalled, if not exceeded, that of 1879. There was every indication of prosperity. The industries of Shantung were in full activity; the manufacture of paper in the vicinity of Weishien (潍縣) was greatly extended. Formerly, only a coarse kind was produced, while this year nearly all varieties were made, and sent in every direction over the province. Weavers who during and subsequent to the famine were without employment had more work than they could perform, and so great was the demand for this kind of labour that many young men are now learning the trade. Makers of incense had ready sale for all they could produce. Temples and images were redecorated, and—an infallible sign of prosperity—the play-actors could not fulfil all the engagements offered them. Agricultural prospects were also good. Favoured by the soft, fertilising rains of April and May, the wheat harvest was excellent. During summer and autumn little rain fell, and consequently the crops on the elevated land were light, but those on the low alluvial soil were more abundant than usual. The "kaoliang" was unusually high in the stalk, and good; and Beans, Peas, Millet, and all panicum crops were described as "shih-fén hao"—perfect,—a happy circumstance, as these lands were submerged during part of the previous year, owing to the excessive rainfall of the three summer months.

A greater number of beasts of burthen were said to have been sold in the eastern section of the province than in any former year, and droves of them were to be met constantly coming from the South for sale. From the Ichao (沂州) district, and to the West, the reports were not so favourable. In consequence of the absence of summer and autumn rains, the land in many places was so parched that it could not be ploughed with the rude implements in use; therefore the winter wheat was not sown, and in October droves of cattle were driven to more favoured localities for sale, the people saying that they feared they would be unable to winter them. Subsequent heavy snowfalls have, it is confidently expected, removed all cause for apprehension of distress in this region. The people of Chimei (即墨), who usually derive a considerable sum from their date and pear orchards, were also unfortunate; these crops, which in the previous year were more abundant than usual, being almost a total failure, attributable perhaps to severe hailstorms in May, which destroyed the young buds and blossoms on the fruit trees. With these exceptions, the prosperous condition of the province has been most marked, and there is every reason to anticipate that it will be blessed with a fruitful yield in the coming seasons of 1881, and that that year will be one of increased commercial activity.

IMPORT TRADE.

Foreign goods were imported from Foreign countries, Hongkong, and Chinese ports representing a gross value of *Hk.Tls* 4,383,490. Of these there were re-exported, chiefly to Swatow, Tientsin, and Newchwang, goods valued at *Hk.Tls* 220,763, leaving a balance, valued at *Hk.Tls* 4,162,727, representing the local consumption.

Native produce was imported, chiefly from Shanghai, Swatow, Takow in Formosa, Amoy, and Newchwang, representing a gross value of *Hk.Tls* 2,511,150. Of this, *Hk.Tls* 165,739 worth was re-exported to other Chinese ports, leaving a balance, valued at *Hk.Tls* 2,345,411, for local consumption.

The most valuable item of the Foreign Import trade was OPIUM. The importation of all descriptions of this drug amounted to 2,641.18 piculs gross, valued at *Hk.Tls* 1,416,483, against 4,172.99 piculs in 1879, which was, however, a somewhat exceptional year, being 370.45 piculs in excess of 1878, and over 1,000 piculs in excess of the importations of the two preceding years—years of famine. Of the quantity imported in 1880, 230 piculs were re-exported to other Chinese ports. The deficiency arose principally in Malwa, 2,098.76 piculs, against 3,575.79 piculs in 1879, and may be attributed chiefly to the unsettled state of the political horizon, partly to the increased production and cheapness of the Chinese drug, which was sold at considerably lower prices than during the previous two years, and partly to the importation of "Lie Opium" (221.75 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 3,335, or *Hk.Tls* 15 per picul, and charged a duty of five per cent. *ad valorem*). This spurious Opium is called in Chinese indifferently Chihma-kao (芝麻膏), preparation of Sossamum Seed; Liaoping (料餅), Cako-stuff; and Chiayên-kao (假烟膏), preparation of false Opium; under which latter designation it appears in Table No. IV, "Annual Returns of Trade." It is made from Sossamum Seed, mixed with several other ingredients—amongst them, probably, Opium Husks and sweepings, of which, however, we have been unable to detect any

trace,—and is used to adulterate Opium. It is of a dark colour, and reaches here in packets of about 2 catties each, wrapped in oiled paper, *via* Shanghai, from Hankow for the most part. In 1879 the latter port exported 617.98 piculs, and Chefoo received 197.68 piculs only; thus it would appear that it is largely used elsewhere. Preparations of crab apples and of sugar, or molasses extracted from wheat, are also used in this province to adulterate Opium, sometimes to the extent of from 40 to 60 per cent. Native Opium is as highly adulterated; in fact, it is adulterated as ordered. Prepared Opium (of course adulterated) can be obtained in the Opium dens of Chefoo for 40 *cash* per mace, whereas the genuine article cannot be profitably sold at less than 98 to 100 *cash* per mace.

Benares, 321.48 piculs, against 330.60 piculs in 1879, was next in favour, averaged **Th** 450 per picul, and was generally in fair demand.

Pufao, never largely consumed here on account of its higher price, receded from 59.60 piculs in 1879 to 31.26 piculs.

Perseon, 188 piculs, for which, when of good quality, there is usually a market, fell short of the importation of 1879 by 19 piculs.

A small quantity, 1.74 piculs, of Native Opium was imported from Shanghai. In 1877 and 1878 a few catties of Prepared Opium were imported, but during the last two years none has passed through this Custom House.

As compared with 1879, there was the very serious falling off in the value of the Opium trade at this port of no less than **Hk. Th** 623,329.

COTTON GOODS.—In nearly every item under this heading there was a falling off as compared with the importations of 1879. Grey Shirtings fell from 422,936 pieces to 284,515 pieces, White Shirtings from 28,414 pieces to 24,982 pieces, and Dyed Spotted Shirtings from 10,260 pieces to 638 pieces; T-Cloths from 352,073 pieces to 350,413 pieces; English Drills from 4,177 pieces to 2,700 pieces; English Sheetings from 2,850 pieces to 1,967 pieces; Turkey Red Cloths from 67,908 pieces to 63,770 pieces; and Brocades, Chintzes, Damasks, Handkerchiefs, Lastings, Mahomedans, and Twills each exhibit a decreased import, although not so marked as in the items above recorded. These deficiencies were in no wise compensated for by an increase of 1,090 pieces in English Jeans, 321 pieces Muslins, 1,141 pieces Dyed Shirtings, and 400 pieces Velveteens. In American Cotton manufactures there was an increase of 1,705 pieces Jeans, but Drills decreased from 68,643 pieces to 41,695 pieces, showing the large deficit of 26,950 pieces, and Sheetings dropped from 97,647 pieces to 95,816 pieces.

The total number of pieces of every description of Cotton Piece Goods imported in 1880 was 956,584, valued at **Hk. Th** 1,729,361, being 190,238 pieces, valued at **Hk. Th** 413,529, less than the importation of 1879.

This reduced importation of English and American Cotton Cloths may be accounted for, as in the case of Opium, by the apprehension of approaching war which overshadowed the middle and later months of the year, and also by the increased activity in the Native weaving trade, already alluded to, indicated by a largely augmented import of Cotton Yarn and a decrease of nearly one-half in the receipt of Native Cotton Cloths.

Cotton Yarn, 11,849.37 piculs, still continues to increase, being 1,828 piculs in excess of the importation of 1879, which was three times greater than the importations of any of the

five preceding years. This increase is due to the extension of the Shantung weaving trade, as above stated.

Cotton Thread, 20.35 piculs, was less by 14 piculs than in 1879; and *Cotton Quilts*, which were 680 piculs, are this year unrepresented.

WOOLEN GOODS.—In 1879 there was a very remarkable increase in *Woollen and Crape Lastings*, which attained to 24,447 pieces, against a usual annual import of from 1,300 pieces to 1,500 pieces. These goods have now decreased to 3,010 pieces, the result, probably, of the exceedingly large import of the preceding year, although liability to fade and want of durability are also reasons assigned.

Figured and Plain Orleans Cloths, 13,784 pieces, are far below average; 27,470 pieces and 17,508 pieces having been imported in 1878 and 1879 respectively.

Camlets, 1,570 pieces, *Long Ells*, 401 pieces, and *Spanish Stripes*, 2,574 pieces, represent the usual requirement of the port.

Woollen and Cotton Mixtures to the value of *Hk.Ths* 1,563 were imported.

The trade in *Woollen Goods* is represented by 22,496 pieces of all descriptions, valued at *Hk.Ths* 142,802. These figures would be greatly increased if an article could be manufactured to successfully compete with wadded cotton clothes in warmth, cheapness, and durability.

METALS.—In 1879 there was a large increase in all the articles forming this list, with the exception of *Lead, Steel, and Tin Slabs*. This year there is not an article which does not show a decreased importation.

Nail-rod Iron, which in 1879 was 39,904 piculs, is now 15,660 piculs; *Iron Wire*, which in the same year reached 8,051 piculs, is now 3,900 piculs; and *Bar Iron* has fallen from 16,067 piculs to 14,502 piculs. The explanation of this may be found in the importation of an enormous quantity of *Old Iron*, consisting of boiler-plates, horse-shoes, scraps, etc., amounting to 67,878.26 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 92,580. These are worked up into nails, which are a most important manufacture here, into shoes for the thousands of mules, asses, and horses—the carriers of Shantung,—and they also enter into the manufacture of most of the articles coming from the blacksmith's shop. The trade of blacksmith and farrier is a flourishing one. At night *Yétsai* is aglow with furnaces and resonant with the blow of hammer on anvil, as these industrious artisans pursue their craft far into the night. *Lead*, 1,432.40 piculs, was only a fourth of the import of 1879; *Foreign Steel* fell from 4,091.89 piculs to little over half that quantity; *Native Steel*, from 2,109.70 piculs to 360.11 piculs; and *Tin Slabs* drop from 6,243.47 piculs in 1878 and 1,660.90 piculs in 1879 to the insignificant import of 59.80 piculs. *Quicksilver*, 19.68 piculs, shows a deficit of 404.73 piculs when compared with 1879.

SUNDRIES.—*Foreign Coal*, 5,100 piculs, was again in excess of previous importations. *Window Glass*, 330,100 square feet, was nearly treble the quantity imported in 1879. *Matches*, 58,070 gross; *Rice*, 107,291 piculs; and *Kerosene Oil*, 11,610 gallons, were also greatly increased importations.

In *Isinglass*, 680 piculs; *Needles*, 211,550 mille; *Russian Seaweed*, 94,887 piculs; *Japan Seaweed*, 13,218 piculs; and *Sapanwood*, 12,917 piculs, there was a marked depreciation in quantities and values.

Foreign Brown Sugar and Foreign White Sugar, to the amount of 8,275 piculs and 769 piculs respectively, were imported from Siam and Hongkong.

Foreign Umbrellas reach the value of *Hk.Ths* 1,467.

NATIVE PRODUCE.—The value of goods of Chinese origin forming this division of the Import trade was estimated to be *Hk.Ths* 2,345,411 net, as before stated. This trade, although so valuable, being worth more than half the value of the trade in Foreign Imports, was not largely competed in by Foreigners. The principal articles consist of those enumerated in the following comparative table:—

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	Character of Quantity.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Arsenic.....	Piculs	1,731.53	1,126.39	1,527.27	1,021.38	2,565.68	1,323.94
Buttons, Brass.....	"	986.96	646.77	375.23	789.87	1,033.80	5,100
Cotton, Raw.....	"	506.24	7,016.62	6,849.16	9,596.58	6,607.04	946.79
Grasscloth, Coarse.....	"	1,043.83	939.94	391.75	739.59	1,593.88	1,889.70
Medicines.....	"	2,658.17	1,485.29	1,334.37	2,715.84	2,454.92	2,941.95
Paper, 1st Quality.....	"	8,907.39	3,668.38	2,682.12	10,207.78	10,942.48	6,319.33
" 2nd	"	31,411.90	26,441.43	33,062.80	43,838.49	26,732.07	31,029.07
" Joss	"	5,001.25	4,061.93	5,285.21	6,324.36	4,124.66	1,712.71
Rice.....	Rgo	59,999	195,113.06	73,488.25	100,430.55	107,291	107,291
Silk Caps.....	Piculs	885	1,450	1,636	10,035	7,821	7,893
" and Cotton Mixtures.....	Piculs	25.00	25.46	11.95	16.00	13.36	15.86
" Embroideries.....	"	15.95	5.38	...	3.12	4.86	...
" Piece Goods.....	"	375.51	204.98	187.03	326.11	276.39	320.12
" Ribbons.....	"	106.77	37.87	26.37	52.00	106.39	111.71
" Satins.....	"	...	...	...	...	12.84	...
" Thread.....	"	9.45	7.07	10.48	19.70	23.97	25.94
Sugar, Brown.....	"	230,357.48	150,137.94	105,795.23	137,544.21	177,676.87	168,865.98
" Candy.....	"	12,374.44	954.50	73,366	5,663.89	10,956.46	7,733.73
" White.....	"	95,105.55	46,663.21	27,023.18	34,821.31	52,599.76	77,500.74
Tobacco, Prepared.....	"	3,002.40	1,618.01	1,139.29	2,007.44	1,610.89	4,571.74
Turmeric.....	"	2,193.41	1,737.61	2,237.77	2,469.01	4,202.53	3,901.32

The most important item in the foregoing table is Sugar, all descriptions of which attain to the value of *Hk.Ths* 1,161,789, or, roundly, to half the entire value of the Native Import trade. Brown Sugar, 168,865.98 piculs, falls short of the importation of 1879 by 8,805 piculs; but this deficiency is more than redressed by the receipt of 77,500.74 piculs White Sugar, against 52,599.76 piculs. There is a decrease, when compared with 1879, of 3,233 piculs in Sugar Candy; but the present receipt is so largely in excess of those of the three years prior to 1879 that it must be held to be eminently satisfactory.

Silk Goods, consisting of Pieces, Ribbons, Thread, and even 84 cattiees Pongees, valued at *Hk.Ths* 236,929, represent a valuable import. In Silk Piece Goods there have been considerable fluctuations during the past five years. The present receipt is 320.12 piculs. Ribbons, 111.71 piculs, compare very favourably with the average for the previous five years. Silk Thread, 25.94 piculs, is a steadily progressive and satisfactory import.

Rice, 107,291 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 136,864, as against 100,431 piculs in 1879, and 8.90 piculs in 1875. The bulk of the importation probably went to feed the southern troops

now in this province, but it is nevertheless evident that an increasing market for Rice exists at Chefoo.

Native Raw Cotton.—The remarkable falling off in the importation of this staple in Foreign bottoms will be best illustrated by the following figures.—

1878.	1879.	1880.
<i>Piculs</i> 9,596.58	<i>Piculs</i> 6,647.04	<i>Piculs</i> 946.79

This depreciation, coupled with the fact that the manufacture of Native Cotton Cloths in Shantung had largely increased, induced me to make many inquiries amongst Chinese, the result of which is that I am informed that it is not found profitable to bring Cotton here in steamers, excepting in cases of emergency; that its transport has reverted to junks, which bring from Chiangpei (江北) and Tungchow (通州), in Kiangsu, to Chefoo, some 25,000 bales annually, at a charge of 7 mace per bale, and from those ports and Shanghai to Huanghsien (黃縣) and Put'ai (濰臺) about 17,000 bales, on which duty is levied at the rate of 1 mace five candareens per picul of 130 cattie. Judging from the number of cotton-laden cargo-boats constantly passing from junks to the Native Custom House here, it would appear that the statement that much of the carriage of Cotton has reverted to junks is substantially correct.

Paper.—1st Quality, 6,319 piculs, is less by some 4,000 piculs than during the two previous years, although the importation contrasts favourably with those of 1876 and 1877. 2nd Quality, 31,929 piculs, is largely in excess of 1879, but nearly 13,000 piculs less than the import of 1878. Joss Paper, 1,713 piculs, is but a third of the average annual import. These deficiencies proceed from no lack of demand, but rather from the fact that during the past few years the manufacture of Paper at Wehsien (濰縣) and its vicinity has largely increased. Formerly, only a coarse kind was produced. Now almost all kinds are manufactured and sent in various directions in the province for sale. The value of all kinds of Paper imported in 1880 reached the high figures, *Hk.Ths* 352,633.

EXPORT TRADE.

The surplus productions of this and the adjoining provinces, exported *via* Chefoo to Foreign ports, and removed coastwise to Hongkong and Chinese ports in Foreign shipping, is estimated to value *Hk.Ths* 3,397,677. To this may be added the re-export of merchandise to Foreign countries and to Hongkong and Chinese ports, valued at *Hk.Ths* 165,739, making a total Export trade valued at *Hk.Ths* 3,563,416, a higher valuation than ever before attained to in any one year. The merchandise represented by these figures consisted of Straw Braid, Beancake, Silk Pongees, Wild Raw Silk, Yellow Silk, etc., Vermicelli, Beans, Bean Oil, Dates (Red and Black), Medicines, Ginseng, Liquorice, Dried Shrimps, and Sundries too numerous to detail, and was carried in 169 vessels, making 601 trips, aggregating 385,255 tons; and the duties levied amounted to *Hk.Ths* 126,689.62.0. Shanghai was the largest recipient, receiving, for shipment to Foreign countries and redistribution in China, Straw Braid, valued at *Hk.Ths* 1,099,832; Silk Pongees;

Wild, Yellow, and Waste Silk, valued at *Hk.Tls* 554,833; Vermicelli, valued at *Hk.Tls* 262,032; Dates, valued at *Hk.Tls* 45,099; and Medicines, Liquorice, Almonds, and Sundries; making a total trade valued at *Hk.Tls* 2,246,480. The trade with Swatow was next in importance, consisting of Beancake, valued at *Hk.Tls* 393,352; Beans of all kinds, valued at *Hk.Tls* 33,393; Vermicelli, valued at *Hk.Tls* 87,664; Black and Red Dates, valued at *Hk.Tls* 6,367; and Sundries, valued at *Hk.Tls* 49,155. Amoy was a consumer of Beancake to the value of *Hk.Tls* 317,569; Beans of all kinds, valued at *Hk.Tls* 53,292; Dried Shrimps and Prawns, valued at *Hk.Tls* 14,865; Dates, Bean Oil, and Sundries; forming in all a trade worth *Hk.Tls* 465,647. The value of the merchandise taken to Hongkong for redistribution to other Chinese ports was *Hk.Tls* 59,198; that for exportation to Foreign countries, *Hk.Tls* 51,813. The produce consisted of Beans, Dates, Medicines, Vermicelli, and Straw Braid. Tientsin took Exports valued at *Hk.Tls* 1,156, and Re-exports valued at *Hk.Tls* 39,806; these goods consisted of Brown Sugar, Sugar Candy, 1st Quality Paper, and Felt Caps. Newchwang is fifth on the list, taking Shantung produce, such as Prepared Tobacco, Medicines, and Huaimai Dye, valued at *Hk.Tls* 2,282; and Re-exports, consisting of Brown and White Sugar, Prepared Tobacco, 1st Quality Paper, White Lead, and White Wax, valued at *Hk.Tls* 30,774. Foochow was a customer for Beans, Beancake, and Red and Black Dates, to the value of *Hk.Tls* 27,808. Canton received *Hk.Tls* 18,611 worth of the same description of merchandise; and Ningpo received Beans and Red Dates to the extent of *Hk.Tls* 7,981 only. The shipments to Foreign countries were represented by *Hk.Tls* 4,520, Straw Braid, to Great Britain; an export of Liquorice, Medicines, and Silk Pongees, valued at *Hk.Tls* 6,668, and Re-exports, valued at *Hk.Tls* 13,113, consisting entirely of Brown Sugar, to Japan. Russian Manchuria was supplied with Cotton, Cotton Clothing, Brown Sugar, Ironware, Mats, Nankeens, 1st Quality Paper, Shoes, Silk Pongees, Vermicelli, and Sundries, valued at *Hk.Tls* 17,558. The value of Chefoo Exports and Re-exports to Foreign countries and to Hongkong for shipment to Foreign countries is estimated to be *Hk.Tls* 93,692.

Straw Braid.—Fourteen years ago this export amounted to 1,463 piculs; since then it has expanded to 33,368.09 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 1,115,925, in 1880, the largest shipment from this port ever recorded. This business, notwithstanding, can scarcely be looked upon as a satisfactory one either to exporters or Native dealers, owing to the low range of prices consequent upon excessive supply. In addition to the general supplies of ordinary makes, several novelties in colours were introduced by the Native manufacturers, but the combinations which suggested themselves to the Chinese mind were unfortunately not calculated to meet with great favour in the eyes of Foreigners. There were Blues, light and dark, and Green, mixed each with White and Yellow or Golden. There were also Red and White, Magenta and White, and Golden and White. The latter differed little from common Mottled, and might have been taken for it but for the regularity of its pattern. All were worked in the two patterns common in Black and White. The only kind which met with noticeable demand was the Magenta and White, of which some 300 bales were brought in from the interior, and about 150 bales sold, presumably at remunerative prices, the balance remaining in the hands of Native dealers. With the other kinds scarcely anything has been done, and the exports of all amount to a few piculs only. The new ideas, being purely Native, point to a certain amount of enterprise, and it is to be regretted that the combinations of colours were not more in accordance with

Foreign taste. One or two samples of Chítze-ya, or saw-toothed, and other Foreign fancy makes were suggested, but as they were so widely different from what the Chinese plaiters have been accustomed to make, the latter failed to grasp at once the idea, and their productions were defective. The bulk of last year's trade was in Mottled Plait, but the production has so increased in quantity and decreased in quality that even at from 2*d.* to 3*d.* per score yards (at which it can be sold in the London market), it commands very little attention. The Shansi kind forms about the same proportion of the total export, say 10 per cent, as it did in 1879. It cannot be procured at present in the right qualities to make it a very desirable export, and the movement of soldiery and consequent uneasiness of feeling have tended somewhat to check production.

Chefoo White Braid has fallen off considerably, owing to the greater preference shown for a White Plait made near Peking, which is of a much lighter straw and generally of a better colour than the Laichow plait. The Shantung plaiters will not pay sufficient heed to the requirements for a purely White Plait.

Black and White Braid is said to pay the producers better, because so much time is saved in using the whole length of the straw when dyed, instead of having to join so often, as with White, and consequently the production has been excessive.

Beaneake, 967,717 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 722,949, were exported, against 1,184,535 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 985,781, in 1879. The shipments of 1880, although somewhat less than those of the two previous years, do not compare unfavourably with those of 1876 and 1877. The deficiency was accounted for to me thus: for the last three or four years it has been the practice for certain manufacturers in the interior to mix foreign substances with the cake, in order to increase its weight. This was known to the southern buyers, but they were unable to trace with certainty the adulterators. Another practice also sprang up, viz., that of making some cakes lighter by 2 or 2½ cattie than the established weight (56 cattie), which were nevertheless sold as of full weight by a manipulation of the balance scale. This led to protests from the Swatow Guild, and proposals that each cake should be stamped with the hong of the manufacturers, which being refused by the Shantung manufacturers, all dealings with them were stopped by the guild for nearly four months until their wishes were complied with. The adjustment of this difficulty will probably lead to an augmented export of Beaneake in 1881.

Beas Oil.—In four years this export has risen from 327 piculs to 7,028 piculs, being five times the quantity shipped in 1879. The cause of this expansion is that in 1879 the price was *Ths* 3.4 per picul, while in the year under review it has been about *Ths* 2.5, at which cost the article was remunerative to shippers.

Beans.—Black, Green, White, Yellow, and various, 189,875 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 183,622, are 3,739 piculs less than in 1879, though greatly in excess of the three preceding years, and are therefore a satisfactory export.

Silk Pongees, 1,940 piculs. The export of Pongees was progressive from 1,083 piculs in 1875 to 2,436 piculs in 1878, from which it decreased to 1,798 piculs in the next year, and thence rose to its present figure. This article is sold by weight. Each piece measures about 20 yards in length and 1½ feet in width, and weighs about 2 cattie, the weight being recorded on its edge. Its cost varies from \$3 to \$6 per piece, according to weight and quality, and is but

little above that of imported dress stuffs, while the Pongee has the advantage of being more durable. It can be washed in the same manner as cotton dresses without injury, merely losing slightly in its original lustre in the process. One objection to this manufacture is that it does not readily take a dye, the chemical process necessary to extract the lye not having yet been discovered by the Chinese. Their attempts so far have not been very successful; the colours generally look faded, and some threads darker than others, which give the cloth, especially when made into robes, a checkered appearance. It is estimated that there are about 950 looms at work in this province for the manufacture of Pongees from Wild Silk (oak cocoons); Ch'angyi-hsien (昌邑縣) is estimated to possess 500 looms; Ninghai-chow (甯海州), 100 looms; Ch'ihhsia-hsien (棲霞縣), 150 looms; and Chefoo, Messrs. CHASEMANN & HAGEN'S "Filanda," with Foreign machinery, 200 looms. The finer products of the Native looms come only from Ch'angyi-hsien. The fine White Pongee is chiefly used by the Native gentry for summer robes; some of it is also used by Foreign ladies in China for morning dresses. The coarse and dyed kinds are made up into clothing and worn by the Native middle classes. Ninghai-chow Pongees are coarse, but exceedingly durable, and are for the latter reason mostly worn by the poorer classes. Ch'ihhsia-hsien manufactures but one kind, which is also of very coarse quality, and finds favour with those who desire durability rather than fine texture. Only one house at Chefoo deals in these latter Pongees, which are in demand at the Coast Ports. Little of the finer descriptions of Pongees leaves the province, the export as recorded in our Returns consisting chiefly of the coarse and inferior kinds.

Wild Raw Silk, the produce of the silkworm fed on oak leaf. The annual production of this Silk amounts to about 7,125 piculs, and of this, 1,732 piculs were exported in Foreign bottoms in 1880. Since 1875 the export of this article has largely fluctuated. In that year 283 piculs only were exported; in the following year the export amounted to 1,597 piculs; in 1877, 1878, and 1879 it decreased to 161 piculs, 425 piculs, and 475 piculs respectively; and in 1880 it reached 1,732 piculs, as before stated.

In the spring, after the young worms—the producers of this Silk—are hatched, they are, if the weather is still cold, fed for some time in houses, but never longer than 10 days, when they are placed on the oak trees, where they are left—care being taken to prevent them from being destroyed by birds—until the cocoons are ready for gathering. The yield of 1,000 cocoons, weighing about 4 catties, is from 11 to 17 taels of Silk.

Fine Raw Silk has receded from 36.27 piculs in 1879 to 18.66 piculs. This Silk prior to 1879 did not appear in the list of Exports.

Waste Silk is a highly satisfactory export, which has increased from 29.15 piculs in 1876 to 747.48 piculs in 1879, and thence attained to the large export of 3,018.56 piculs. This Silk is now largely imported from the opposite coast of Kwantung, in Manchuria, in junks, and exported hence as Shantung produce.

Vermicelli.—The manufacture of Vermicelli is a notable industry in this province; it is estimated that the annual production is about 60,500 bales of a picul, calculated at 135 catties, each. It is of three qualities: the first being made from green beans only, and worth at the place of production, Huanghsien (黃縣), from Tls 4.40 to Tls 5 per picul. The second quality, worth Tls 4 per picul, is made at Chaoyuen-hsien (招遠縣) of green and other beans;

and the third quality, worth from Tls 3.40 to Tls 3.80 per picul at the places of production, Ch'hsia-hsien (棲霞縣), Laiyang-hsien (萊陽縣), and Fushan-hsien (福山縣), is made from green beans mixed with millet. This export has expanded from 64,906 piculs in 1877 to 103,320 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 412,760, in 1880.

Fresh Fruit.—With the facilities offered by steamers, a large trade appeared to be springing up in Pears, Apples, Apricots, and Cherries, which are among the most abundant products of Shantung. In 1877, 21,914 piculs were exported; this quantity fell to 10,583 piculs in 1879, and has further decreased to 4,976 piculs in 1880. The cause of this decrease may be found in the failure of two out of the four Fruit-shipping hong, and in a severe hailstorm on the 4th May, which destroyed the blossoms on the fruit-trees in this neighbourhood. Strawberries of large size and delicious flavour, the famous Bartlett pear, and other choice fruits, have been successfully cultivated by Foreigners. One gentleman, who has introduced several of the best varieties of Californian fruit trees, has been good enough to give away cuttings of them. When the Chinese discover the price such fruit will fetch, they will eagerly seek to grow it, and in all probability in a few years the delicate Bartlett and other highly esteemed fruits will have displaced the inferior varieties indigenous to the soil. Walnuts to the extent of 2,469 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 6,671, were exported.

Of enumerated Dried Fruits, Almonds (the kernel of the Apricot), 1,625 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 15,761, and Black and Red Dates, 34,414 piculs, valued at *Hk.Tls* 84,821, are the most important. The trade in other descriptions of preserves, under the generic name of Dried Fruits, has been steadily progressive from 360 piculs in 1877 to 2,170 piculs in 1880, or nearly double the export of the preceding year.

RE-EXPORTS.

The re-export of Foreign Goods to Foreign countries consisted of T-Cloths, 1,650 pieces, valued at *Hk.Tls* 2,324; Iron and Unclassed Metals, valued at *Hk.Tls* 536; and Sundries, Unclassed, valued at *Hk.Tls* 754. These goods went to Russian Manchuria, Japan, and Hongkong. The re-exports of Foreign Goods to Chinese ports amounted in value to *Hk.Tls* 217,419, and consisted principally of Opium, valued at *Hk.Tls* 124,251; a small quantity of Cotton Piece Goods and Woollen Piece Goods; 111 piculs Yarn; 694 piculs Tin Slabs; some Iron, Wire, Lead, and Quicksilver; *Hk.Tls* 8,028 worth of Dyes; 128 piculs Deer Horns, Young; 19,500 mille Needles; *Hk.Tls* 3,068 worth of 2nd Quality Seaweed; some Pepper, Woods, and other Sundries; which were re-exported to Newchwang, Tientsin, Shanghai, Amoy, and Swatow. The re-export of Native produce to the above five ports amounted to *Hk.Tls* 151,148; that to Hongkong, Russian Manchuria, and Japan, to *Hk.Tls* 14,591. It consisted principally of Caps; Korean and Native Ginseng; 1st Quality Paper; Raw Silk, valued at *Hk.Tls* 35,775; Straw Braid; Sugar, Brown, White, and Canded; and a number of small Sundries unnecessary to enumerate.

VALUE OF THE TRADE.

During the year under review the net value of the Import trade of this port amounted to *Hk.Tls* 6,508,138 = *£1,952,441; that of the Export trade to *Hk.Tls* 3,397,677 = £1,019,303;

* *Hakwan Tael* calculated at 6.

the total to *Hk.Ths* 9,905,815 = £2,971,745. This sum is *Hk.Ths* 1,057,683 = £317,305 less than the value of the trade in 1879, although it is greater than its value in any other year since the opening of the port of Chefou in 1863. It is in the value of Foreign Imports, which are *Hk.Ths* 1,190,056 less as compared with 1879, that this deficiency has arisen, and on two items chiefly, namely, Opium and Cotton Piece Goods, which show a deficiency of *Hk.Ths* 623,329 and *Hk.Ths* 413,529 respectively. There is also a falling off of *Hk.Ths* 16,779 in the value of Native Imports during the same period, but this is scarcely appreciable. The value of the Export trade, *Hk.Ths* 3,397,677 net, is *Hk.Ths* 149,152 more than in 1879, and is much higher than ever attained to during the previous 16 years. The excess in the value of the Import over the Export trade amounted to *Hk.Ths* 3,110,461; the export of Treasure to *Hk.Ths* 3,120,620, and its import to *Hk.Ths* 498,896.

REVENUE.

The total amount of the collection of dues and duties was *Hk.Ths* 288,146.298, showing a decrease of *Hk.Ths* 52,884.047 as compared with the collection of 1879. This deficit arises principally in the Import Duties on Opium, which are *Hk.Ths* 41,611 short; but there is a falling off under each heading, viz., *Hk.Ths* 4,862 on Import Duties, *Hk.Ths* 2,007 on Export Duties, *Hk.Ths* 973 on Coast Trade Duties, and *Hk.Ths* 3,529 on Tonnage Dues. Of the total Duties collected, the British flag contributed *Hk.Ths* 109,570; the Chinese flag, *Hk.Ths* 105,020; the German flag, *Hk.Ths* 56,891; the American flag, *Hk.Ths* 4,193; the French flag, *Hk.Ths* 3,766; Non-Treaty Powers, *Hk.Ths* 5,135; and the balance was contributed by vessels flying the Danish, Dutch, and Swedish and Norwegian flags.

SHIPPING.

There were 338 vessels employed making 1,196 trips, aggregating a tonnage of 768,477 tons, entered and cleared. These figures show a decrease in the total tonnage, entered and cleared, of 180 vessels and 35,888 tons as compared with last year. It will be at once seen that the decrease in tonnage bears no proportion to the decrease in the number of vessels, and an examination into the figures under the different flags fully corroborates this view. The decrease, too, must be wholly set down to the falling off in the sailing-ship trade, as the steamer return shows an increase of 4 vessels and 28,959 tons as compared with last year, thus indicating a considerable increase in the carrying capacity of the steamers frequenting this port.

British.—Taking the flags in the order of the shipping table, the British figures show a decrease as compared with last year of 33 vessels, but of only 2,215 tons. The number of steamers (360) entered and cleared in 1880 corresponds exactly with the number entered and cleared in 1879, but their tonnage shows an increase in favour of the year under review of 13,899 tons—an increase that has been nearly sufficient to compensate for the loss in carrying power denoted by the decrease of 33 sailing vessels. Here there is a marked illustration of the gradual transfer from sail to steam which is continually going on the coast, and is especially true of that portion of the trade carried under the British flag.

American.—In the American return a large deficit is apparent, viz., 10 vessels=4,328 tons, as against 96 vessels=45,588 tons, in 1879, or a difference of 86 vessels and 41,260 tons. The principal falling off is in steamers, and is explained by the fact that in 1879 the American steamer *Pingon* was a regular trader here, while in the year under review neither she nor any other American steamer paid us a visit. Still, even allowing for this, there is a deficit as compared with last year of 14 sailing vessels and 7,790 tons.

German.—The German return, as compared with the previous year, shows a large decrease in sailing vessels, but, on the other hand, a not inconsiderable gain in steamer tonnage. There is on the one hand a decrease of 121 sailing vessels=34,931 tons, and on the other an increase of 26 steamers=21,548 tons, thus leaving a net decrease of 95 vessels and 13,383 tons. Again there is observable the utter want of proportion between tons and number of vessels, and the figures would seem to lead to the conclusion that here also we have to deal rather with a gradual transfer from sail to steam than with a serious loss of position in the carrying trade, which the large falling off in the number of vessels might at first sight suggest.

Sandry.—Under the French flag there is an increase of 4 vessels and 1,134 tons; but the Danish vessels have fallen from 12=3,180 tons in 1879 to 6=1,250 tons in 1880. The Dutch flag also shows a serious decrease of 12 vessels and 3,148 tons. In Swedish and Norwegian vessels there is a slight increase of 2 and 250 tons; while Siamese remain the same in number and within a few tons of last year's figures.

Chinese.—The Chinese flag shows the satisfactory increase of 48 vessels and 26,068 tons as compared with 1879.

Casualties.—The disasters amongst shipping frequenting this port were neither so numerous nor so serious as during the previous year. On 9th April the British three-masted schooner *Florel Star* went ashore on the south side of Martha Point, about 18 miles south-west of the Shantung Promontory. H.B.M.S. *Porpoise* proceeded to her assistance, returning on the 16th with her master and crew, the vessel having been abandoned as a total wreck. The Chinese gunboat *Ché-tung* arrived on the 26th May from Thornton Haven with her bottom damaged, having struck upon an unknown rock at that place. On the 27th May the French sloop-of-war *Cherophon*, from Shanghai, reported having collided with and sunk a junk during the passage. The crew of the junk were saved. During the dark, rainy night of the 27th September the American schooner *Annie S. Hall*, from Hongkong with a general cargo, ran on a reef to the north of Stick-up Rock, the Chefoo Lighthouse bearing S.E. by E, and the Sentry Rock N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. Having discharged part of her cargo, she, with the assistance of the United States man-of-war *Alert*, got off the reef and sailed into port on the 9th, little damaged by her mishap. Chefoo was visited by a heavy gale from the north-west and west on the 24th and 25th October. A tremendous sea dashing into the harbour caused considerable damage to junks and shore property. Several large junks were washed high up on shore, and a number of sampans destroyed. The Siamese barque *Fortune*, bound for Newchwang, was compelled to put back, with loss of sails, etc. From the 25th to 27th November a severe gale from the north-north-west, accompanied by a heavy fall of snow, occasioned great loss of life and Native shipping. About 70 men and two junks were reported lost off Kung-kung-tao, the site of the Chefoo Lighthouse; and four Natives who had escaped the perils of the sea and taken shelter under a ledge of rocks on an adjacent small island, by lightning

a fire to warn themselves caused the fall of their temporary shelter and were killed. Three men and about 200 pieces of dressed stone for the Houki Lighthouse were lost by the capsizing of a junk chartered by the Customs. The American schooner *Louise*, from Newchwang, bound to Swatow, put in with loss of topsail yards; and the German barque *Anton Günther*, lying off the Fairway Rock in the harbour, parted both her chains, but a hawser having been sent off from shore in the Customs lifeboat, she was saved from going on the rocks. About 30 junks were reported as having been driven on shore during the gale.

TREASURE.

According to the returns furnished this office by those concerned, Treasure was imported in Foreign shipping to the value of *Hk.Tls* 498,896, or nearly double the import of 1879. Newchwang sent us *Hk.Tls* 4,700 in Gold, and *Hk.Tls* 242,190 in Silver; Shanghai, *Hk.Tls* 14,377 in Gold, and *Hk.Tls* 134,459 in Silver; and Tientsin's contribution was *Hk.Tls* 117,547 Sycee. The export amounted to *Hk.Tls* 3,120,620, or *Hk.Tls* 239,864 in excess of the export of 1879. Shanghai, as usual, was the principal recipient, taking *Hk.Tls* 61,253 in Gold, and *Hk.Tls* 2,575,014 in Silver; Tientsin, *Hk.Tls* 327,115 Sycee, was next in amount; Newchwang received *Hk.Tls* 148,627 Sycee; Russian Manchuria, *Hk.Tls* 7,184; and Swatow and Japan the small remainder. The total movement of Treasure, representing a handsome freight, reached the high figures, *Hk.Tls* 3,619,506, against *Hk.Tls* 3,154,864 in 1879, and *Hk.Tls* 2,231,356 in 1878.

CHINESE PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

The most noticeable feature in the movement of Chinese passengers in the Gulf of Pechili and to the South is the preference shown to steamers, 16,502 persons travelling to and fro by them, against 747 persons availing of Foreign sailing vessels. The number of travellers is 2,311 in excess of the previous year's traffic. 10,065 persons passed to and fro between Chefoo and Tientsin; 3,983 went to Newchwang, and, according to the table, only 455 returned, the balance probably availing of steamers direct to Shanghai and Swatow, or of junks; 1,007 passed to and fro between here and Shanghai; 200 went to, and 391 returned, in sailing vessels from Russian Manchuria; and there was an insignificant traffic of 156 passengers by sailing vessels between here, Newchwang, Amoy, Swatow, Hongkong, and Japan.

LIGHTHOUSES.

During the year the Chefoo and Shantung Lighthouses were visited as often as practicable, and their staff found to be alert, sober, and efficient. Their illuminating apparatus, plant, towers, dwelling-houses, offices, oil-rooms, tanks, signal guns, and miscellaneous gear were in good order and repair, and all books and records properly kept. A sufficient supply of spare lamps, cylinders, oil, wicks, and lighthouse stores of every description for the ensuing year have been landed at each station.

Houki Light.—Pending completion of the erection of this Lighthouse, on the 28th August a temporary sixth-order dioptric fixed white light, elevated 300 feet above the sea, was exhibited a little to the south of the summit of Houki Island, which in clear weather should be visible for a distance of 10 nautical miles. This light will be obscured over a small angle in a northerly direction by the lighthouse buildings now in course of erection. This temporary light has been efficiently maintained, and several masters of steamers have expressed to me their high appreciation of it. The stonework for the tower of the lighthouse in course of erection was cut, dressed, fitted, and erected on the Customs jetty here, then taken down and conveyed, together with all woodwork—first duly fitted here,—ironwork, etc., in junks to Houki, a distance of 55 miles. These materials, together with much of the stone, bricks, etc., for the lightkeepers' dwellings, have been carried to the summit of the hill, a work of great labour and time. All contracts have been entered into, and at the close of winter, during which building is impossible, the work will be actively recommenced. The tower and buildings will be completed and the light exhibited in the summer of 1881.

I have, etc.,

GEO. HUGHES,

Commissioner of Customs.

To

ROBERT HART, Esquire,

Inspector General of Customs,

PEKING.

ICHANG TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 11th March 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,
ICHANG, 22nd February 1881.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you my Report on the trade of this port for the year 1880.

When at the commencement of the year 1877 junk owners became aware of the fact that Ichang would soon be opened to Foreign commerce, they naturally anticipated that a large influx of steamers would at once follow on the upper Yangtze, and soon monopolise all the shipping business, of which, until then, they had the absolute command. In order to prevent such an occurrence, and to upset the calculations of steamer agents, it is said that they informed all the leading merchants doing business with Szechwan that they would not accept for shipment at Ichang to that province a single bale of Piece Goods or any other merchandise from merchants who chose to give the preference to steamers for the carriage of their goods to this port, leaving them to arrange as best they could further conveyance to Szechwan. How far they attained the result aimed at is well known. The steamers, three in all, that visited the port during the first year of its existence came empty and returned in ballast. The next year (1878) the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company established an agency at Ichang, and the *s.s. Kiengtang* (江通) was selected to build up the trade of the port. This steamer made 16 trips that year, carrying a cargo estimated at little over *HK. \$* 70,000. In the business done by her, however, besides the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE were also interested. It is needless to say that both companies sustained heavy losses, and the latter firm, looking upon the enterprise as a decided failure, thought it expedient to withdraw its agency from the port. Since the year 1879 the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company has had to go on with the task unaided; and so little did this company seem to regard the financial reverses of the preceding year, that it decided upon the extension of its business into the very midst of Szechwan. Accordingly, about the middle of the same year a branch agency was opened at Chungking-fu (重慶府), the most important commercial centre of that province. Through this medium Szechwan merchants were offered the facilities of settling locally through freights to Shanghai, or, indeed, to any other Treaty port on the coast. In the meantime an American firm from Hankow succeeded in

securing the services of a few Native craft, and undertook the taking out of Transit Passes for goods of Foreign origin, and the conveyance of such goods to any desired point on the Yangtze, the same means being adopted for the carriage of Native goods to this port. The sudden impetus which characterised the growth of the Transit trade in 1879 was mainly due to these two subserving influences. The statistics for the same year showed that the value of the trade had increased from *Hk.Tls* 70,000 in the preceding year to over *Hk.Tls* 600,000.

In the course of time the anti-steamer demonstration of the junk owners also subsided, and came to be looked upon as an event of the past. They gradually came to the conclusion that their chief ally is nature—i.e. the numerous obstacles which prevent navigation from being easily accomplished on the upper Yangtze,—and that they have but little to fear from the competition which at one time they seemed to be in excessive dread of. They also noticed that instead of the fleet of steamers which they anticipated would invade these unexplored parts of the Yangtze, only a modest-looking little craft is seen, at great intervals, to toil her way up river. As a result, junk owners and merchants soon came to terms, and the difficulty of finding Native craft for the conveyance of steamer-imported goods hence to Szechwan was happily removed.

It was under such circumstances that the financial year of 1880 opened; and everything seemed to concur in auguring well for the forthcoming prosperity of the port. There were not a few who thought that an increase in the tonnage would inevitably ensue, and that a possible competition arising between the steamer companies would reduce freights to a minimum, and further the prospects of a profitable season. Although some of the anticipations did not prove to be well founded, inasmuch as the traffic was not increased by the appearance of any additional craft, nor did the rates of freight suffer any alteration, yet, I am happy to state, the fourth year of Ichang as a Treaty port is distinguished from the preceding ones by a marked increase in each branch of the trade, and a new commercial era for the port seems to have commenced.

SHIPPING.

Ichang will hardly ever boast of a large figure in the tonnage. Situated as the port is—1,000 miles away in the interior of China,—it does not come within the sphere of the steamer traffic, established so long ago, between Shanghai and Hankow, and requires a separate line for itself.

During the first three months of the year a small steamer, under the British flag, plied between this port and Hankow. In April she was succeeded by the *Kiosgtung*. The latter vessel continued to represent the shipping until the middle of November, when she was prevented from making any further trips on account of the insufficiency of water in the Yangtze. There have been in all 44 steamers and 92 junks entered and cleared, and their aggregate tonnage was 22,596 tons, showing an increase of over 10,000 tons above the tonnage employed in 1879.

VALUE OF THE TRADE.

The net value of the trade of the port amounted to *Hk.Tls* 2,093,780. It is larger by *Hk.Tls* 1,405,673 than the summarised value of the trade for the preceding three years. This

swelling of the figures is especially noticeable in Foreign Imports, which have increased from *Hk.Ths* 223,516 in 1879 to *Hk.Ths* 1,010,756 in the past year. Native Imports have also extended in proportion, the share taken under this heading being *Hk.Ths* 224,471, against *Hk.Ths* 35,143 in 1879. Exports of Native origin do, in a similar way, show a steady advancement, the figures being *Hk.Ths* 859,053 in 1880, against *Hk.Ths* 353,849 in the previous year.

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

Opium.—This heading remained blank in the Returns for 1880. From this fact the following conclusions may be drawn:—

- 1°. That steamers have so far been unsuccessful in securing the carriage of that article to this port; or
- 2°. That there is no market in this part of China for the Foreign drug.

Judging from the result of inquiries made at the Likin Office, the latter supposition seems to hold good. The importation of Foreign Opium at Ichang, as declared at the Likin Office, varies in quantity from 1 to 3 piculs a year. It may naturally be surmised that a large quantity may reach the port through clandestine sources, and perhaps this is true to a certain degree. However, according to such information as I could obtain from the local Opium shops, it would appear that the average annual importation of Indian Opium at Ichang does not exceed 10 piculs.

The reason for the absence of a greater demand for the Foreign drug is, of course, well known. Szechwan, which province is in our immediate neighbourhood, dedicates large tracts of country to the exclusive cultivation of the poppy, and the outturn of the crops raised annually is so large that it allows the exportation abroad of a considerable quantity beyond what is required for the use of local smokers. Poppy gardens may be seen in the Ichang prefecture itself, and the quantity produced here is estimated to be over 1,000 piculs per annum.

COTTON GOODS.—The net importation of Foreign Cotton Piece Goods during the year under review amounted to 269,049 pieces, against 51,937 pieces in 1879, and 2,788 pieces in 1878. These rapidly increasing figures evince the fact that Ichang will in a comparatively short time become an important receiver of Foreign textiles, and that the expectations founded in it at the time of its opening were not altogether miscalculated. True, the port itself will require but a trifle for local use; it is nevertheless beyond doubt that a quantity averaging from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 pieces of Cotton Goods will be wanted here annually for distribution in Szechwan and Yunnan.

By far the largest portion of the Cotton Goods for Szechwan is still conveyed from Hankow by Native junks, and some time will necessarily elapse before a complete change in the mode of conveyance is effected. Naturally, however, this change must come sooner or later; Native craft will then only be required from Ichang onwards.

WOOLLEN GOODS.—The total quantity of Woollen Piece Goods imported during 1880 was 24,839 pieces. These figures are very satisfactory if it is considered that the importation of these fabrics during the previous three years amounted to only 3,849 pieces. Great improvement

may also be expected in Woollen Goods, the demand for this commodity in Szechwan increasing remarkably from year to year.

METALS and SUNDRIES.—The only item among Metals which has so far found a market at Ichang is Quicksilver. Of this article, 253.68 piculs were imported, exhibiting a fair increase over the importation in 1879, when it only amounted to 176.77 piculs. Among Sundries, the most marked improvement noticeable is in Bicho de Mar, Cuttle-fish, Dyes and Colours, American Ginseng, Seaweed, and Isinglass. The increase is not quite so large in Clocks, Fish Maws, Black Pepper, Sandalwood, and Sapanwood, but they all promise to be permanent articles of import at this port.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

Among the few goods enumerated in the table of Native Imports, articles of food and luxury are predominant; the quantity, however, imported of each kind is so insignificant that it is hardly possible to draw a conclusion as to their probable increase or decrease in the future. The only article of any moment which promises to develop considerably is Raw Cotton. Of this commodity, over 12,000 piculs were imported, as against 889 piculs and 531 piculs in the years 1879 and 1878 respectively. The quantity imported would have largely exceeded this had it been possible for merchants to find suitable steamers at Shanghai for the conveyance of Raw Cotton to Ichang. The one or two offers made to the leading shipping firms on the Yangtze were for some reason or other declined, and in the absence of a quicker mode of transportation, Native junks had to be employed.

It is estimated that the quantity of Raw Cotton required at Ichang for further conveyance into Szechwan amounts to about 200,000 piculs annually. This calculation does not seem to be exaggerated when it is considered that from the month of October until about the end of February of the following year, more than 60 per cent. of the numerous junks and cargo-boats of all sizes which pass at Ichang every day are laden with Cotton for Szechwan.

NATIVE EXPORTS.

The Export trade of Ichang has developed considerably during the past year, the figures exhibiting a marked increase above the Exports of previous years.

Most of the export goods from this port are brought here under transit from Szechwan; and up to the commencement of 1880, Ichang had nothing whatever to contribute under this heading. The fact has been in former Reports explained by the poverty of the people, the barrenness of the soil, and by the difficulty attending the transportation of merchandise across the rugged mountains. Notwithstanding the correctness of these Reports, and which tend to confirm all hopelessness of a future Export trade at Ichang, it is nevertheless a fact to be noted that a significant portion of the Exports during the past year were produced in the Ichang district, and that their transportation to this port did not prove to be an insurmountable difficulty.

A good deal of Yellow Silk, Hemp, Fungus, Vegetable Tallow, Wood Oil, Cotton, and Tobacco is produced in the immediate vicinity of Ichang; and a gradual development of these articles, in contributing to the Export trade of the port, may be looked forward to.

Medicines, Musk, Rhubarb, Safflower, and White Wax are exclusively from Szechwan. Coal is brought here from the neighbourhood of Patung-hsien (巴東縣), situated on the right bank of the Yangtze, near the frontier of Szechwan, and from Chingmin-chow (荆門州), a place due east from Ichang, and distant about 70 miles. The Chingmin mines are worked on Government account by the Natives, and without machinery. Good hard Coal is said to be excavated from them, and the quantity obtained is on the increase every year.

TRANSIT TRADE.

The confidence expressed in the Report for 1878 that Ichang would at some future period become a considerable distributor of Foreign fabrics is well nigh an established fact. The value of the Transit trade in the past year was *Hk.Tls* 1,679,183, exhibiting an increase of *Hk.Tls* 1,241,338 over the figures given for 1879. Of this, *Hk.Tls* 989,188 represent the value of Foreign goods sent inland, and *Hk.Tls* 689,995 the value of Native goods brought from the interior.

For the protection of goods of Foreign origin while on their way to the interior, 883 Passes were issued,—all of these documents bearing the destination of Chungking-fu. The applicants for the Passes were chiefly British or American firms from Hankow, represented here by Native agents. The China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company took out 20 Passes only; and no applications were made by ordinary Chinese merchants.

Native goods brought here in transit were in all covered by 295 Passes. All these documents, with the exception of a few, had been issued in 1879. During the past year 313 Passes were issued, and they will in all likelihood be used and surrendered in the current year. The articles called for in these Passes are—Yellow Silk from Mienchow (綿州) and Hsieh'ang (西充); Medicines, Musk, Nutgalls, from Chungking-fu; Safflower from Chienchow (簡州) and Shunch'ing (順慶); Rhubarb from Kuanhsien (灌縣); White Wax from Chiating (嘉定); and Tea from Enshih-hsien (恩陽縣). All these producing districts are in Szechwan, with the exception of Enshih-hsien, which is situated in Hupeh.

REVENUE.

The total collection for 1880 forms 68 per cent. of the whole of the dues and duties collected at Ichang since its existence as a Treaty port; or, in other words, the Revenue of Ichang for the past year was *Hk.Tls* 68,627,625, as against a total of *Hk.Tls* 31,625,433 collected in the three preceding years. To this the Transit contributed the largest share, namely, 46 per cent.; Export gave 42 per cent.; the rest being divisible between Tonnage Dues, Coast Trade, and Import Duties.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the year 1880 several important Native hong opened business at this port, and not a few of the well-to-do Shashih merchants sent over representatives to look after their interests here. The considerable increase in the importation of Foreign textiles is mainly due to these facts; and it is to be hoped that after the achievement of last year a steady development in the trade of the port will follow. What Ichang requires above all is a steamer that could ply on the Yangtze, even in winter time, without the fear of a stoppage for insufficiency of water. Such a steamer is not yet built; and, as a consequence, communication with Ichang is interrupted for at least four months out of twelve every year.

No attempts have yet been made to navigate the river from Ichang to Chungch'ing, and although opinions vary as to the reasonableness of such an undertaking, it will certainly be a matter for great consideration before anyone will venture on taking up the task. The numberless hidden rocks and rapids make it impossible, even to the most expert navigators, to be sure of completing the journey successfully.

The Foreign residents at Ichang are composed of officials and missionaries; Foreign merchants being quite unrepresented. The former, namely, the officials, are quartered in the Chinese houses and temples facing the river, which form the south-eastern portion of the suburbs of Ichang city. It must be owned that this site, selected by our predecessors, has proved to be a most fortunate one for several reasons, but chiefly from a sanitary point of view. During the greater part of the year there is a strong breeze in the afternoon blowing from the south-east, which, having to pass among woods and hills, reaches us in a perfectly pure condition, acting thereby very beneficially on individual health. Those who have the misfortune to be located inside the city walls, or in the suburbs due north-west from the city, can have no such enjoyment. The sanitary measures adopted in the city are most detrimental to health. Most of the cities in China have, I believe, much to improve on this point, but I doubt if any other place can vie with Ichang for uncleanness. Were it not for this drawback, Ichang would be a most enjoyable place for residence. The surrounding country is hilly, partly wooded, and the scenery, especially at the entrance of the Ichang gorges, is strikingly fine.

I beg to append a summary of meteorological observations taken during last year, also a table showing the rise and fall of the Yangtze at Ichang during the years 1879 and 1880.

I have, etc.,

EDM. FARAGÓ,

Assistant-in-Charge.

To

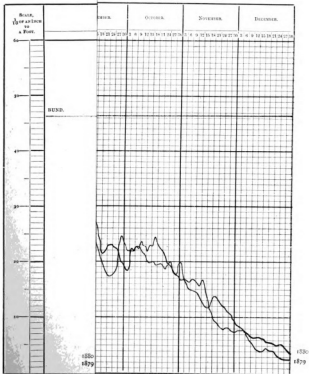
ROBERT HART, Esquire,
Inspector General of Customs,
PEKING.

Appendix No. 1.

ABSTRACT of METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS during the Year 1880.

MONTH.	TIDES, EBB AND FLOOD OF THE RIVER.		THERMOMETER.				BAROMETER.		WEATHER.		WINDS.					
	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average Highest.	Average Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	No. of Days Buds Burst in Inches.	No. of Days K. to K.	No. of Days E. to S.	No. of Days S. to W.	No. of Days W. to N.	No. of Days Variable.	No. of Days Clear.	
January	5 1	1 7	52	36	44	35										
February	4 1	1 5	52	33	45	38										
March	12 2	1 4	75	38	62	49										
April	14 2	4 3	82	46	68	56										
May	21 9	7 0	92	59	81	67										
June	29 4	18 1	91	67	84	73	30.63	30.18	No record	1	19	...	4	5	1	
July	41 8	21 4	91	72	84	77	30.44	29.42	15	2.08	...	21	...	3	5	
August	40 3	18 8	90	66	83	75	29.92	29.42	12	7.67	1	18	4	...	5	
September ..	35 1	17 3	88	64	79	71	30.16	29.61	6	0.62	1	16	...	...	10
October	22 6	17 6	79	56	76	64	30.30	29.86	3	0.19	6	10	...	3	13	
November ..	17 6	8 11	74	32	63	49	30.36	29.92	3	0.43	4	11	3	3	7	
December ...	8 5	3 7	58	27	48	39	30.77	30.01	13	1.56	...	26	1	...	3	

Appendix No. 2.



HANKOW TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 28th March 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,
HANKOW, 31st January 1881.

Sir,

I beg to furnish you with the subjoined Report on the trade of Hankow for the year 1880.

The total net value of the trade is the largest on record, amounting to *Hk.Ths* 42,285,209, and giving an increase over 1879 of *Hk.Ths* 6,090,715.

This satisfactory result was but little anticipated when the year opened; indeed, the most gloomy forebodings were expressed, which were to a certain extent warranted by the critical state of the relations between China and Russia at that time. Trade generally, it was feared, would be restricted, and the export of Tea to an especial extent. Happily, these alarms have proved groundless. There has been no breach of friendly relations between the two countries, abundant harvests have raised the prosperity of the masses to a high level, and, supported by an unusually full Tea crop, the general trade has attained proportions hitherto unequalled.

An analysis of the figures given above shows the following results.

The gross value of Foreign goods imported from Foreign countries and Chinese ports amounts to *Hk.Ths* 13,331,335, which, after deducting Re-exports to Chinese ports (*Hk.Ths* 1,144,219), gives an increase over last year of *Hk.Ths* 1,472,000. Of the above net total, Foreign goods received from abroad only represent *Hk.Ths* 27,841.

The gross value of Native goods imported amounts to *Hk.Ths* 13,513,667, from which must be excluded Re-exports to Foreign countries, *Hk.Ths* 2,544,638, and to Chinese ports, *Hk.Ths* 1,520,807. The net increase in this division, therefore, amounts to *Hk.Ths* 4,209,023; the total value of Native Imports in 1880 having been *Hk.Ths* 5,239,499, and in 1879, *Hk.Ths* 4,632,325. Of this increase, however, *Hk.Ths* 3,235,234 were contributed by one staple alone—Raw Cotton,—so that the general improvement is not so marked as would at first appear.

Native produce exported to Foreign countries direct has a value of *Hk.Ths* 5,099,638, and to Chinese ports, *Hk.Ths* 15,549,933, giving an increase in the former of *Hk.Ths* 589,176, and a decrease in the latter of *Hk.Ths* 180,384.

IMPORTS.

The general Import trade shows an improvement on 1879. In Cotton Piece Goods, nearly all varieties were in active demand, although the abundant crop of Raw Cotton in the province of Kiangsu, and its consequent cheapness, induced large shipments at Shanghai in the last two months of the year, which doubtless interfered with the sale of manufactured goods. The drought also, which extended from the end of summer up to the close of the year, made it difficult to transport goods inland by water, and another check to their free distribution was thus experienced.

The net amount imported reached 2,540,314 pieces, against 2,510,241 pieces in the preceding year.

Grey Shirtings show a falling off of 76,264 pieces on an import of 1,334,904 pieces, and Drills of 52,333 pieces on 231,284 pieces; whilst White Shirtings, T-Cloths, Sheetings, Chintzes, and Velvets, all exhibit satisfactory results,—the details being, White Shirtings, an increase of 72,994 pieces; T-Cloths, 27,668 pieces; Sheetings, 49,234 pieces; Chintzes, 4,443 pieces; and Velvets, 6,041 pieces.

The quantities imported were,—White Shirtings, 326,991 pieces; T-Cloths, 462,554 pieces; Sheetings, 89,730 pieces; Chintzes, 55,150 pieces; and Velvets, 25,090 pieces. The advance made by Sheetings is remarkable, the import having more than doubled itself within the year. The net quantity was 89,730 pieces, of which 59,030 pieces were English, and 30,700 pieces American. The increase on the whole equals 40,234 pieces, which is due to the greater popularity which the former has undoubtedly enjoyed; the receipts having risen from 8,970 pieces in 1879 to 59,030 pieces in the year under review. American Sheetings, on the other hand, receded from 40,496 pieces to 30,700 pieces. The reason for this change in the public estimate of the rival fabrics appears to be the greatly improved quality of English Sheetings, which has put them nearly on a level with the American manufacture, at a comparatively cheap cost; the price for good qualities of the former averaging Th 2.55 per piece, and for the latter, Th 2.85.

Woolens of all descriptions, except Camlets, show a decrease,—214,331 pieces having been imported, against 249,327 pieces in 1879, or a difference in favour of the latter of 34,996 pieces; so, however, the receipts for that year were unusually large, the present deficit may be considered only a comparative one, the demand for Woolens having been beyond the standard of previous years.

All the principal Metals have been in good demand,—Iron (Nail-rod and Manufactured), Lead, and Tin showing an increase respectively over the preceding year of 4,142.89 piculs, 2,885.10 piculs, and 453.70 piculs.

The quantity imported of each was,—Iron, 30,162.06 piculs; Lead, 23,335.40 piculs; and Tin, 3,705.06 piculs. Quicksilver gives a falling off of 955.96 piculs on a total of 1,190.32 piculs.

Opium, which last year gave signs of an improving trade, has again retrograded,—2,953.95 piculs having been imported, as against 3,291.84 piculs, exhibiting a decrease of 339.89 piculs. This is to be attributed to an abundant crop of Native drug, which has fallen in price from an average of Th 300 to Th 250; whilst the rates for the former being maintained both in India and China, an unequal competition necessarily followed, with the result above stated.

A large business has been transacted in Raw Cotton, the Imports—375,648.90 piculs—showing the enormous increase of 124,755.24 piculs over 1879, which year, again, was 7,254.79 piculs in advance of its predecessor. There appears to have been a fair average crop in the middle Yangtze provinces, but the abundant supply and low rates at Shanghai stimulated business, and it is also probable that the possibility of war and an interruption of trade acted as additional incentives to speculators here and at Chungching.

Matches now form an important item in the inward trade, as the statistics for the last four years show. In 1877 the net import was 42,980 gross; in 1878, 129,527 gross; in 1879, 274,933 gross; and in 1880, 324,317 gross. Several descriptions are on the market, the best being the "Safety" Matches of English and Swedish manufacture; but these are principally in consumption at the port, and amongst the middle classes, who can afford to pay for a good article. Imitation Swedish Matches, manufactured in Japan, are sent inland in large quantities, where they are sold for about $\text{T}15$ per 600 dozen, while the ordinary English article sells for $\text{T}12$ 20 for the same quantity, and the Swedish "Vulcan" for $\text{T}12$ 18 per 380 dozen. The two last-named varieties are fair value at the price, but the first is anything but a creditable counterfeit, and, if it rest on its merits, will soon be neglected.

The import of Medicines has been slightly above the average, there being an increase of 1,531.42 piculs on 40,347.82 piculs.

Kerosene Oil has continued its onward progress, 285,157 gallons having been imported, showing the enormous increase of 135,837 gallons, which is only 13,483 gallons less than the whole amount received in 1879. The active demand thus evidenced, moreover, existed in the teeth of strong opposition on the part of the dealers in Native Oils, whose business has unquestionably suffered by the popularity of Kerosene. Taking advantage of the occurrence at Changsha-fu (the capital city of Hunan) of some fires which followed each other in close succession, their jealousy found vent in an outcry against it as dangerous, and they created so much alarm that they succeeded in obtaining official proclamations forbidding its use. This action for a time had a serious effect on the inland trade, but the proclamations were soon forgotten, and as they were not renewed, probably because the real cause of the outcry had meanwhile become known, the people reverted to their former habits, although, perhaps, more cautiously than before. In connexion with Kerosene Oil, a large business has sprung up at Hankow in Lamps of Native workmanship, supplied from Canton, and a much safer and more sightly article is now in general use than was the case two years ago; at a very slight cost also, a fairly good lamp being obtainable for the small sum of 81 .

Of the remaining chief import staples there is little to be said. The demand has been a steady one in the majority of cases, and though there is a falling off noticeable in some, still the balance is a favourable one. Sandalwood shows an advance of 6,272.84 piculs; Silk Fleece Goods, of 101.82 piculs; and Brown Sugar, of 27,768.56 piculs, on receipts respectively of 21,855.33 piculs, 1,363.76 piculs, and 207,655.32 piculs. On the other hand, Pepper, Sapanwood, Seaweed, and White Sugar—of which 21,349.74 piculs, 27,099.60 piculs, 101,573.24 piculs, and 100,114.15 piculs were respectively imported—give each a decrease of 3,704.97 piculs, 8,163.62 piculs, 24,722.75 piculs, and 4,966.35 piculs.

In the case of Sapanwood, the figures for the year are nearly the same as those for 1877, and in that of Seaweed, there is a difference between 1878 and 1880 of only 280.52 piculs.

The deficit in White Sugar is more important, although the receipts were largely in excess of either 1877 or 1878.

The provinces of Shansi and Shensi appear to be now the principal consumers, very little going into Szechwan, which not only supplies its own wants, but also possesses a surplus that would find its way to Hankow were it not that the inland charges are too high to allow of its competition with the Sugar of the South on anything like even terms. A small quantity also finds its way into Honan, but that province is more accessible from Chinkiang *via* the Grand Canal, and obtains its main supplies from thence.

Taking an average of prices during the year, White Sugar was worth Tls 5 to Tls 6, and Brown Sugar, Tls 3.5 to Tls 5, per picul; whilst in 1879 rates averaged Tls 7 for the first and Tls 4.40 for the second. It is more than probable that the war scare gave an additional impulse to the importation of this staple, and that the existing large stocks are due more to prudent preparation for the future than to a large demand in the present.

EXPORTS.

The Export trade is shown by the statistics to have made good progress during the year, most of the chief articles having been shipped in largely increased quantities. Some, of course, give contrary results, but where in the one case the advance has been great, the retrogression in the other has been comparatively insignificant.

I do not propose in this Report to review *seriatim* each article of export, as, with a few exceptions which will be duly touched on, they offer nothing of interest to Foreigners, nor have they any part in the trade with Foreign countries.

Cow Hides have been in steady demand during the year, and the export rose from 21,061.32 piculs in 1879 to 22,288.88 piculs. They are shipped to Shanghai, where they are cured, pressed, and then re-exported abroad. The chief demand has latterly been for the American market, the high rates—Tls 12 to Tls 13 per picul—making consignments to Great Britain unremunerative. The fact that the supply of Hides to this port has not only not fallen off but increased during the year gives colour to the statement that cattle are now being reared in Honan to supply the drain upon its resources. As a large per-centage of the population are Mahomedans and beef consumers, there should be no difficulty in disposing of the carcases for food, whilst the Hides, Horns, and Hoofs have their own special value for exportation.

The export of Native Opium has risen from 120.08 piculs in 1879 to 527.46 piculs. In the former year the trade had sunk to a very low ebb, consequent upon a short crop in Szechwan and the stoppage of supplies from the other producing provinces—Honan, Kweichow, and Shensi,—where poppy cultivation was strictly prohibited; but in 1880 the yield in Szechwan was unusually abundant, and a considerable surplus has thus been available for the Hankow market. The average cost was Tls 235 per picul, as against Tls 560 to Tls 580 for Malwa Opium.

Szechwan Raw Silk was in steady demand for the Shanghai market, and 7,471.33 piculs were shipped, giving an increase of 4,214.09 piculs over 1878, and of 621.55 piculs over 1879.

TEA.—As I have stated elsewhere, it was generally anticipated that the Tea crop of 1880 would be an unusually small one, instead of which it turned out to be the largest on record; the amount exported reaching 517,263.29 piculs, and exceeding that of 1876—which previously held first place—by 39,121.28 piculs, and 1879 by 94,101.66 piculs. Of this, 201,017.34 piculs went to Foreign countries direct,—namely, to Great Britain, 176,099.69 piculs; and to Odessa, 24,917.65 piculs,—and 316,245.40 piculs to Shanghai. The direct export in the preceding year fell short of these figures by 8,520.91 piculs, and the shipments to Shanghai by 81,072.78 piculs. The total quantity of Tea shipped equals 617,229.31 piculs, composed as follows:—

Hankow Tea	Piculs 517,263.29
Kiukiang Tea, re-exported	" 98,781.17
Wuhu " "	" 643.44
Sundry " "	" 541.41
TOTAL	Piculs 617,229.31

Of the re-exported Teas, Kiukiang and Wuhu show a decline compared with the previous year of 13,050.74 piculs and 849.70 piculs respectively, whilst those classed under the heading of Sundry give a small increase of 323.08 piculs.

Samples of the new season's Teas were shown on the 13th May for Kiukiang leaf, and on the 16th for that from the Hankow districts; the market for the first being opened on the 15th, and for the second on the 16th. Prices opened somewhat higher than last year, but the leaf was generally considered superior, and after the first rush a drop took place, which placed buyers in a more favourable position.

The following are the comparative rates for the two years 1880 and 1879 of some of the principal chops:—

	1880.	1879.
Ningchow	Tls 28 to 52	Tls 28 to 49
Hobow	" 22 " 27	" 19 " 24
Sunyang	" 23 " 29	" 23 " 33
Yanglow-tung	" 23 " 28	" 19 " 28
Choocongow-kai	" 22 " 30	" 16 " 27
Nipka-see	" 20 " 23	" 20 " 21
Tungsan	" 24 " 30	" 20 " 28
Oanfa	" 25 " 34	" 20 " 36

The trade in Black Brick Tea has continued to make progress, 152,330.05 piculs having been exported, as against 144,756.26 piculs in 1879,—an increase of 7,582.79 piculs. This result is, however, more than counterbalanced by a decrease in the export of Green Brick Tea, which

amounts to 9,704.15 piculs on a total of 15,936.65 piculs, caused by the block which the want of camels occasioned in the winter of 1879-80, when nearly all the Green Brick Tea shipped in 1879 was detained at Kalgun. The traders were thus compelled to obtain their supplies for Kasan and Nishni Novgorod from Chinese merchants at Kiakkhta, and fewer orders came to this port to be executed.

The large crop of Tea—and consequent supply of Dust—sufficiently accounts for the increase in Black Brick Tea.

TOBACCO.—This staple has lately attracted the notice of Foreign shippers, and about 4,000 piculs were sent to Great Britain, but with what result I am as yet unacquainted. In all, 133,883.40 piculs were exported, giving an increase of 12,609.48 piculs. Tobacco is cultivated freely in Hupoh and the adjacent provinces; the best for Chinese use being that from the Ch'énchow (辰州) district in Hunan, which in ordinary years costs at Hankow from Tls 11 to Tls 12 per picul. Last year, however, the favourable weather produced a full crop, and the price fell to Tls 8. This kind is not shipped abroad, but goes to Shanghai, Ningpo, and Canton, for local consumption.

That which is principally in demand for the Foreign market is grown in the T'engchow (鄧州) district in Honan, although some that nominally comes from there is really from Szechwan, Shensi, and Kweichow. The best quality, which consists of the upper and last-picked leaves, is of a pale gold colour, and compares well in appearance with the "Golden Leaf" Tobacco of America, although it lacks, of course, its delicate flavour.

It arrives in Hankow put up in bales of about 1.40 piculs each, and costs at the time of writing Tls 8 per picul. Whether, after the result of the experimental shipments becomes known, a regular trade will be established with Foreign countries seems doubtful, for though the article itself is good enough to command attention, yet there is so much demand for it within China itself that the original cost may perhaps, as in the case of other products, prove a bar to its remunerative export.

SHIPPING.

The total tonnage employed in 1880 amounted to 910,466 tons, represented by 1,537 vessels, and giving an increase over the preceding year of 215 vessels, 177,131 tons. The following are the particulars:—

	VESSELS.	Tons.
River steamers, inwards and outwards	883	789,347
Ocean steamers, for Europe direct, inwards and outwards	30	46,814
Steamers under Chinking Pass, inwards and outwards .	4	6,708
Lorchas (including 6 hulks)	278	44,734
Junks under Special Junk Pass	342	22,063
TOTAL	1,537	910,466

The share taken by each flag under each class was:—

River steamers, inwards and outwards:

	VESSELS.	Tons.
British	532	444,158
Chinese	351	345,089
TOTAL	<u>883</u>	<u>789,247</u>

Ocean steamers, Tea-laden, for Europe direct, inwards and outwards:

	VESSELS.	Tons.
British	22	33,850
French	2	2,302
German	2	2,272
Russian	4	8,390
TOTAL	<u>30</u>	<u>46,814</u>

Steamers under Chinkiang Pass, for Shanghai and Europe, inwards and outwards:

	VESSELS.	Tons.
British	2	4,228

Steamers under Chinkiang Pass for Shanghai, inwards and outwards:

	VESSELS.	Tons.
British (in ballast)	2	2,480

Leochas, inwards and outwards:

	VESSELS.	Tons.
American	125	18,346
British	68	12,588
Danish	40	6,527
German	35	5,000
Spanish	4	697
TOTAL	<u>272</u>	<u>43,158</u>

Hulks: British, 3 clearances and 3 re-entries, 1,576 tons.

Junks under Special Junk Pass:

	VESSELS.	Tons.
Chinese	342	22,963

River steamers give an increase of 229 vessels (or trips), 167,275 tons; steamers under Chinkiang Pass, other than those clearing direct to Foreign countries, 6,568 tons; and Leochas

(including hulks), 17 vessels, 6,824 tons; while direct ocean steamers show a falling off of 4 vessels, 2,194 tons; and Chinese junks chartered by Foreigners, 27 vessels, 1,342 tons.

The American flag exhibits an increase of 27 vessels, 4,240 tons; the British flag, of 158 vessels, 95,915 tons; the Chinese flag (exclusive of junks chartered to Foreigners), of 66 vessels, 66,765 tons; the Danish flag, of 29 vessels (lorchas), 5,201 tons; the German flag, of 2 vessels, 648 tons; the French flag, of 2 vessels, 2,302 tons; and the Russian flag, of 4 vessels, 8,390 tons.

The Spanish flag shows a decrease of 42 vessels, 4,848 tons.

The Shipping trade has not changed its character in any way during the period under review. All the river steamers being divided, as before, between the British and Chinese flags, the former having greatly the preponderance.

Three flags—American, Danish, and Spanish—were only represented by lorchas; whilst the Tea trade was divided amongst four nationalities, in the following proportions:—

	STEAMERS.	Tons.
Great Britain	22	33,850
France	2	2,302
Germany	2	2,272
Russia	4	8,390

In 1879 the direct tonnage to Europe was, as already stated, greater, but it was confined to the British and German flags only; the former monopolising 46,778 tons out of a total of 49,008. With the exception of the Russian steamers *Petersburgh* and *Moscow*, which cleared for Odessa, all the Tea steamers loaded for London.

The first steamer to get away was the *Glencee*, on the 22nd May, followed on the 26th by the *Loudoun Castle*, and on the 28th by the *Glenartney*. The *Glencee* loaded at £6 10s. per ton, and the *Loudoun Castle* at £5 10s.; but these high rates were exceptional, and soon fell, for ordinary first-class steamers, to about £3, and later in the season to £2 15s.

REVENUE.

The total Revenue collection for the year 1880 is the largest on record, amounting to *Hk.Ths* 2,003,217.2.6.4, and giving an increase over the year preceding of *Hk.Ths* 228,960.0.6.7.

The Export Duties alone exceed the total receipts of 1879 by *Hk.Ths* 27,675.3.4.2, and this marked increase is principally due to the large Tea export.

The following are the details:—

		INCREASE.	DECREASE.
	<i>Hk.Ths</i> m.c.c.	<i>Hk.Ths</i> m.c.c.	<i>Hk.Ths</i> m.c.c.
Import Duties	515.4.7.5	...	319.8.2.7
Coast Trade Duties	73,393.5.3.3	...	5,814.2.1.9
Export Duties	1,801,932.5.3.9	254,167.8.5.3	...
Tonnage Dues	3,394.1.0.0	...	303.1.0.0
Transit	123,981.4.1.7	...	18,770.6.4.0
TOTAL	<i>Hk.Ths</i> 2,003,217.2.6.4	254,167.8.5.3	25,207.7.8.6

The payments under each flag were:—

		INCREASE.	DECREASE.
	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>
American	44,803,97.4	16,762,7.2.4	...
British	1,163,034,8.4.4	122,036,3.5.6	...
Chinese	547,439,4.0.6	34,207,7.1.6	...
Danish	12,430,3.6.4	9,958,7.8.8	...
French	15,666,4.2.5	15,666,4.2.5	...
German	34,311,4.6.0	609,1.2.5	...
Russian	59,041,7.2.5	59,041,7.2.5	...
Spanish	707,5.5.9	...	11,452,1.5.2

To these amounts must be added the Transit Dues on Foreign goods inwards and Native goods outwards, paid by each nationality as under:—

Inwards:—		INCREASE.	DECREASE.
	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>
America	15,237,3.2.0	5,520,0.9.0	...
China	1,571,5.3.0	...	104,2.6.0
Great Britain	84,445,1.1.0	...	19,060,2.4.0
TOTAL	<i>Hk.Ths</i> 101,253,9.6.0	5,520,0.9.0	19,164,5.0.0

Outwards:—		INCREASE.	DECREASE.
	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths m.c.c.</i>
Great Britain	1,618,4.3.4	1,537,0.7.6	...
Russia	21,109,0.2.3	...	6,626,9.4.6
TOTAL	<i>Hk.Ths</i> 22,727,4.5.7	1,537,0.7.6	6,626,9.4.6

INLAND TRANSIT TRADE.

Trade with the interior in Foreign goods shows a slight deficit compared with that of 1879, but this is probably caused to a great extent by the establishment of Ichang as a Treaty Port, which, now that there is fairly regular steam communication between the two ports, offers a more convenient point of distribution for the remoter consuming districts than Hankow.

Cotton Piece Goods to the extent of 1,383,583 pieces and Woollens, 103,356 pieces, were sent away under Transit Passes, showing a decrease of 117,228 pieces and 32,498 pieces respectively. As during the year 293,478 pieces of the former, and 24,077 pieces of the latter, which would formerly have gone forward by Native boats, were re-exported hence to Ichang by steamer, my view of the discrepancy has ample corroboration. The details of this branch of trade will be found in the Appendix to this Report.

GENERAL REMARKS.

From my preceding remarks it will be seen that the trade of Hankow during the year 1880 was exceptionally prosperous, and that, too, under circumstances which might reasonably have been expected to produce exactly contrary results; for it is not when a country is on the eve of a war that commerce flourishes. It is, however, quite possible that the people were never seriously alarmed, and that even when affairs were at their most critical stage they were confident in the ability of those in power to tide the country over her difficulties.

One of the most remarkable features in the general trade is the large increase in the steam tonnage regularly employed on the river. It seemed to be the general opinion four years ago that the river fleet then employed was more than sufficient for the requirements of trade, but this has proved to be fallacious, as tonnage has steadily increased, and will probably continue to increase. Freight, naturally, have fallen in the face of competition, and this has attracted various kinds of cheap merchandise which under a high tariff could not bear the expense of shipment by steamers. Increased cargoes at low rates do not perhaps compensate for the losses sustained by the reduction, but a wider field is thus opened to Native shippers—who form the most important section for conciliation,—which should ultimately have a beneficial effect.

The port was visited in April by His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa, in the corvette *Vettor Pisani*, arriving on the 16th of that month. His Royal Highness remained until the 21st of the month, during which time visits were exchanged with the Viceroy, who paid the highest honours to his distinguished visitor, and received the same in return. Mr. HAAS, Vice-Consul for Austro-Hungary, accompanied His Royal Highness as interpreter. The *Vettor Pisani* took her departure for Kiukiang, on her return to Shanghai, on the morning of the 21st.

In my last year's Report I mentioned that a company of Russian merchants had been formed to run steamers direct from Hankow to the Amoor with Tea, but nothing further has been done towards carrying the project into active operation, although it is understood to be merely temporarily in abeyance.

The port again escaped the dreaded annual flood, the highest point reached by the river being only 39 feet 7 inches. Its lowest point was touched on the 31st December—2 feet 11 inches. The rise of the water was a gradual one until the first week in June, when it increased from a few inches to more than a foot and a half a day. Simultaneously with the rise of the river the velocity of the current increased, augmented by freshets from the Han, and one serious accident and some minor ones happened to the ocean steamers.

The *Breconshire* parted both her cables, and was carried across the bows of the *Moscow*, receiving such serious injury that she was only beached on the right bank of the river in time to prevent her from sinking. It was discovered on examination that she was cut down below the water-line, and so soon as the necessary temporary repairs could be effected, she was sent to Shanghai to be docked. The *Moscow's* cables fortunately stood the strain upon them, or the steamers lying astern would also have suffered.

The steamer *Achilles*, when leaving, Tea-laden, on the 2nd June, touched ground close to the China Navigation Company's hulks, and hung for several hours in an apparently critical position, the force of the current pressing her over on one side. She was finally towed off by one of the river steamers without injury, and proceeded on her voyage to London. The existence of a shoal there was not known or suspected, and it is supposed to have been caused by the grounding, about four ships' lengths above, of the large ocean steamer *Petersburg*, when trying to go alongside one of the China Merchants' Company's hulks a short time previously. It has now entirely disappeared.

I have, etc,

FRANCIS W. WHITE,

Commissioner of Customs.

To

ROBERT HART, Esquire,

Inspector General of Customs,

PEKING.

Appendix No. 1.—

a.—Table showing the Destinations of the various Goods forwarded

DESTINATION.			Grey Shirts.	White Shirts.	Dyed and Figured Shirts.	T-Cloths.	Drills.	Chistoes.	Brocades.
PROVINCE.		PREFECTURE.							
湖北	HUBEI	荆州	Chingchow	Piecs. 200	Piecs. ...	Piecs. ...	Piecs. 300	Piecs. ...	Piecs. ...
		宜昌	Wuchang	50	...	...	50	...	...
		鄂州	Yuyang	448	...	...	...	30	...
		孝感	Hsiangyang	21,842	630	...	7,075	3,714	380
		汉阳	Nganz	...	...	...	...	...	...
		黄冈	Huangyang	...	...	...	...	...	...
		沙市	Changsha	102,770	27,050	50	2,525	2,050	3,170
		长阳	Hingchow	34,068	12,724	...	11,540	2,260	1,300
		永清	Yangchow	88,272	16,230	100	16,135	12,650	3,210
		宜昌	Chingchow	30,900	1,600	...	8,745	3,375	350
湖南	HUNAN	长沙	Chinchow	5,350	100	...	1,750	1,350	50
		常德	Yangtsin	750	66	...	306	182	...
		常德	Changti	9,200	500	50	2,675	270	330
		常德	Lichow	25,700	950	...	9,650	1,500	...
		常德	Peking	2,600	...	...	775	945	...
		常德	Taochow	1,650	50	...	300	875	...
		常德	Ch'anchow	2,250	300	...	250	500	50
		常德	Yachow	1,400	200	...	75	...	...
		常德	Yanchow	592	...	...	...	...	...
		常德	Nanyang	11,000	72	...	6,075	2,610	...
河南	HONAN	开封	Kaifeng	250	...	...	50	...	...
		开封	Chingchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		开封	Honan	...	...	...	...	...	...
		开封	Changching	287,231	20,719	270	124,667	58,555	7,495
		开封	Kweichow	1,650	50	...	120	1,215	80
		开封	Yuyang	2,350	...	...	200	630	80
		开封	Peking	...	...	...	...	...	...
		开封	Changti	...	...	...	...	...	...
		开封	Tunglin	56,199	2,250	...	9,524	6,820	1,320
		开封	Kweiyang	2,314	140	14	355	504	394
四川	SICHUAN	成都	Sichuan	200	...	...	...	...	...
		成都	Chiyuen	...	...	...	...	...	...
		成都	Shangchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		成都	Hingon	43,647	5,344	...	16,674	11,200	1,457
		成都	Haiman	8,815	50	60	2,695	5,016	...
		成都	Hanchang	28,450	200	...	8,360	14,885	730
		成都	Fenghsing	1,520	298	...	1,194	407	...
		成都	Tungchow	1,064	...	...	375	1,237	80
		成都	Pingyang	600	...	...	175	330	...
		成都	Puchow	400	...	...	255	72	...
贵州	KWEICHOW	贵阳	Kweilin	32,250	4,450	50	4,120	4,695	320
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		贵阳	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
陕西	SHENSI	西安	Shangchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		西安	Hingon	43,647	5,344	...	16,674	11,200	1,457
		西安	Haiman	8,815	50	60	2,695	5,016	...
		西安	Hanchang	28,450	200	...	8,360	14,885	730
		西安	Fenghsing	1,520	298	...	1,194	407	...
		西安	Tungchow	1,064	...	...	375	1,237	80
		西安	Pingyang	600	...	...	175	330	...
		西安	Puchow	400	...	...	255	72	...
		西安	Kweilin	32,250	4,450	50	4,120	4,695	320
		西安	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
山西	SHANSI	太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		太原	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
广西	KWANGSI	梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		梧州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL QUANTITY.....			807,487	94,083	694	238,400	138,537	20,806	3,489
TOTAL VALUE.....			1,373,720	206,982	1,457	357,599	318,612	27,047	6,820

TRANSIT TRADE.

under Transit Pass to the Interior during the Year 1880.

Damasks.	Velvets and Velvetens.	Turkey Red Cloths.	Muslins and Cashmires.	Tweils and Jeans.	Sheetings.	Handkerchiefs.	Taffetas.	Cloth Indian.	Linen.	Cotton Yarn.	Looties.
Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Doucs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.
...
...
...
...	142	...	...	1,559	741	...	...	...	...	178.50	156
...
...
...
...	374	120	400	337	3,860	880	...	...	100	9	1,783
...	1,195	...	...	...	2,680	400	*	...	...	240	1,900
...	1,010	...	...	15	5,060	200	...	...	...	1,734	2,860
70	361	...	...	...	1,280	...	...	...	...	6	660
...
...	...	...	...	18	31	...	...	...	...	...	...
40	144	...	...	...	380	...	...	...	...	...	430
...	...	...	...	50	850	...	...	...	...	...	180
...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	3	...
...	...	...	...	...	260	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	30	...	...	...	170	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	120	910	...	...	...	...	...	60
...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...
3,305	3,361	1,489	620	4,608	16,281	9,150	500	360	960	21	16,420
...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	120
...	...	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
80	630	...	...	...	2,210	...	...	...	...	18	1,156
80	...	...	...	44	112	...	...	...	...	...	20
...
...
...
14	69	708	...	13,155	1,063	...	...	...	...	...	768
...	55	330	...	192	615	...	...	...	...	...	24
20	126	68	...	655	1,670	90	...	...	...	...	480
...	...	...	...	1,185	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
140	24	...	...	20	125	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
40	353	...	...	...	2,322	...	...	...	...	15	480
3,789	8,873	2,715	1,020	22,008	40,852	10,720	500	360	1,060	2,224.50	27,676
15,196	65,661	5,158	1,020	37,411	114,379	6,432	2,000	3,240	2,650	200,205	85,018

a.—Table showing the Destinations of the various Goods forwarded

DESTINATION.			Caskets.	Cloth, Medicines, etc.	Lastings.	Long Ebs.	Spanish Stripes.	Woolen and Cotton Mixtures.	Iron Wire.	
PROVINCE.	PARTICULARS.									
湖北	HUPEH	荆州	Chingchow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		宜昌	Wuchang	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		襄陽	Yiayang	.....	.....	.....	30	.....	.....
		樊城	Hsiangyang	115	16	90	202	24	.....	111.20
		安陸	Nganlu	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14.40
		漢陽	Hanyang	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		宜城	Ichang	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		沙市	Changshu	850	700	190	530	1,392	22	.....
		長沙	Hingchow	1,190	238	170	460	870	.....	19.20
		衡州	Yungchow	2,050	601	400	1,460	1,692	.....	.....
湖南	HUNAN	長沙	Chingchow	1,060	336	60	960	354	.....	.....
		衡州	Chinchow	10	12	.....	80	.....	.....	.....
		常德	Yungshu	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		湘潭	Changshu	296	92	40	120	42	.....	.....
		寶慶	Lichow	580	12	40	300	30	.....	.....
		道州	Pooking	10	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....
		岳州	Tsochow	20	6	.....	.....	18	.....	.....
		衡州	Ch'anchow	110	18	.....	60	125	.....	.....
		郴州	Yochow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		沅州	Yenchow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
河南	HOSAN	開封	Nanyang	10	18	.....	.....	6	.....	252
		許州	Kaifeng	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		陳州	Chingchow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
四川	SICHUAN	重慶	Hosen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		成都	Chungking	11,036	7,447	14,015	11,610	1,330	171	901.60
		嘉定	Kweichow	120	30	180	260	.....	.....	244.80
		保寧	Yuyang	60	.....	20	60	24	.....	4.80
		成都	Paoting	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
貴州	KWEICHOW	仁懷	Chengtu	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		陽南	Tungjen	2,195	408	139	1,180	468	.....	.....
		思州	Kweiyang	45	208	56	.....	18	.....	.....
		鎮遠	Selma	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		安順	Chinyuen	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
陝西	SHENSI	西安	Shangchow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		漢中	Hainan	1,330	126	522	544	192	.....	.....
		鳳凰	Hinan	81	16	30	92	6	.....	12
		同州	Hancheng	247	105	326	280	12	.....	.....
		平利	Fenghsiang	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....
山西	SHANNI	太原	Tungchow	.....	12	10	.....	.....	.....	28.80
		陽州	Pingyang	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		臨州	Pochow	.....	.....	10	14	.....	.....	.....
廣西	KWANSI	桂林	Kweilin	375	150	60	320	546	.....	.....
		梧州	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL QUANTITY.....			21,793	10,697	17,178	18,662	7,350	193	1,188.80	
TOTAL VALUE.....			\$11,516	\$99,516	\$137,424	\$113,838	\$113,190	\$2,895	\$5,825	

under Transit Pass to the Interior during the Year 1880—Continued.

Lead.	Quickilver.	Sugar, Brown.	Sugar Candy.	Sugar, White.	Cattle-Sk.	Pepper.	Sisal- wood.	Sapan- wood.	Sesweed.	Amend, Stear.	Betal-nuts.
Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.	Piesls.
...	195.80	112.11	84.60	209.36	...	...
451.23	...	130.50	...	12.50	31.30	39	...	...	1,286.17	...	...
...
...	...	3,066.81	156.15	1,371.15	130.02	1,086.42	828.09	3,595.05	1,058.80	34.12	169.04
...	...	74.40	...	15	...	...	4.25	...	...	...	...
...	63.30	...	...	...	...	210.60	...	...
...	4	...	13.50	...	24.50	...	...
11,148.82	...	2,218.68	69.66	1,076.83	882.92	2,501.80	5,100.70	610.77	17,265.16	13.43	408.36
...	50.80	56.31	1,175.78	2,760.44	398	3,797.99	...	...
...	87.51	48.70	948.65	1,534.77	144.50	4,784.88	...	...
...	...	135	...	...	15.55	104.31	15.90	42.50	524.30	...	...
202.84	89	...	...
...
280.50	...	38.10	92.60	...	26.79	788.87	391.71	292.80	3,113.07	7.80	7.50
115	48	26.95	330.99	...	84.80	1,585.93	...	...
...	110	1,570.68	...	...
594.75	28	...	...
...	17.20	...	...	43.80	...	...
2,126.53	158.68	...	47.70	...	...	187.11	...	...
...
...	...	1,600.24	226.32	1,825.61	9.75	256.86	243.75	3,388.55	983.64	42.43	221.60
...	...	50	23.75	38	...	26.50	76.80	130.50	18.50	...	69.40
...
...	15.68
...	838.20	...	...	39.18	4,114.92	1,950.05	1,097.56	3,902.06	19,128.21	80.60	2,411.22
...	96.80	150.40	12.75	409.50	2,872.90	...	44.10
...	12.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...
...	15.60	46.34	34	274.25	...	...
...	14.30	20	...	...	98	...	...
...
...	13.50	...	...	115	...	...
...	42.50	...	...	...
...	...	641	388.27	2,884.82	331.20	58.11	176.28	3,364.10	813.34	56.67	228.32
...	...	714.47	26.90	534.34	...	71.64	147.50	527	59.45	4.36	55.40
...	...	1,466.57	70.65	851.14	...	317.25	298.60	3,237.31	947.75	75.53	203.43
...
...	22.50	...	35.50	76.50	129.10	...	...
...	24	...	10	...	...	58.65	112	...	...
...	...	101.20	12.40	...	2.80	...	14.96	123.47	88.50	6.60	...
...	5.40	...	...	...	35	...	...
14,926.60	838.20	10,236.92	1,091.70	9,969.16	5,820.21	10,090.52	12,900.51	20,559.05	61,493.76	318.54	3,834.05
77,619	36,881	37,875	8,733	58,818	71,388	90,814	154,806	78,122	154,157	5,733	26,838

a.—Table showing the Destinations of the various Goods forwarded

DESTINATION.			Bicho de	Birds'	Bone and	Bone	Carbom-	Carbom-	Cross,	
PROVINCE.	PREFECTURE.		Mat.	Nests.	and	Buttons.	mon, Inferior.	mon, Superior.	Mother.	
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Horn	Gros.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	
					Wags.					
湖北	HUPEH	荆州	Chingchow	...	...	...	...	...	1.65	
		宜昌	Wuchang	...	...	...	...	...	...
		襄陽	Yinyang	...	...	...	...	...	...
		樊城	Hsiangyang	37-43	...	...	...	59.69	...	1.25
		安陸	Nganlu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		漢陽	Hanyang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		宜昌	Ichang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		沙市	Changsha	320.73	0.05	65-74	...	319.46	4.40	19.95
		州	Héngchow	...	...	...	700	4.30	...	...
		州	Yungchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
湖南	HUNAN	州	Chingchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Chinchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Yungchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Yongshu	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Changsh	20.16	0.57	...	...	59.03	0.40	1.43
		州	Lichow	3.90	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Pooking	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Tachow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Ch'anchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Yochow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
河南	HONAN	州	Yenchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Sanyang	...	...	...	...	23.50	...	...
		州	Kaifing	1.18	...	...	147	8	...	...
		州	Chingchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
四川	SICHUAN	州	Honan	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Chungching	345.44	2.10	0.32	1,000	419.65	28.78	2.45
		州	Kweichow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Yuyang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Paoting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Chengtu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
貴州	KWEICHOW	州	Tungsh	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Kweiyang	1.20	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Selan	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Chinyuen	...	...	...	...	...	...
陝西	SHENSI	州	Shangchow	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Hingon	11.82	...	...	...	136.94	11.56	1.83
		州	Hinan	...	...	...	...	20.90	...	...
		州	Hanchang	...	...	...	...	31.97	...	...
山西	SHANSI	州	Féngshing	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Tungchow	...	...	...	...	9	...	...
		州	Pingyang	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	Pachow	...	...	...	...	1.24	...	...
廣西	KWANSI	州	Kwelin	...	...	...	...	...	...
		州	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL QUANTITY.....			640.85	3.72	65.66	1,347	1,086.58	45.14	28.96	
TOTAL VALUE..... <i>MR. 70</i>			16,021	6,528	1,839	7,041	33,684	7,854	1,313	

under Transit Pass to the Interior during the Year 1880—Continued.

Cassia Lignea.	Clams, Dried.	Clocks and Watches.	Cloves.	Dyes.	Fish Maws.	Ginseng, American, Clarified.	Ginseng, American, Crude.	Glass, Window.	Glassware.	Gum, Gibbous.	Ironstone.
Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Bli. Tn.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Boss.	Dotons.	Piculs.	Piculs.
2.32	...	...	1.75	...	...	1.47	...	223	...	...	4.66
...
48.67	...	...	11.40	40	41.36	...	...	16	...	...	134.28
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...
148.12	8,924.66	74	42.29	1,066	...	70.42	...	1,617	197	65.56	64.70
...	10.43	63	...	180	...	...	...	183	75	...	4.36
...	10.43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.36
...	...	...	...	32	1.25	...	...	542	...	...	0.80
...
2.05	2.40	...	4.22	300	...	5.05	...	456	225	13.11	6.72
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.20
...	...	...	...	65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.20
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.30
...
39.80	...	...	2.74	...	...	1.20	...	...	...	11.60	14.52
...	...	...	2	...	1.55	...	1.20	...	...	...	28.00
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.30
...
445.88	49.06	976	171.37	48,394	127.24	134.06	5.66	...	1,719	163.48	1,065.25
...	...	...	...	88	...	...	...	...	...	...	27.80
...	...	...	...	84	...	...	...	8	...	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	90	...	...	...	16	...	...	...
...	...	...	1.55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...
93.82	2.80	6	34.14	783	122.53	...	...	...	...	15.42	150.77
...	...	...	...	40	...	8.77	...	...	...	...	1.44
52.22	...	...	11.70	263	2.30	...	...	...	25	10.70	15.10
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.20
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.60
...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.56
825.68	8,099.78	1,069	283.17	...	296.23	220.97	6.86	3,071	2,241	276.87	2,464.62
19,715	9,789	2,670	8,495	51,575	23,698	96,125	1,322	12,284	1,193	1,938	64,080

a.—Table showing the Destinations of the various Goods forwarded

DESTINATION.			Leaps.	Lead, Yellow.	Long- noses, Dried.	Long- noses Pulp.	Matches.	Medi- cines.	Mush- rooms.	Needles.	Nutmegs.	
PROVINCE.	PREFECTURE.											
湖北	HUBEI	荆州	Chingchow	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...
		宜昌	Wuchang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		襄陽	Yungyang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		樊城	Hsiangyang	33.80	23.28	4,401	11.61	...	1,000	...
		鄧州	Nganlu
		南漳	Hanyang
		宜城	Ichang	50
		沙市	Changshu	406.08	15.91	1,010	165.00	93.07	...	3.10
		漢口	Hingchow	29.55	...	1,425	...	1.10	2,500	...
		宜昌	Yungchow
湖南	HUNAN	州	Chingchow	...	...	4.39	...	434	...	3,500	...
		衡州	Chéuchow	...	...	...	...	...	1.10	...	...
		常德	Yungshu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		長沙	Changshu	434	5.99	1.43	1,500	0.88
		湘潭	Lichow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		衡陽	Pooking	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		邵陽	Taochow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		岳陽	Ch'anchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		益陽	Yochow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		常德	Yanchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
河南	HONAN	開封	Nanyang	...	...	...	715	1.36	...	...	...
		鄭州	Kaifeng	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		許州	Chingchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
四川	SICHUAN	重慶	Honan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		成都	Chungking	912	...	193.32	71.42	41,224	135.63	4.23	4,350	2.95
		萬縣	Kweichow	2,500	1,300	...
		宜賓	Yeyang	90
		瀘州	Paoting
貴州	KWEICHOW	貴陽	Chengtu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		遵義	Tungjin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		安順	Kweiyang	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...
		鎮遠	Sénnan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
陝西	SHANSI	西安	Chinyuen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		漢中	Shangchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		寧夏	Hingon	...	126.19	...	96.08	1,810	109.51	5.38	5,044	19.28
		平涼	Hsinan	...	37.64	307.80	...	2,375	...	...	...
		綏德	Hanchang	99.04	61.45	2,410	33.30	...	2,500	...
山西	SHANSI	太原	Pinghsiang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		陽州	Tungchow	...	...	...	...	...	1.60	...	...
廣西	KWANSI	梧州	Pingyang	...	...	...	11.50	...	...	...	...
		桂林	Puchow	...	...	...	9.60	...	...	...	...
TOTAL QUANTITY.....			912	143.83	972.88	389.66	65,948	463.48	108.31	21,694	26.21	
TOTAL VALUE.....			1,358	1,582	5,837	2,172	28,344	2,696	2,491	3,068	1,300	

under Transit Pass to the Interior during the Year 1880—Continued.

Oil, Kero- sene.	Paint, Gowd.	Pool, Osmeg and Puzels.	Prisms, Dried.	Pro- cesses.	Pat- ent- check.	Rottens, Split and Whole.	Rattan Mats.	Sharks' Fins.	Shell- fish.	Silk Pice Goods.	Ver- million.	Sundries, Uncom- mented.	VALUE.		
Gallons.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Rt. Tls.	Rt. Tls.	Rt. Tls.	
200	1.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,985		
...	7,092		
...	4.40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	832		
30	11.92	13.33	23	...	23.49	3.83	...	21.92	386	164,476		
...	174	658	
...	900		
...	30	396	
31,110	2.39	...	52.31	11.28	30.93	...	...	53.16	33.61	...	5.40	2,529	628,249	181,258
400	1.25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	141	254,026		
200	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	557,073		
1,200	3.63	...	...	...	...	120,433		
100	18,151		
...	2,418		
4,570	10.50	...	15.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	453	20,111		
60	10	85,302		
...	11,804		
...	10,390		
...	11,670		
...	15,238		
...	3,665		
...	7.30	...	37.80	35.70	...	...	...	5.57	...	...	11.65	731	85,345	1,799,000
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	369	6,073	
...	1.20	...	...	...	...	173		
...	100		
17,482	57.92	70.80	135.72	...	133.80	31.32	4,145	84.05	17.19	4.43	...	10,215	2,079,105	91,700	
100	1.10	...	...	...	38	26,832		
400	7,818		
...	336		
...	114		
300	204,625	3,114,205	
...	1	...	9.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,211	
...	386		
...	409		
...	161	323,131	
...	31.68	31.01	33.09	...	12.96	164.67	...	118.35	8.66	...	48.95	1,536	388,451		
...	4.57	...	...	1.30	...	...	...	39	34,937		
100	...	9.50	...	...	17.84	...	...	70.04	...	...	4.50	411	161,806	
...	8,158		
300	3.70	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	9,341		
...	30	2,678	522,854	
...	3.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	3,375	6,303	
200	15	113,895	113,895	
56,843	93.99	118.61	230.87	72.50	269.25	218.99	4,145	361.89	63.29	4.43	95.42	...	...
8,279	2,537	1,434	5,008	1,015	3,761	1,533	8,290	24,608	1,903	2,272	2,772	17,468	...	5,053,266	

b.—Table showing the Places from which Native Goods were brought under Transit Pass from the Interior during the Year 1880.

PLACES OF PRODUCTION.						GOODS.				VALUE.
PROVINCE.		PREFECTURE.		DISTRICT.		TOBACCO LEAF.	TEA, BLACK.	BRICK TEA.		
Chinese.	English.	Chinese.	English.	Chinese.	English.			Black.	Green.	
湖北	Hupei.....	武昌	Wuchang.....	羊樓崗	Yanglow-tang	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Hk. 7h.
			漢陽	Hanyang.....	漢口	Hankow.....	...	935.88	...	...	30,883
河南	Honan.....	鄭州	Tingchow.....	鄭州	Tingchow.....	2,039.09	...	55,071.86	7,045.10	304,373
		
TOTAL QUANTITY.....						2,039.09	935.88	57,009.95	13,541.96	
TOTAL VALUE.....Hk. 7h.						10,195	30,883	278,705	65,891	396,674

c.—Table showing the Number of Passes issued for, and the Amount of Duties collected on, Foreign Goods forwarded to the Interior under Transit Passes, as divided between the various Nationalities during the Year 1880.

QUARTER.	NATIONALITIES.						TOTAL.	
	AMERICAN.		BRITISH.		CHINESE.		No. of Passes.	Transit Dues.
	No. of Passes.	Transit Dues.	No. of Passes.	Transit Dues.	No. of Passes.	Transit Dues.		
1st quarter	334	Hk. 7h. m. c. c. 2,585.7.1.0	4,897	Hk. 7h. m. c. c. 23,678.7.2.0	186	Hk. 7h. m. c. c. 637.3.9.0	5,407	Hk. 7h. m. c. c. 26,901.8.2.0
2nd "	315	2,383.4.5.0	6,701	24,525.6.2.0	64	207.9.5.0	7,080	27,115.0.2.0
3rd "	309	4,190.0.5.0	7,519	24,793.4.3.0	39	387.2.3.0	8,067	28,870.7.1.0
4th "	1,130	6,077.1.1.0	3,371	11,949.2.8.0	43	338.9.6.0	4,534	18,365.3.5.0
TOTAL	2,368	15,337.3.2.0	22,488	84,445.1.1.0	332	1,371.5.3.0	25,088	101,253.9.6.0

d.—Table showing the Number of Passes issued for, and Amount of Duties collected on, Native Goods brought from the Interior under Transit Passes, as divided between the various Nationalities during the Year 1880.

QUARTER.	NATIONALITIES.				TOTAL.	
	BRITISH.		RUSSIAN.		No. of Passes.	Transit Dues.
	No. of Passes.	Transit Dues.	No. of Passes.	Transit Dues.		
1st quarter	1	Hk. 7h. m. c. c. 8.8.7.8	1	Hk. 7h. m. c. c. 30.3.0	2	Hk. 7h. m. c. c. 11.9.0.8
2nd "	2	1,169.3.5.0	18	3,114.9.4.8	20	4,284.7.9.8
3rd "	7	327.9.0.3	48	7,844.9.2.5	55	8,172.8.2.8
4th "	6	28.2.7.2	60	2,955.9.7.5	66	3,044.2.4.7
TOTAL	16.	1,618.4.3.4	127	21,109.0.2.3	143	22,737.4.5.7

Appendix No. 2.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS during the Year 1880.

DATE.	Height of Water.	Ris.	Fall.	Baromet.				Thermomet.			Hygromet.			Direction of Wind.		Remarks.		
				In.		°		°		°		°		S. A. N.	J. P. N.		S. A. N.	J. P. N.
				9 A. M.	3 P. M.	9 A. M.	3 P. M.	9 A. M.	3 P. M.	9 A. M.	3 P. M.							
January	Pt. in.	In.	In.	In.	In.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	In.	
"	1 2 4	...	...	30.45	30.40	39	45	37	40	35	45	40	W.	W.	...	...
"	2 2 3	...	...	30.30	30.35	38	43	35	38	35	47	35	E.	N.	...	...
"	3 1 11	...	4	30.40	30.40	34	44	38	33	36	44	36	N.	N.	...	...
"	4 1 10	...	1	30.45	30.40	40	45	32	41	31	46	38	E.	E.	...	...
"	5 1 8	...	2	30.40	30.40	41	48	38	40	37	49	41	E.	E.	...	...
"	6 1 6	...	3	30.40	30.35	39	40	36	39	35	49	41	E.	E.	...	...
"	7 1 6	...	...	30.35	30.35	45	52	41	44	39	52	44	E.	E.	...	...
"	8 1 4	...	2	30.35	30.30	49	51	46	48	45	50	46	E.	E.	...	...
"	9 1 2	...	2	30.45	30.45	43	41	41	41	40	49	39	N.	N.	...	...
"	10 0 11	...	3	30.45	30.45	36	35	35	35	33	34	34	N.	N.	...	...
"	11 0 11	...	...	30.45	30.45	33	35	39	33	31	34	35	N.	N.	...	...
"	12 0 10	...	2	30.50	30.50	35	38	31	34	33	37	36	N.	N.	...	...
"	13 0 11	...	1	30.50	30.50	36	39	34	33	34	39	37	N.	N.	...	...
"	14 1 0	...	1	30.50	30.50	39	41	36	38	37	41	39	N.	N.	...	...
"	15 1 0	...	...	30.50	30.50	41	42	39	40	39	41	40	E.	E.	...	...
"	16 1 1	...	1	30.50	30.50	40	43	37	39	39	43	40	E.	N.E.	...	...
"	17 1 4	...	3	30.55	30.50	41	43	39	40	39	43	40	N.	N.	...	...
"	18 1 7	...	3	30.50	30.45	41	41	38	39	38	40	40	N.	N.	...	...
"	19 1 9	...	2	30.50	30.45	40	43	37	39	38	42	41	N.	E.	...	...
"	20 2 0	...	3	30.45	30.45	40	41	38	39	39	40	39	N.	N.	...	...
"	21 2 2	...	...	30.55	30.55	35	34	33	34	33	33	32	N.	N.	...	...
"	22 2 2	...	...	30.70	30.70	35	37	34	34	35	36	34	N.	N.	...	...
"	23 2 1	...	1	30.75	30.75	31	34	38	30	29	33	33	N.	N.	...	...
"	24 1 11	...	2	30.65	30.65	26	27	29	25	24	26	25	N.	N.E.	...	...
"	25 2 2	...	3	30.70	30.70	27	32	34	26	25	31	30	N.	E.	...	...
"	26 2 8	...	6	30.75	30.75	26	33	34	25	25	33	32	N.	N.E.	...	...
"	27 3 3	...	7	30.65	30.65	31	35	27	31	30	35	35	S.	S.	...	...
"	28 3 9	...	6	30.50	30.50	33	41	30	33	32	41	38	S.	S.E.	...	...
"	29 4 3	...	6	30.45	30.45	37	44	33	37	35	44	41	E.	E.	...	...
"	30 4 8	...	5	30.65	30.65	37	39	34	37	35	39	37	N.W.	N.	...	...
"	31 4 8	...	...	30.50	30.50	38	43	35	38	37	44	41	W.	N.	...	...
February	4 9	1	...	30.35	30.30	40	44	37	40	39	44	43	E.	E.	...	...
"	2 4 6	...	3	30.45	30.45	40	43	38	40	39	37	43	N.E.	N.	...	...
"	3 4 1	...	5	30.35	30.35	44	43	38	40	39	43	43	N.E.	S.E.	...	...
"	4 3 10	...	3	30.40	30.40	37	35	35	36	35	35	35	N.	N.	...	...
"	5 1 7	...	3	30.45	30.45	33	35	39	32	30	34	32	N.	N.	...	...
"	6 3 9	...	2	30.40	30.35	34	35	31	33	32	35	34	E.	N.E.	...	...
"	7 4 2	...	5	30.35	30.40	34	37	32	34	32	36	34	N.	N.	...	...
"	8 4 10	...	8	30.45	30.45	36	40	32	35	34	40	38	E.	E.	...	...
"	9 5 4	...	6	30.45	30.45	37	43	33	37	34	43	40	S.	S.	...	...
"	10 5 9	...	5	30.40	30.30	39	43	38	39	37	43	41	E.N.E.	E.N.E.	...	...
"	11 6 3	...	6	30.40	30.40	38	39	37	37	35	39	37	N.E.	N.E.	...	...
"	12 6 8	...	5	30.40	30.40	37	43	35	37	36	41	39	N.E.	N.	...	...
"	13 7 0	...	6	30.40	30.30	39	39	36	38	36	39	37	N.E.	N.	...	...
"	14 7 6	...	6	30.30	30.30	35	42	33	35	33	43	39	N.	N.	...	...
"	15 8 0	...	3	30.35	30.35	39	46	35	39	35	45	43	N.	N.	...	...
"	16 8 7	...	7	30.25	30.25	42	43	38	41	40	41	42	E.	E.	...	...
"	17 9 0	...	5	30.30	30.30	39	39	34	39	37	38	39	N.	N.	...	...
"	18 9 1	...	1	30.35	30.30	37	39	35	37	35	38	36	N.	N.	...	...
"	19 9 3	...	2	30.35	30.35	35	37	33	33	33	36	35	N.	N.	...	...
"	20 10 6	...	15	30.40	30.35	35	37	32	34	33	37	35	N.	N.	...	...
"	21 11 9	...	15	30.45	30.50	36	43	31	36	35	43	40	N.E.	N.	...	...
"	22 12 11	...	14	30.35	30.50	39	45	34	38	37	45	41	N.	E.	...	...
"	23 13 9	...	10	30.55	30.50	43	47	39	43	40	47	47	E.	E.	...	...
"	24 14 3	...	6	30.50	30.45	42	44	39	43	39	44	41	E.	E.	...	...
"	25 14 0	...	5	30.45	30.40	42	45	45	37	41	40	44	E.	E.	...	...
"	26 15 0	...	4	30.35	30.35	43	46	41	43	41	46	44	S.E.	S.E.	...	...
"	27 15 3	...	...	30.35	30.35	43	45	41	41	41	45	44	S.E.	S.E.	...	...
"	28 15 3	...	...	30.50	30.50	43	41	41	41	42	40	40	N.	N.	...	...
"	29 15 3	...	...	30.55	30.55	40	43	47	40	38	43	40	N.	N.	...	...

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	Height of Water.		Rain.	Felt.	Barometer.		Thermometer.				Hygrometer.				Direction of Wind.		Rainfall.
					J. A. M.	J. P. M.	Max.	Min.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	J. A. M.	J. P. M.	J. A. M.	J. P. M.	
March	Pt.	6s.	In.	In.	In.	In.	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	°	In.
"	1	15	8	5	...	30.60	30.50	40	46	35	40	38	46	42	E.	E.	...
"	2	15	11	3	...	30.55	30.55	44	50	40	43	40	50	45	E.	E.	...
"	3	16	1	2	...	30.60	30.55	45	52	39	45	41	52	44	E.	S.E.	...
"	4	16	1	...	...	30.60	30.50	45	50	40	45	40	50	43	E.	S.E.	...
"	5	15	11	...	2	30.45	30.45	48	53	43	48	42	54	46	E.	K.	...
"	6	15	6	...	5	30.45	30.40	50	52	47	49	47	51	48	E.	E.	...
"	7	14	9	...	9	30.40	30.40	50	52	45	50	47	51	48	E.	E.	...
"	8	14	9	...	...	30.40	30.40	47	43	43	46	45	53	50	E.	S.E.	...
"	9	13	3	...	18	30.45	30.40	49	47	44	49	48	57	51	E.	E.	...
"	10	12	9	...	6	30.40	30.40	53	60	50	53	50	60	54	Calm	E.	...
"	11	12	0	...	9	30.45	30.40	53	62	48	53	50	62	56	N.E.	E.	...
"	12	11	8	...	4	30.30	30.15	59	65	55	58	56	65	61	E.	S.	...
"	13	11	6	...	2	30.05	30.05	59	60	55	60	60	65	60	Calm	S.	...
"	14	11	5	...	1	30.25	30.25	57	58	54	55	54	57	54	N.E.	N.E.	...
"	15	11	5	...	...	30.25	30.20	55	58	52	54	52	57	53	N.	W.	...
"	16	11	11	6	...	30.10	30.15	59	61	52	55	54	61	57	S.E.	E.	...
"	17	12	2	3	...	30.15	30.15	59	65	53	59	57	65	61	E.	S.	...
"	18	12	4	2	...	30.10	30.10	63	66	59	62	60	66	61	E.	S.	...
"	19	12	4	...	...	30.20	30.45	45	50	43	44	47	49	45	N.E.	N.	...
"	20	12	4	...	...	30.20	30.45	47	51	43	47	44	50	44	E.	S.	...
"	21	12	10	6	...	30.40	30.40	48	53	44	47	44	53	48	W.	S.W.	...
"	22	13	4	6	...	30.45	30.45	50	55	45	49	47	55	51	E.	W.	...
"	23	13	6	2	...	30.65	30.55	46	53	42	45	42	53	47	N.E.	W.	...
"	24	13	10	4	...	30.50	30.45	52	58	42	53	48	58	51	S.E.	S.	...
"	25	13	11	1	...	30.40	30.35	55	61	48	51	50	61	55	S.	S.	...
"	26	13	10	...	1	30.20	30.15	58	64	53	58	53	68	60	S.E.	W.	...
"	27	13	6	...	4	30.05	30.10	63	70	57	62	58	70	60	E.	E.	...
"	28	13	5	...	1	30.40	30.05	63	69	54	62	59	69	61	E.	S.	...
"	29	13	8	3	...	30.25	30.25	63	71	59	62	56	70	65	N.E.	N.E.	...
"	30	14	0	4	...	30.10	30.05	66	81	59	66	61	82	70	S.	S.	...
"	31	14	0	...	...	30.30	30.35	62	70	58	61	51	70	56	N.	N.	...
April	1	13	3	...	10	30.40	30.40	58	60	55	56	48	58	52	N.	N.	...
"	2	12	10	...	4	30.45	30.45	56	62	50	51	51	62	53	S.E.	S.	...
"	3	12	0	...	10	30.25	30.40	59	66	52	58	50	66	53	N.E.	S.E.	...
"	4	11	4	...	8	30.10	30.20	57	59	53	56	54	57	56	S.E.	N.E.	...
"	5	10	6	...	10	30.20	30.10	59	60	56	57	56	59	57	N.E.	N.	...
"	6	9	6	...	12	30.25	30.25	55	56	53	54	52	55	54	N.	N.	...
"	7	8	9	...	9	30.15	30.20	57	59	53	56	54	58	56	N.E.	N.E.	...
"	8	8	0	...	9	30.00	30.05	59	60	55	58	57	59	58	N.E.	N.E.	...
"	9	7	10	...	2	30.10	30.10	57	62	54	56	54	61	51	N.	N.E.	...
"	10	7	9	...	1	30.20	30.30	53	54	51	52	50	53	49	N.	N.E.	...
"	11	8	8	...	11	30.40	30.40	53	57	47	52	47	57	51	N.	N.E.	...
"	12	10	11	27	...	30.45	30.45	53	57	49	52	60	56	52	N.E.	E.	...
"	13	13	2	27	...	30.45	30.45	55	59	48	53	50	58	54	N.	S.	...
"	14	15	0	23	...	30.30	30.40	55	55	54	54	52	54	53	S.	S.E.	...
"	15	16	5	17	...	30.45	30.45	59	52	58	49	46	51	46	N.	N.	...
"	16	17	3	11	...	30.55	30.55	54	59	47	54	50	59	53	N.E.	N.W.	...
"	17	18	8	16	...	30.35	30.45	54	66	51	57	53	66	61	S.	S.E.	...
"	18	19	9	13	...	30.20	30.20	64	70	58	65	61	69	64	S.E.	S.E.	...
"	19	20	4	7	...	30.15	30.15	65	73	58	65	61	73	64	S.	S.	...
"	20	20	4	...	...	30.40	30.40	49	49	48	48	45	48	46	W.	W.	...
"	21	20	6	3	...	30.15	30.25	52	63	41	52	49	64	57	N.	W.	...
"	22	21	0	6	...	30.05	30.05	60	69	52	63	63	74	60	S.	S.	...
"	23	21	1	1	...	30.10	30.10	65	73	59	65	60	74	63	E.	E.	...
"	24	21	2	1	...	30.15	30.15	69	76	60	69	62	75	65	S.E.	S.	...
"	25	20	11	...	3	30.05	30.05	79	80	72	80	70	82	70	S.	S.E.	...
"	26	20	11	...	...	30.05	30.05	80	81	72	80	70	81	72	S.	S.W.	...
"	27	20	6	...	5	30.25	30.20	69	69	67	67	64	64	62	N.	N.	...
"	28	19	8	...	10	30.40	30.40	64	69	60	65	59	66	63	N.E.	Calm	...
"	29	19	4	...	4	30.35	30.40	62	70	53	61	58	71	63	S.E.	S.	...
"	30	18	10	...	6	30.25	30.30	68	76	62	68	66	63	65	S.	W.	...

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	Height of Water.	Bar.	Fall.	Barometer.		Thermometer.				Hygrometer.				Direction of Wind.		Barob.	
				In.	In.	Max.	Min.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	S. E.	S. W.	N. E.	N. W.		
																	3 A.M.
May	Pt. in.	In.	In.	In.	In.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	In.
" 1	18 2	...	8	30.20	30.15	74	77	66	71	66	77	66	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 2	17 8	...	6	30.25	30.20	70	77	65	70	66	77	66	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 3	17 6	...	2	30.20	30.20	73	79	68	72	69	79	69	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 4	17 6	...	2	30.10	30.05	76	83	69	76	70	81	72	E.N.E.	S.	S.	...	
" 5	17 4	...	2	30.05	30.05	73	73	69	72	67	71	69	E.N.E.	S.	S.	...	
" 6	16 10	...	6	30.20	30.20	68	74	61	67	62	74	65	E.N.E.	S.	S.	...	
" 7	17 0	...	2	...	...	72	79	66	72	67	79	68	S.	S.	S.	...
" 8	16 11	...	1	29.95	29.90	77	81	70	77	70	81	71	S.	S.W.	S.	...	
" 9	16 11	...	2	29.95	29.90	82	88	77	84	74	88	78	S.W.	S.	S.	...	
" 10	17 0	...	2	29.90	29.90	82	88	76	82	77	88	79	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 11	17 0	...	2	29.80	29.80	84	76	77	84	77	74	69	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 12	16 6	...	6	30.10	30.15	68	75	73	67	61	74	64	N.	N.E.	S.	...	
" 13	16 8	...	2	30.15	30.15	73	77	67	72	67	76	70	S.E.	S.E.	S.	...	
" 14	16 10	...	2	30.10	30.15	62	61	61	60	59	68	57	N.	N.E.	S.	...	
" 15	17 0	...	2	30.20	30.20	60	62	58	59	57	66	59	N.	N.	S.	...	
" 16	18 1	13	...	30.25	30.25	62	64	57	62	61	63	61	W.	W.	S.	...	
" 17	19 11	22	...	30.25	30.25	65	71	59	64	62	71	60	W.	S.	S.	...	
" 18	21 2	15	...	30.15	30.15	70	74	64	70	66	70	69	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 19	22 1	11	...	30.05	30.05	73	78	65	73	68	78	70	E.	S.	S.	...	
" 20	21 1	...	12	30.25	30.25	72	75	66	72	60	75	60	N.	N.	S.	...	
" 21	21 1	...	1	30.20	30.25	70	79	63	70	60	79	60	N.W.	W.	S.	...	
" 22	21 0	...	1	30.15	30.10	71	78	66	70	64	77	65	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 23	21 10	10	...	30.10	30.10	75	80	67	75	66	80	68	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 24	21 6	...	4	30.10	30.10	76	81	70	76	70	82	70	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 25	21 3	...	3	30.10	30.05	79	85	72	79	72	86	73	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 26	20 11	...	4	30.00	30.00	80	86	72	80	73	83	70	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 27	20 4	...	7	29.95	29.95	84	89	77	84	78	89	81	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 28	19 8	...	8	30.00	29.95	85	88	79	85	80	88	82	S.E.	S.E.	S.	...	
" 29	19 0	...	8	29.85	29.80	79	81	76	77	76	79	78	S.E.	S.E.	S.	...	
" 30	18 10	...	2	30.05	30.05	75	78	72	75	71	78	73	N.	N.	S.	...	
" 31	20 0	14	...	30.20	30.20	68	74	63	68	64	74	69	N.	N.	S.	...	
June	1	31	9	21	...	30.20	30.20	72	77	67	71	68	76	71	S.E.	E.	...
" 2	32 9	12	...	30.15	30.10	74	78	70	73	69	77	74	S.E.	S.E.	S.	...	
" 3	32 11	2	...	30.05	30.05	75	79	70	74	71	79	76	S.W.	E.	S.	...	
" 4	32 11	...	...	30.05	30.05	77	80	73	77	73	79	73	S.	E.	S.	...
" 5	32 10	...	1	29.95	29.95	76	75	73	74	73	73	71	S.	E.	S.	...	
" 6	23 2	4	...	30.00	30.05	77	79	69	76	73	79	76	E.	N.E.	S.	...	
" 7	23 8	6	...	30.05	30.05	77	79	72	76	73	78	76	E.	E.	S.	...	
" 8	24 5	9	...	30.00	30.00	74	81	71	73	72	81	78	S.W.	E.	S.	...	
" 9	25 5	12	...	30.00	30.00	80	85	73	80	76	85	82	W.	S.	S.	...	
" 10	26 4	11	...	30.05	30.00	82	85	76	81	79	85	82	S.W.	S.	S.	...	
" 11	27 2	10	...	30.10	30.05	81	86	76	81	79	86	82	S.E.	S.E.	S.	...	
" 12	28 0	10	...	30.00	30.00	71	72	69	69	69	70	70	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 13	28 9	9	...	29.95	29.95	73	76	69	72	70	75	73	N.	S.	S.	...	
" 14	29 2	7	...	29.95	29.95	75	80	71	75	72	80	77	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 15	30 9	5	...	29.90	29.90	78	81	72	77	76	81	80	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 16	30 3	5	...	29.90	29.90	79	78	71	77	74	76	74	S.W.	S.	S.	...	
" 17	30 7	5	...	29.90	29.90	78	84	73	78	74	84	77	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 18	31 0	5	...	29.95	29.95	82	86	77	82	78	86	78	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 19	31 11	11	...	30.10	30.10	81	82	76	80	75	80	75	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 20	32 9	10	...	30.00	30.00	80	80	73	78	74	84	81	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 21	32 11	2	...	30.10	30.10	79	84	74	78	74	84	81	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 22	33 4	3	...	30.15	30.15	80	78	77	78	75	80	77	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 23	33 7	3	...	30.15	30.15	77	80	73	76	73	80	77	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 24	33 10	3	...	30.15	30.15	79	83	73	78	70	81	82	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 25	34 2	4	...	30.15	30.10	82	86	77	81	77	86	85	S.	S.W.	S.	...	
" 26	34 4	2	...	30.00	29.90	81	86	78	80	79	85	84	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 27	34 6	2	...	29.90	29.90	82	89	79	82	80	87	85	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 28	34 8	2	...	29.90	29.90	86	91	79	86	84	91	90	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 29	35 0	4	...	29.85	29.85	79	82	77	77	77	80	79	S.	S.	S.	...	
" 30	35 3	3	...	29.85	29.85	81	84	77	80	78	84	82	N.	N.	S.	...	

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	Height of Water.	Dir.	Wind.	Barometer.						Thermometer.						Hygrometer.						Direction of Wind.		Beauf.
				Mean.		Max.		Min.		Dry.		Wet.		Dry.		Wet.		3 A.M.	3 P.M.					
				3 A.M.	3 P.M.	3 A.M.	3 P.M.	3 A.M.	3 P.M.	3 A.M.	3 P.M.	3 A.M.	3 P.M.	3 A.M.	3 P.M.	3 A.M.	3 P.M.	3 A.M.	3 P.M.					
July	1	Fl. 11	In. 8	...	29.95	29.95	31	27	78	80	79	81	87	87	81	81	E.N.E.	N.	...					
"	2	15 3	4	...	30.00	30.00	31	28	79	82	81	87	86	85	81	81	S.	S.	...					
"	3	16 8	5	...	30.00	30.05	31	29	81	85	84	89	87	87	81	81	S.	N.	...					
"	4	16 10	2	...	30.00	30.00	31	31	82	86	84	92	80	80	81	81	S.W.	S.	...					
"	5	17 0	2	...	30.00	30.00	32	30	77	81	79	85	84	84	81	81	S.E.	S.E.	1 1/2					
"	6	17 1	1	...	29.90	29.85	33	31	78	82	80	84	83	83	81	81	E.	S.W.	...					
"	7	17 1	...	...	29.85	29.85	33	30	78	82	80	85	84	84	81	81	E.	S.W.	...			
"	8	17 4	3	...	29.90	29.90	30	32	78	78	78	80	80	80	80	80	E.	W.	2 1/2					
"	9	17 9	5	...	29.90	29.90	31	31	78	80	78	84	81	81	81	81	E.	S.W.	1 1/2					
"	10	17 11	2	...	29.95	29.85	31	31	80	85	83	85	80	80	80	80	W.	W.	...					
"	11	17 11	...	...	30.00	30.00	31	31	82	84	82	84	83	83	83	83	S.	E.	...			
"	12	17 11	...	...	30.00	30.00	34	31	78	84	80	88	80	80	80	80	S.W.	W.	1 1/2			
"	13	17 11	...	...	29.90	29.90	33	30	79	83	80	86	84	84	81	81	E.	E.	1 1/2			
"	14	17 11	...	...	29.95	30.00	33	30	78	83	80	86	84	84	81	81	S.E.	E.	...			
"	15	17 9	...	2	30.00	30.00	33	34	79	82	79	83	81	81	81	81	E.	E.	...					
"	16	17 7	...	2	30.00	30.00	34	31	79	83	81	86	84	84	81	81	E.	E.	...					
"	17	17 5	...	2	30.00	30.00	32	31	78	81	80	82	80	80	80	80	N.E.	N.E.	...					
"	18	17 3	...	2	29.95	29.95	34	30	78	83	78	85	80	80	80	80	N.E.	N.E.	...					
"	19	16 11	...	4	29.95	29.95	34	31	79	83	81	85	83	83	83	83	E.	N.W.	...					
"	20	16 11	...	...	29.90	29.90	32	32	79	80	78	81	80	80	80	80	N.E.	N.E.	1 1/2			
"	21	17 3	4	...	29.85	29.85	28	32	76	76	75	76	75	76	75	75	N.W.	N.W.	1 1/2					
"	22	17 6	3	...	29.85	29.85	30	34	76	79	76	83	81	81	81	81	N.	N.E.	1 1/2					
"	23	17 9	3	...	29.80	29.80	32	37	78	81	79	86	84	84	84	84	N.	N.	...					
"	24	18 1	4	...	29.85	29.80	35	37	78	83	80	85	83	83	83	83	N.	N.	...					
"	25	18 5	4	...	29.95	29.83	33	37	76	83	80	85	83	83	83	83	N.W.	N.W.	...					
"	26	18 10	5	...	30.00	30.00	33	37	77	83	80	80	80	80	80	80	E.	E.	...					
"	27	19 1	3	...	30.00	30.00	35	38	80	84	81	80	84	84	84	84	E.	E.	...					
"	28	19 3	2	...	30.00	30.00	35	38	80	84	80	87	84	84	84	84	E.	E.	...					
"	29	19 5	2	...	30.00	30.00	35	38	80	84	80	87	84	84	84	84	S.	S.	...					
"	30	19 7	2	...	30.00	30.00	36	39	81	85	82	88	87	87	87	87	S.	N.E.	...					
"	31	19 6	...	1	29.90	29.95	37	31	83	86	83	90	87	87	87	87	S.	S.	...					
August	1	19 5	...	1	29.95	29.95	36	31	85	82	86	83	83	83	83	83	S.	...	...			
"	2	19 5	...	...	29.95	29.95	36	31	86	82	90	86	86	86	86	86	S.	N.E.	...			
"	3	19 5	...	...	29.95	29.90	39	38	85	87	85	87	87	87	87	87	N.	N.	...			
"	4	19 1	...	4	29.90	29.90	36	31	85	82	90	88	88	88	88	88	E.	N.	...					
"	5	19 0	...	1	29.85	29.85	37	31	82	86	85	90	87	87	87	87	N.	N.	...					
"	6	18 10	...	2	29.90	29.95	37	31	83	86	90	78	81	81	81	81	N.W.	N.W.	...					
"	7	18 6	...	4	29.95	29.95	37	31	83	86	90	78	81	81	81	81	N.E.	E.	...					
"	8	18 2	...	4	30.00	30.00	36	30	82	85	74	80	74	74	74	74	E.	E.	...					
"	9	18 0	...	2	30.00	30.00	35	30	81	84	75	88	74	74	74	74	E.	S.	...					
"	10	17 9	...	3	30.00	30.00	36	38	81	85	88	78	88	78	78	78	E.	E.	...					
"	11	17 6	...	3	29.95	29.95	36	37	82	85	78	85	78	78	78	78	E.	N.	...					
"	12	17 3	...	3	29.95	29.90	36	34	81	85	79	94	82	82	82	82	S.	S.	...					
"	13	16 11	...	4	29.85	29.80	36	35	83	84	80	83	79	79	79	79	N.	N.	...					
"	14	16 6	...	5	29.85	29.85	37	35	75	75	75	73	74	74	74	74	N.	N.	...					
"	15	16 1	...	5	29.90	29.95	30	34	77	79	76	84	84	78	78	78	N.	N.	...					
"	16	16 1	...	1	30.00	30.00	31	34	73	80	75	84	73	73	73	73	E.	E.	...					
"	17	16 1	...	1	30.00	30.00	30	34	77	79	73	84	73	73	73	73	E.	E.	...					
"	18	15 11	...	1	29.95	29.95	31	35	77	84	77	84	73	73	73	73	E.	E.	...					
"	19	15 6	...	2	30.00	30.00	31	35	77	80	72	84	74	74	74	74	E.	E.	...					
"	20	15 6	...	...	30.05	30.05	32	37	78	81	74	86	77	77	77	77	E.	E.	...			
"	21	15 4	...	2	30.10	30.10	35	39	80	84	79	88	80	80	80	80	E.	E.	...					
"	22	15 1	...	3	30.10	30.10	37	39	82	86	80	89	80	80	80	80	E.	E.	...					
"	23	14 11	...	2	30.05	30.05	32	37	81	81	74	86	77	77	77	77	N.E.	E.	...					
"	24	14 9	...	2	30.00	30.00	34	38	81	83	75	87	76	76	76	76	N.	...	...			
"	25	14 8	...	1	30.00	30.00	37	38	82	86	80	87	80	80	80	80	N.	...	...			
"	26	15 0	4	...	30.00	30.00	34	35	82	85	79	82	78	78	78	78	N.E.	N.	...					
"	27	15 2	2	...	30.00	30.00	39	34	75	77	74	73	71	71	71	71	N.	N.	...					
"	28	15 4	2	...	30.00	30.00	39	34	70	70	68	69	68	68	68	68	N.	N.	...					
"	29	15 9	5	...	30.10	30.10	41	33	69	69	68	73	70	70	70	70	N.	N.	...					
"	30	16 1	4	...	30.10	30.10	44	38	68	73	70	77	73	73	73	73	N.	N.	...					
"	31	16 3	2	...	30.30	30.30	36	37	74	75	73	76	73	73	73	73	S.E.	W.	...					

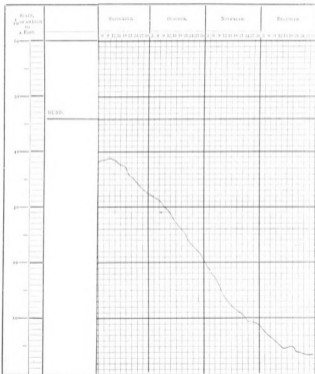
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	Height of Water.		Rise.	Fall.	Barometer.		Thermometer.				Hygrometer.				Direction of Wind.		Rainfall.
					9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Max.	Min.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.			
															In.	In.	
Sept. 1	36	8	5	...	30.25	30.30	75	76	72	74	71	74	72	E.	E.	15	
" 2	36	11	3	...	30.25	30.25	74	76	71	73	71	75	73	N.	N.	15	
" 3	37	3	4	...	30.25	30.25	77	81	71	76	74	81	76	S.	S.	15	
" 4	37	6	3	...	30.25	30.25	80	83	75	79	76	83	76	S.	W.	15	
" 5	37	10	4	...	30.15	30.15	81	86	76	82	76	85	77	N.E.	E.	...	
" 6	38	0	2	...	30.10	30.10	82	86	78	82	77	85	78	N.E.	E.	...	
" 7	38	2	2	...	30.15	30.15	79	81	75	78	75	80	75	E.	N.	15	
" 8	38	4	2	...	30.20	30.25	73	76	70	71	69	75	71	N.	N.	15	
" 9	38	4	...	...	30.25	30.25	74	79	70	73	70	80	70	N.	N.	...
" 10	38	6	2	...	30.15	30.10	76	81	71	73	74	81	71	E.	S.	...	
" 11	38	8	2	...	30.05	30.05	77	81	71	77	70	81	71	S.E.	Calm.	...	
" 12	38	9	1	...	30.05	30.05	80	83	74	79	75	82	77	E.	E.	...	
" 13	38	9	...	...	30.15	30.20	77	84	74	76	67	84	70	N.	N.	...
" 14	38	6	...	3	30.25	30.25	76	82	70	75	63	82	68	N.	N.	...	
" 15	38	4	...	2	30.30	30.25	77	82	73	76	66	82	66	N.E.	N.E.	...	
" 16	38	2	...	2	30.25	30.20	77	81	72	76	67	80	70	N.E.	E.	...	
" 17	38	0	...	2	30.20	30.20	76	81	72	74	68	81	70	N.E.	E.	...	
" 18	37	11	...	1	30.15	30.15	78	84	74	77	71	84	75	E.	E.	...	
" 19	37	10	...	1	30.10	30.10	85	89	73	86	77	88	73	S.	S.	...	
" 20	37	6	...	4	30.10	30.10	85	89	74	85	77	90	80	E.	S.	...	
" 21	37	3	...	4	30.10	30.10	77	84	73	76	70	83	74	N.E.	N.E.	...	
" 22	36	9	...	5	30.15	30.15	77	82	74	76	70	78	70	N.E.	N.E.	...	
" 23	36	9	...	...	30.30	30.30	71	74	69	70	68	73	69	N.E.	N.	...
" 24	35	6	...	15	30.35	30.35	67	71	69	66	62	70	61	N.	N.	15	
" 25	35	2	...	4	30.35	30.35	77	77	69	70	66	76	65	N.E.	S.E.	...	
" 26	34	11	...	3	30.30	30.35	75	78	69	75	70	77	73	N.	N.	...	
" 27	34	7	...	4	30.30	30.25	75	82	71	74	70	82	71	E.	W.	...	
" 28	34	6	...	1	30.35	30.30	75	77	70	74	68	76	68	N.E.	E.	...	
" 29	34	2	...	4	30.30	30.25	71	71	69	70	67	69	67	N.E.	N.	...	
" 30	33	10	...	4	30.25	30.25	71	74	68	69	67	73	69	E.	E.	15	
October 1	33	6	...	4	30.30	30.30	72	72	68	70	68	70	68	W.	N.W.	...	
" 2	33	2	...	4	30.30	30.30	70	74	68	69	67	73	68	N.	N.	...	
" 3	37	10	...	4	30.30	30.30	71	76	66	71	64	75	66	N.	N.	...	
" 4	37	6	...	4	30.30	30.30	73	81	67	73	68	83	70	N.	W.	...	
" 5	37	5	...	1	30.40	30.40	75	77	71	73	67	75	67	S.E.	N.	...	
" 6	37	1	...	4	30.35	30.35	74	76	71	73	69	75	70	N.E.	S.	...	
" 7	37	1	...	...	30.35	30.35	73	78	69	72	69	77	70	E.	Calm.	...
" 8	31	11	...	2	30.40	30.40	75	80	70	74	70	79	69	N.E.	Calm.	...	
" 9	31	6	...	5	30.40	30.35	70	81	71	75	70	80	70	E.	E.	...	
" 10	31	0	...	0	30.25	30.25	75	80	70	74	71	79	71	S.	Calm.	...	
" 11	30	8	...	4	30.25	30.25	77	79	72	76	71	79	71	S.	Calm.	...	
" 12	30	4	...	4	30.35	30.35	76	80	72	75	71	80	71	Calm.	Calm.	...	
" 13	30	0	...	4	30.40	30.04	75	78	70	75	66	78	65	E.	E.	...	
" 14	30	6	...	6	30.35	30.35	73	79	69	72	64	79	66	E.	E.	...	
" 15	29	1	...	5	30.35	30.35	74	79	69	73	65	78	67	E.	N.W.	...	
" 16	28	8	...	5	30.40	30.40	73	77	70	72	66	76	69	N.	N.	...	
" 17	28	3	...	5	30.35	30.35	72	76	67	71	64	75	65	E.	E.	...	
" 18	27	9	...	6	30.35	30.40	73	74	68	73	66	73	66	E.	N.W.	...	
" 19	27	2	...	7	30.40	30.40	71	76	66	71	63	76	63	N.	N.	...	
" 20	26	10	...	4	30.40	30.35	70	74	65	69	61	74	61	N.	N.	...	
" 21	26	5	...	5	30.35	30.30	70	73	66	69	63	74	64	E.	S.	...	
" 22	26	0	...	5	30.30	30.30	71	76	66	69	64	75	64	E.	E.	...	
" 23	25	6	...	6	30.35	30.35	69	76	64	68	60	76	61	E.	E.	...	
" 24	25	0	...	6	30.30	30.30	71	81	66	70	64	81	65	S.	S.	...	
" 25	24	6	...	6	30.45	30.45	65	71	61	65	50	70	55	N.E.	N.	...	
" 26	24	0	...	6	30.40	30.35	63	69	58	62	50	68	50	S.E.	E.	...	
" 27	23	7	...	5	30.30	30.30	65	71	60	64	58	71	60	S.	S.	...	
" 28	23	2	...	5	30.30	30.30	66	74	62	65	60	74	62	E.	E.	...	
" 29	22	8	...	6	30.35	30.35	69	75	63	68	61	75	61	N.E.	E.	...	
" 30	22	1	...	7	30.45	30.45	68	77	63	67	59	76	60	N.E.	N.	...	
" 31	21	8	...	5	30.50	30.45	64	68	58	63	56	67	57	E.	E.	...	

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS—Continued.

DATE.	Height of Water.		Wind.	Fall.	Barometer.				Thermometer.				Hygrometer.				Direction of Wind.		Beaufort.
					P.M.		M.M.		Max.	Min.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	P.M.				
					9 A.M.	3 P.M.	9 A.M.	3 P.M.								9 A.M.			
November 1	PL.	6n.	In.	In.	In.	In.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	E.	W.	In.	
"	3	21	3	...	3	30.40	30.45	65	72	60	64	19	72	60	64	E.	W.	...	
"	3	20	8	...	3	30.35	30.30	67	72	64	66	61	72	61	67	S.	Calm.	...	
"	4	20	2	...	3	30.30	30.30	67	75	65	66	61	75	65	63	W.	W.	...	
"	4	20	2	...	6	30.35	30.35	68	67	65	66	65	65	65	65	Calm.	N.	...	
"	5	19	9	...	5	30.40	30.40	61	65	58	59	54	64	59	64	N.	S.W.	...	
"	6	19	2	...	7	30.45	30.45	61	67	56	60	57	67	57	60	N.	S.	...	
"	7	18	6	...	8	30.55	30.50	62	66	57	61	51	65	54	61	N.	N.	...	
"	8	17	10	...	8	30.60	30.55	53	60	47	53	45	60	48	54	N.	N.	...	
"	9	17	5	...	5	30.50	30.50	57	61	53	56	51	60	54	60	E.	E.	...	
"	10	16	11	...	6	30.55	30.55	58	65	52	57	49	63	54	60	E.	E.	...	
"	11	16	2	...	9	30.55	30.50	57	65	49	57	47	63	53	58	E.	E.	...	
"	12	15	7	...	7	30.55	30.65	57	61	48	54	49	61	48	50	N.E.	N.E.	...	
"	14	14	3	...	9	30.60	30.55	58	64	52	58	51	65	52	60	E.	E.	...	
"	15	13	9	...	6	30.50	30.50	58	63	52	57	52	65	55	58	E.	E.	...	
"	16	13	3	...	7	30.45	30.40	57	65	52	57	52	64	56	60	E.	E.	...	
"	17	13	0	...	3	30.45	30.45	61	57	56	61	53	66	52	60	N.E.	N.E.	...	
"	18	12	5	...	7	30.45	30.45	58	65	53	57	52	64	56	60	E.	E.	...	
"	19	11	5	...	12	30.50	30.45	55	62	52	54	51	61	55	58	N.W.	N.W.	...	
"	20	11	3	...	2	30.40	30.35	59	65	51	55	51	64	59	60	W.	W.	...	
"	21	11	2	...	1	30.35	30.35	59	60	52	55	52	53	51	51	N.	N.	...	
"	22	10	10	...	4	30.45	30.45	51	57	47	50	47	57	53	50	N.	N.W.	...	
"	23	10	10	...	...	30.45	30.40	53	61	47	53	48	61	56	50	S.	S.W.	...
"	24	10	7	...	3	30.40	30.35	54	64	49	53	41	64	58	50	N.	W.	...	
"	25	10	7	...	...	30.45	30.50	41	45	43	41	41	44	40	40	S.	N.W.	...
"	26	9	7	...	12	30.65	30.60	36	44	32	36	34	44	41	41	N.	N.	...	
"	27	9	5	...	2	30.65	30.60	36	43	31	35	35	43	40	40	N.	N.	...	
"	28	9	5	...	...	30.55	30.55	35	37	33	34	34	36	35	35	N.	N.	...
"	29	9	5	...	...	30.50	30.50	40	47	36	40	41	47	44	44	E.	E.	...
"	30	9	4	...	1	30.45	30.40	44	50	40	44	43	50	46	46	S.E.	E.	...	
December 1	9	1	...	3	30.40	30.35	44	55	41	43	43	43	55	49	49	E.	N.E.	...	
"	3	8	10	...	3	30.40	30.35	46	56	41	46	43	56	50	50	E.	E.	...	
"	3	8	5	...	5	30.40	30.40	52	58	49	51	47	59	52	52	S.E.	W.	...	
"	4	8	0	...	5	30.50	30.50	51	54	47	50	47	54	50	50	N.	N.	...	
"	5	7	6	...	6	30.50	30.50	52	55	47	51	48	54	52	52	E.	N.	...	
"	6	7	6	...	4	30.50	30.50	40	47	43	45	43	46	45	45	N.E.	N.	...	
"	7	6	10	...	4	30.50	30.50	47	51	43	47	44	51	47	47	N.E.	E.	...	
"	8	6	6	...	4	30.65	30.60	43	49	39	43	40	48	45	45	N.W.	N.W.	...	
"	9	6	4	...	2	30.60	30.55	39	48	35	38	37	48	45	45	E.	S.	...	
"	10	6	1	...	3	30.50	30.50	44	49	40	43	41	49	46	46	E.	E.	...	
"	11	5	10	...	3	30.50	30.45	43	51	39	43	40	52	48	48	S.E.	S.	...	
"	12	5	8	...	3	30.40	30.40	49	51	44	49	45	52	48	48	E.	E.	...	
"	13	5	4	...	4	30.40	30.40	51	57	47	50	48	57	54	54	N.	N.	...	
"	14	5	2	...	2	30.45	30.50	44	59	47	43	42	59	59	59	N.	N.	...	
"	15	4	4	...	10	30.50	30.50	38	59	39	37	37	36	37	36	N.	N.	...	
"	16	4	4	...	...	30.45	30.45	36	48	34	35	35	36	37	37	N.	N.	...
"	17	4	4	...	...	30.50	30.45	37	59	34	37	35	38	37	37	N.	N.	...
"	18	4	4	...	...	30.55	30.55	33	44	32	33	32	33	33	33	N.	N.	...
"	19	4	5	...	1	30.65	30.60	30	53	25	30	30	32	32	32	N.W.	N.W.	...	
"	20	4	5	...	...	30.55	30.50	33	39	27	32	32	39	38	38	E.	E.	...
"	21	4	6	...	1	30.45	30.45	38	45	34	38	37	45	43	43	E.	N.W.	...	
"	22	4	3	...	3	30.50	30.50	33	37	30	33	33	37	36	36	N.W.	N.W.	...	
"	23	3	10	...	5	30.70	30.70	33	37	30	33	32	37	35	35	N.	N.	...	
"	24	3	6	...	4	30.60	30.60	32	35	29	32	31	35	34	34	N.	N.	...	
"	25	3	6	...	...	30.60	30.55	31	35	28	31	30	35	34	34	E.	N.	...
"	26	3	6	...	...	30.55	30.60	33	35	30	33	32	35	34	34	E.	N.	...
"	27	3	6	...	...	30.50	30.65	37	35	24	27	25	34	33	33	E.	N.	...
"	28	2	11	...	7	30.80	30.60	35	30	11	11	14	34	30	30	E.	S.E.	...	
"	29	2	11	...	...	30.50	30.50	30	36	27	29	29	36	36	36	E.	E.	...
"	30	3	0	...	1	30.55	30.50	34	38	31	34	33	38	36	36	E.	E.	...	
"	31	3	1	...	1	30.60	30.60	36	42	32	36	34	42	40	40	E.	E.	...	

Appendix No. 3.



KIUKIANG TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 12th March 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,

KIUKIANG, 9th March 1881.

SIR,

In compliance with your instructions, I have the honour to hand you my Report on the trade of Kiukiang for the year 1880.

VALUE OF TRADE.

The value of the trade of this port for the past year reached *Hk.Ths* 12,700,000, which is larger than it has been for any year since 1876, when it exceeded it by *Hk.Ths* 200,000. In 1879 it was *Hk.Ths* 11,200,000, giving an increase of *Hk.Ths* 1,500,000 for 1880.

Last year the crops of this province were abundant, which brought an amount of prosperity to its inhabitants and increased their capital. Signs of this prosperity are shown in an enlarged trade in Imports and Exports, with the exception of Black Tea, of which the shipment was not materially different from that of the previous year.

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

Of the above, the value of Foreign goods imported was *Hk.Ths* 2,950,000, an advance of nearly *Hk.Ths* 300,000 over that of the previous year. This increase is in Opium, Cotton Goods, and in nearly all the articles of Foreign origin brought into port.

Of Opium, there were 159 piculs more of Malwa brought in than in 1879, while there was a decrease of 26 piculs in the importation of Persian. Patna finds but a small market here, the receipt never having reached 20 piculs per annum. Of Persian, the importation was but a few piculs per annum until 1878, when 170 piculs were brought in, which rose to 201 piculs the next year; the importation of this is governed by its cost, for when the price is low the dealer can use it advantageously in mixing with other Opium. Malwa is in general consumption here, and the amount has gone from 1,475 piculs in 1878 to 2,104 piculs last year.

In August last year the Governor of this province ordered the Opium-smoking shops to be closed, which caused some diminution in the use of this article, and although the Returns show an increased import, this is owing to the fact that a larger quantity has been brought in

direct from Shanghai than in former years, when a portion of that consumed reached the province through Canton and Swatow.

Cotton Piece Goods have been largely dealt in, the receipt of all descriptions being much in advance of that of the year before. An increase was experienced of 34,000 pieces in the importation of Grey Shirtings, and of 2,500 pieces in White. T-Cloths reached 116,000 pieces, against 90,000 pieces the year before. There was a slight increase in the receipt of Chintzes, Velvets, Velveteens, and Handkerchiefs. Of Brocades there was a falling off of 1,600 pieces, due to an extreme importation of the previous year, when the amount brought in was 2,500 pieces in excess of that of 1878.

The trade in Woollens has slightly decreased. There was a small falling off in the import of Camlets and Broadcloths of a few hundred pieces, and a decrease of 2,200 pieces in Long Ells.

The price of Lead was low in 1878, and a large import of 31,000 piculs was the consequence, which was beyond the requirements of the trade; the next year there was a falling off of 18,000 piculs; last year the import reached 14,700 piculs, which was 1,700 piculs in excess of that of 1879.

The receipt of Foreign Brown Sugar was increased from 15,100 piculs to 20,800 piculs, and of White from 1,200 piculs to 3,300 piculs.

There was an improvement in the amount of Pepper and Sandalwood imported of 400 piculs of each.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

The value of Native goods brought in was *Hk.Ths* 960,000, while it was *Hk.Ths* 800,000 in 1879.

The most important article imported was Cotton, which reached 62,200 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 432,400, against 2,200 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 17,000, the previous year. The largest amount brought in since this port was opened to Foreign trade was in 1865, when 21,000 piculs were received; since then the amount gradually declined until 1876, when it was but 6,000 piculs; and for the past two years it has not gone above 2,500 piculs. The large import of last year is to be attributed to the unusual dry weather in July, August, and September, which injured the Cotton crop, and the amount produced was small. However, the profits derived from the flourishing state of the other crops in this province enabled the dealers in this article to take advantage of the abundant production at Shanghai, which brought prices down to such a point as to make it to their interest to import it in large quantities.

In consequence of an increased production of Sugar in the province, the amount of Native Sugar received fell from 30,300 piculs of Brown to 22,900 piculs, and from 75,900 piculs of White to 37,700 piculs.

In 1879, Bean Oil to the extent of 17,000 piculs was imported, valued at *Hk.Ths* 64,000; previous to that time none had been received, nor was there any brought in last year. The import was owing to the destruction by the floods of 1878 of the crop which produces Cabbage Oil (菜子油), in general use here in cooking and for lamps. Last year the crop was satisfactory, which obviated the necessity of importing this article.

EXPORTS.

The value of Exports reached *Hk.Tls* 8,820,000, while the previous year it amounted to *but Hk.Tls* 7,770,000.

The shipment of Chinaware was 12,100 piculs, against 5,000 piculs in 1879 and 6,700 piculs in 1878. Last year the dealers in this article represented to Peking that the falling off in the shipment from 14,100 piculs in 1876 was due to the breakage caused by the rigid system of examination which it underwent when being shipped, and in August last an order was issued that, experimentally, until the close of the year 1881, the declaration of the shipper was to be taken as to the amount of fine and coarse each shipment contained, and, beyond ascertaining that the export was *bonâ fide* Chinaware, no further examination was to be made. Since this order has been acted upon, the amount passed by this office has more than doubled.

Owing to abundant crops, the export of Hemp and Tobacco was much increased. Of the former, 40,900 piculs were shipped, against 29,700 piculs the previous year; and of the latter, 46,300 piculs, against 15,400 piculs.

The amount of Grasscloth sent away was a trifle in excess of that of 1879, being 6,100 piculs, against 5,900 piculs. The export of this article is gradually increasing. The largest shipment previous to 1879 was in 1873, when 4,700 piculs left this port; since then the amount has been between 3,000 piculs and 4,000 piculs per annum.

TEA.—Musters of the new season's Tea commenced to arrive on the 12th May, and the market was opened on that day at from *Tls* 40.50 to *Tls* 42, and later in the day several other Ningchows at *Tls* 37 to *Tls* 39. These prices were remunerative to teamen, and the Teas comparing favourably with those of last year, there appeared every prospect of a fair business being transacted at this port; but on the arrival of the crack chops at Hankow, the fancy prices paid for Russia induced teamen to imagine that inferior Teas would realise in proportion, they therefore asked such high rates that for the time business was restricted, many of the Teas selling subsequently in Hankow at lower prices than those offered here.

The first musters of the Keemuns arrived on the 15th May, but the asking prices were so high for the first chops, teamen preferring to take their chance in Hankow, that only a few chops were settled here at *Tls* 28 to *Tls* 31.50. The Hohow district was represented on the 17th, and business resulted at *Tls* 17.25 to *Tls* 22. Musters of second crop Teas arrived on the 22nd June, and the market opened on that date at *Tls* 15.75 to *Tls* 16.75 for Ningchows; but these prices cannot be taken as a standard, as the best chops were shipped direct to Shanghai, where, after a few settlements made here, the majority of the Teas may be followed. The second crop Teas found no favour on the home market. The consequence was that teamen, anticipating excitement like that experienced last year, hold for cost at least; and as soon as they made concessions, the market fell, and continued to do so almost without intermission, until the price established showed very heavy losses to Natives, and, taking the whole season through, the result has been unfavourable to teamen.

The settlements on the market during the year amount only to 30,929 half-chests and 1,201 boxes. The total yield amounts to 399,396 half-chests and 6,169 boxes, produced by the under-mentioned districts:—

Ningchow	195,906 half-chests, 5,373 boxes.
Keemun	53,473 "
Kuton	14,049 "
Kintuck and Loongchun	5,107 "
Hobow	75,279 "
Local packed	51,804 " 846 "
Others	1,828 "
TOTAL	<u>397,396 half-chests, 6,169 boxes</u>

The export for the season amounts to (including Dust) 195,000 piculs, against 194,000 piculs last year.

The Green Teas commenced to arrive on the 1st August, and were immediately shipped to Shanghai, there being no Foreign market here for this kind. Musters were not shown, but the fine lines were reported to be very good. Later on advices were received in Shanghai from New York and London simultaneously, reporting unsatisfactory sales, and the market fell to such a degree that prices receded to an almost unprecedented range, perfectly ruinous to Chinese. It is therefore anticipated that more of the leaf will be converted into Congou during the ensuing season, as no doubt the excess in the quantity over that of last year tended to establish the low quotations.

Total arrivals and shipments during the season, 127,055 half-chests, equal to about 57,000 piculs, against 40,000 piculs last year.

The steamers *Glencora* and *Achilles* called at this port and took Tea for London.

SHIPPING.

The establishment of a line of steamers by *Mosses, Jardine, Matheson, & Co.*, of Shanghai, has increased the tonnage of this port. 794 river steamers, of 700,836 tons, entered and cleared at this office, while there were but 622 steamers, of 587,211 tons, the year before. The rates of freight have been low, but the enhanced amount of goods conveyed has made the carrying trade fairly remunerative.

There was an increase in the carrying capacity of lorchas of 3,200 tons, though there was a falling off of three in their number. The large amount of Cotton and other articles imported and shipped gave increased employment to Native vessels in distributing them to the neighbouring districts, but to what extent it is impossible to state, as this office has no statistics from the Native Custom House to refer to.

TRANSIT PASSES.

Transit Passes to convey goods inland to the value of *Hk.Ths* 879,181 were issued, which was *Hk.Ths* 25,000 in excess of 1879. Details of the goods protected by these Passes are given at the end of this Report. Transit Passes for 1,065 piculs of Sugar, 12 piculs of Pepper, and 182 piculs of Seaweed were issued here for Wuchang-fu, the city opposite Hankow.

No Transit Passes to bring cargo from the interior were issued last year.

REVENUE.

The duties collected during the period under review reached *Hk.Ths* 764,571. This is the largest amount received in any one year since the port was opened to Foreign trade. The revenue of 1878 was within *Hk.Ths* 8,000 of that of last year, while that of 1879 was *Hk.Ths* 53,000 less. Duties on Imports are levied at Shanghai. The small amount of *Hk.Ths* 104, which appears in the Returns as Import Duty, is on cargo which has not paid the correct duty at Shanghai.

ACCIDENTS TO SHIPPING.

On the 11th May the British lorcha *Kineos*, bound from Shanghai to this port, was struck by lightning off Tatung, and sank immediately. The cargo was salvaged, and the vessel eventually raised and taken back to Shanghai.

At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 19th November the British steamer *Hongkong*, belonging to Mr. McBAIS, of Shanghai, on her way to this port, and *Kungoo*, of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON, & Co.'s line, on her way to Shanghai, came into collision at Two Fathoms Creek, in the province of Anhwei, about 40 miles above Wuhu. A considerable number of Natives lost their lives, but the exact number is unknown. Efforts are being made to raise these vessels, which it is supposed will be successful.

On the 2nd December the American lorcha *Chinchong*, on her way to Shanghai, went ashore at Olyphant Island Crossing, sprang a leak, and was obliged to discharge her cargo. After undergoing some repairs, she reloaded and proceeded to her destination.

HEALTH.

During the past year the health of the Foreign community resident at this port has been fairly good. In the early portion of last summer there was little or no sickness, but during the autumn remittent and intermittent fevers of specially obstinate types were very prevalent, from one or other of which a very large proportion of the community suffered. It was remarked that those who were in the habit of bathing in the lakes after the water began to subside over the flooded districts suffered from malarial fever of the most persistent character. With these exceptions, other diseases common during the summer were infrequent and readily yielded to treatment. During the winter months catarrhs were common, and there was one case of acute

pneumonia, extending over 14 days, which made an excellent recovery. During the year there were three births and no deaths.

In the summer and autumn a larger number of missionaries resident in the interior of this province came here for medical aid than usual, and they reported that in the districts they belonged to sickness was unusually prevalent.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Those interested in this province must certainly feel satisfied at the general results of last year's trade. Fair profits were realised on the articles exported and consumed, with the exception of Tea, and the people are to-day placed in an improved position to what they were in last year at this time. An increase of buildings of a good character is seen in certain parts of the city, and what a few years ago was tillage ground is now being appropriated to dwellings. A few years continuance of good crops will doubtless place Kiukiang where it was before the Taiping rebels destroyed it.

An effort is being made by the officials to introduce mulberry trees, that the inhabitants may produce Silk, and thus add another important article of export to the trade. There is no reason why Silk may not advantageously be produced here as well as in the neighbouring province of Chékiang. Many thousands of trees have been planted, which will in two or three years be large enough to provide food for silkworms.

The movement of the water in the river did not differ much from that of last year. On the 12th July it reached its highest point, 38 feet 8 inches, which is more than 2 feet below the level of the Bund. On the 13th January it reached 1 foot 11 inches, its lowest point at the beginning of the year; and on the last day of the year it was 3 feet 6 inches. The thermometer varied from 22° Fahrenheit on the 22nd of January to 94° on the 12th of August.

Tables of the meteorological and barometrical readings for the year, and a metrical table showing the rise and fall of the Yangtze, drawn up by Mr. Tidesurveyor and Harbour Master MOOREHEAD, are appended to this Report.

I have, etc.,

GEO. B. GLOVER,

Commissioner of Customs.

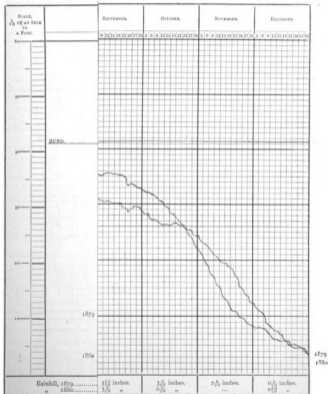
To

ROBERT HART, Esquire,

Inspector General of Customs,

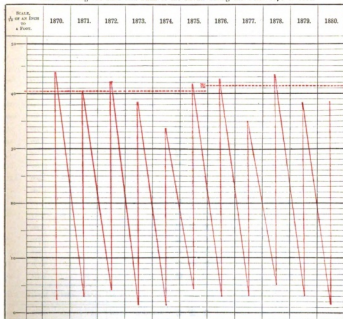
PEKING.

Appendix No. 1.



Appendix No. 2.

TABLE showing the RISE and FALL of the RIVER during the Years 1870 to 1880.



* The Base raised 1 foot.

DATE OF LOW WATER.	REGISTERED BY GAUGE.		FALL.		DATE OF HIGH WATER.	REGISTERED BY GAUGE.		RISE.	
			Feet.	Inches.				Feet.	Inches.
1870, 15th March	3 feet	2½ inches	41	0	1870, 15th August	44 feet	1 inch	41	1½
1871, 15th February	3 "	2½ "	40	10½	1871, 15th September	40 "	2½ "	37	0
1871, 15th January	4 "	8½ "	35	0	1871, 20th July	43 "	0 "	39	6½
1871, 15th March	3 feet	8 "	44	0	1871, 10th August	38 "	8 "	37	0
1871, 15th January	5 "	10 "	37	10	1871, 20th October	23 "	11 "	24	1
1871, 20th December	4 feet	8 "	34	2	1871, 10th July	41 "	0 "	37	1
1871, 15th January	3 "	8 "	38	0	1871, 20th July	40 "	7 "	30	6
1871, 20th January	3 "	8 "	39	0	1871, 20th June	33 "	0 "	31	10
1871, 20th January	5 "	8 "	39	10	1871, 14th August	43 "	6 "	37	5
1871, 20th December	3 "	8 "	40	6	1871, 15th and 16th July	38 "	2 "	35	0
1871, 15th January	5 "	10 "	37	6	1871, 10th July	38 "	8 "	28	10

Appendix

TABLE of the principal FOREIGN GOODS sent INLAND

DISSEMINATION.			Shirts.			T-Cloths.	Drills of all kinds.	Chinos and Cambrides.
English.	Chinese.	Provinc.	Grey.	White.	Striped and Braided.			
Nanch'ang-fu	南昌府	Kiangsi ...	Piecs. 62,500	Piecs. 9,080	Piecs. 1,388	Piecs. 31,820	Piecs. 3,495	Piecs. 3,600
Ining-chow	義甯州	" ...	6,000	...	...	3,335	...	...
Hok'ku-chin	河口鎮	" ...	13,070	980	300	12,350	180	120
Ching'ü-chün	景德鎮	" ...	12,660	50	...	12,600	1,260	...
Jauchow-fu	德州府	" ...	2,360	...	...	950	225	...
Lop'ing-hsien	樂平縣	" ...	6,550	...	...	2,400	540	...
Wannien-hsien	萬年縣	" ...	150	...	...	50	...	...
Wasing-hsien	武寧縣	" ...	2,700	...	...	250	...	...
Wansui-hsien	萬載縣	" ...	15,700	...	250	3,000	2,355	180
Chün-fu	吉安府	" ...	100	...	...	100	...	...
Fouliang-hsien	浮梁縣	" ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chiench'ang-fu	建昌府	" ...	4,100	...	50	5,045	60	130
Nanfing-hsien	南豐縣	" ...	1,260	...	...	1,300	...	...
Kueich'ü-hsien	貴溪縣	" ...	400	...	...	210	...	...
Kuangshün-fu	廣信府	" ...	150	...	...	350	...	...
Fachow-fu	撫州府	" ...	1,350	...	...	1,150	60	...
Yüshan-hsien	玉山縣	" ...	1,980	30	...	5,331	265	230
TOTAL, KIANGSI			130,030	10,140	1,888	81,141	8,440	4,260
Ansh'ing-fu	安慶府	Anhui ...	16,590	...	350	13,035	2,590	...
Tsütu-hsien	太湖縣	" ...	260	...	...	400	180	...
Tung'ü'ing-hsien	桐城縣	" ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wuyüan-hsien	婺源縣	" ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ch'üan-hsien	祁門縣	" ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL, ANHUI			16,850	...	350	13,435	2,570	...

No. 3.

under TRANSIT PASSES during the Year 1880.

Yelute and Valutemas.	Turkey Bees.	Total of Cotton Goods.	Cotton Handkerchiefs.	Total of Woollen Goods.	Sugar.		Sandal-wood.	Sapan-wood.	Lead.	Tin.	Black and White Pepper.	Long and Cort Sea-wood.
					Brown.	White.						
Pieces. 1,080	Pieces. 490	Pieces. 113,453	Dozens. 8,540	Pieces. 15,305	Piculs. ...	Piculs. ...	Piculs. ...	Piculs. ...	Piculs. 306	Piculs. ...	Piculs. ...	Piculs. ...
...	...	8,335	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,176	72	...	...
30	...	26,930	400	2,778	...	...	...	...	3,158	8	...	...
...	...	27,570	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	...	...	...
...	...	3,435	...	124	...	...	...	...	118	...	...	19
...	...	9,490	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	2,950	...	...	...	...	...	...	584	35	...	...
268	...	22,653	600	1,098	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	300	...	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	90	...	...	...
72	56	9,513	400	290	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	2,760	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	610	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	900	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	2,560	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	...	7,866	...	144	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1,480	546	238,825	9,040	20,455	...	...	...	...	8,614	115	...	19
60	...	31,425	...	1,282	6,276	411	488	28	19	...	30	258
...	...	840	...	...	3,405	709	70	34	...	...	49	152
...	3,017	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
...	2,754	2	...	...
...	300	3	...	...
60	...	32,265	...	1,282	12,698	1,120	558	62	3,073	5	79	500

TABLE of the principal FOREIGN GOODS sent INLAND

DESTINATION			Shirtings			F.Cloths.	Dolls of all kinds.	Chinas and Cotton- ades.
English.	Chinese.	Previous.	Grey.	White.	Dyed and Broaded.			
			Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.
Hsingwo-chow	興 國 州	Hupoh....	200	...	...	...	60	...
Ch'chow	寧 州	"	100	...	...	...	...	...
Tungshan-hoim	通 山 縣	" .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lungchiang-chin	龍 井 鎮	"	300	...	...	...	...	...
Wuhaiak-chia	武 穴 鎮	" .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wuchang-fu	武 昌 府	" .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wangchow-fu	黃 州 府	" .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL, HUPOH.....			600	...	...	...	60	...
GRAND TOTAL, 1880.....			148,380	10,140	2,238	93,576	11,070	4,260
Quantity sent Inland, 1877.....			111,799	4,029	1,600	78,641	19,343	2,263
" " " 1878.....			108,440	7,510	1,680	77,370	10,140	2,678
" " " 1879.....			126,480	8,178	2,080	79,465	9,904	3,020

under TRANSIT PASSES during the Year 1880—Continued.

Velvete and Velveteens.	Turkey Beds.	Total of Cotton Goods.	Cotton Handkerchiefs.	Total of Woollen Goods.	Sugar.		Sandal-wood.	Sapan-wood.	Lead.	Tin.	Black and White Pepper.	Long and Cut Sesame.
					Brown.	White.						
Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Donses.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
...	...	260	...	...	556	151	...	...	...	...	20	694
...	...	100	...	10	945	331	20	2	...	...	20	304
...	...	...	...	...	708	378	...	...	39	...	4	346
...	...	300	...	...	89	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	38	5	...	...	...	...	4	63
...	...	...	...	...	844	321	9	3	...	...	20	182
...	...	...	...	...	823	139	3	3	...	...	12	312
...	...	660	...	10	4,003	1,139	22	8	39	...	70	1,901
1,540	546	371,750	9,940	21,747	16,701	3,759	580	70	11,726	120	149	2,470
2,013	...	220,710	9,880	23,437	14,118	2,084	353	43	14,325	147	184	1,478
1,764	430	210,012	8,370	21,074	13,773	731	505	123	26,371	420	142	1,965
1,964	300	231,411	5,930	25,665	18,091	1,067	504	111	12,792	252	168	2,343

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken

DAY OF THE MONTH.	JANUARY.			FEBRUARY.			MARCH.			APRIL.			MAY.			JUNE.		
	Bar.		Ther.	Bar.		Ther.	Bar.		Ther.	Bar.		Ther.	Bar.		Ther.	Bar.		Ther.
	11 K.	Max.	Min.	11 K.	Max.	Min.	11 K.	Max.	Min.	11 K.	Max.	Min.	11 K.	Max.	Min.	11 K.	Max.	Min.
	In.	"	"	In.	"	"	In.	"	"	In.	"	"	In.	"	"	In.	"	"
1	30.20	44	32	30.10	56	42	30.38	47	39	30.18	62	42	29.88	72	65	29.88	76	68
2	30.10	48	30	30.22	48	38	30.38	49	40	30.22	62	45	29.92	74	62	29.80	76	67
3	30.20	48	30	30.08	40	38	30.42	50	37	30.12	67	48	29.90	75	64	29.72	79	70
4	30.20	48	28	30.14	41	33	30.40	47	40	29.98	58	54	29.78	81	64	29.70	82	73
5	30.20	49	30	30.25	35	33	30.25	53	42	29.92	59	54	29.62	82	65	29.56	74	72
6	30.16	49	33	30.14	36	34	30.18	52	43	29.98	55	54	29.86	72	62	29.70	77	71
7	30.06	57	41	30.12	39	33	30.13	52	45	29.85	57	55	29.84	77	63	29.64	78	73
8	30.06	50	44	30.28	39	34	30.16	50	41	29.73	63	57	29.62	83	73	29.66	78	71
9	30.20	44	34	30.30	47	35	30.22	58	47	29.80	62	57	29.59	89	78	29.66	83	73
10	30.22	34	32	30.21	43	35	30.12	60	49	29.94	58	50	29.60	85	74	29.72	84	72
11	30.22	35	33	30.20	37	35	30.20	64	52	30.15	62	59	29.57	91	67	29.79	86	78
12	30.30	38	34	30.30	38	35	29.89	70	55	30.18	53	47	29.80	70	66	29.73	84	73
13	30.28	37	35	30.14	37	34	29.80	65	54	30.20	56	48	29.84	73	68	29.66	68	65
14	30.32	38	36	30.06	42	34	30.00	55	46	30.10	54	47	29.86	62	57	29.58	74	67
15	30.28	38	36	30.08	45	35	29.98	56	47	30.18	53	50	29.95	62	57	29.64	77	70
16	30.30	41	38	30.12	41	38	29.82	63	49	30.32	56	48	29.96	64	58	29.60	81	72
17	30.32	40	37	30.10	40	37	29.94	68	58	30.10	68	59	29.94	70	59	29.58	73	70
18	30.24	42	36	30.10	40	36	29.84	71	47	30.00	70	55	29.84	75	65	29.60	79	74
19	30.30	39	37	30.10	37	33	30.28	56	43	29.88	73	54	29.72	78	67	29.62	82	76
20	30.20	41	38	30.16	37	33	30.26	59	49	30.04	54	46	29.86	78	64	29.76	80	72
21	30.36	39	39	30.30	35	33	30.30	59	49	29.94	60	47	29.94	75	65	29.74	79	70
22	30.34	28	22	30.40	44	33	30.28	54	49	29.76	68	53	29.80	75	69	29.80	78	72
23	30.56	25	22	30.38	45	35	30.40	54	44	29.84	75	57	29.76	80	65	29.84	77	73
24	30.46	36	23	30.28	40	36	30.28	58	43	29.86	79	60	29.78	82	64	29.84	81	75
25	30.46	33	26	30.22	47	37	30.14	65	46	29.80	82	64	29.74	84	67	29.80	82	76
26	30.58	34	24	30.08	45	41	29.95	72	54	29.68	84	72	29.64	88	75	29.62	86	82
27	30.46	39	23	30.12	46	41	29.82	74	59	29.94	72	61	29.66	90	78	29.58	89	78
28	30.32	46	32	30.30	42	36	29.80	72	59	30.10	66	56	29.64	91	78	29.54	91	83
29	30.28	49	33	30.40	43	35	29.98	71	53	30.06	71	56	29.90	85	70	29.50	86	77
30	30.44	40	37				29.78	83	62	30.02	75	62	29.60	76	69	29.44	81	78
31	30.28	47	38				30.06	65	55				29.82	75	65			

No. 4.

at the PORT of KIUKIANG during 1880.

JULY.			AUGUST.			SEPTEMBER.			OCTOBER.			NOVEMBER.			DECEMBER.			DAY OF THE MONTH.
Bar.	Ther.		Bar.	Ther.		Bar.	Ther.		Bar.	Ther.		Bar.	Ther.		Bar.	Ther.		
12 M.	Max.	Min.	12 M.	Max.	Min.	12 M.	Max.	Min.	12 M.	Max.	Min.	12 M.	Max.	Min.	12 M.	Max.	Min.	
<i>f</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>f</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>f</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>f</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>f</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>f</i> .	<i>s</i> .	<i>s</i> .	
29.62	81	78	29.60	88	80	29.92	78	70	29.98	75	70	30.04	69	52	30.16	60	35	1
29.66	83	78	29.36	89	84	29.90	79	71	29.94	76	71	30.02	73	56	30.12	58	38	2
29.74	82	78	29.52	90	82	29.92	81	75	30.00	74	66	29.92	76	57	30.14	54	46	3
29.52	78	74	29.48	88	81	29.84	89	78	29.96	76	68	30.02	75	60	30.24	56	44	4
29.60	81	75	29.44	88	81	29.78	91	76	30.06	77	68	30.10	61	53	30.21	53	44	5
29.52	80	75	29.50	89	82	29.74	86	78	30.02	71	68	30.12	65	50	30.24	47	41	6
29.52	84	76	29.36	88	81	29.78	86	77	30.06	77	66	30.12	70	48	30.26	51	36	7
29.58	82	77	29.64	86	80	29.80	82	73	30.06	77	67	30.12	61	41	30.36	51	28	8
29.60	85	82	29.60	87	80	29.90	80	68	30.02	78	70	30.12	64	46	30.36	51	30	9
29.60	90	83	29.36	88	82	29.74	80	69	29.88	80	70	30.26	64	46	30.30	46	29	10
29.62	90	78	29.36	89	83	29.74	80	71	29.84	75	66	30.34	60	46	30.29	51	30	11
29.60	89	79	29.50	94	83	29.74	84	78	30.02	76	66	30.42	59	44	30.13	51	40	12
29.52	85	79	29.48	93	78	29.80	82	76	30.04	75	66	30.42	60	47	30.12	62	45	13
29.60	84	78	29.50	81	73	29.90	80	73	30.00	76	66	30.34	61	45	30.18	54	38	14
29.64	84	78	29.38	81	75	29.90	81	70	30.00	74	69	30.12	65	44	30.30	48	34	15
29.60	85	80	29.66	82	76	29.90	80	69	30.02	74	67	30.12	65	50	30.26	56	35	16
29.60	85	81	29.60	82	74	29.82	80	69	30.02	74	67	30.14	66	49	30.32	58	36	17
29.55	86	80	29.60	83	75	29.80	85	74	29.98	73	63	30.16	64	48	30.34	58	33	18
29.54	89	79	29.66	84	77	29.78	88	78	30.00	76	64	30.22	60	42	30.43	56	28	19
29.54	87	81	29.74	86	81	29.72	87	79	30.04	72	62	30.08	65	43	30.32	45	30	20
29.50	84	78	29.70	88	82	29.72	87	79	29.96	74	60	30.04	61	47	30.22	51	38	21
29.48	82	76	29.65	88	83	29.76	86	69	29.96	77	59	30.16	54	41	30.32	39	32	22
29.40	83	77	29.62	88	83	29.68	71	66	30.02	75	58	30.16	61	47	30.50	41	29	23
29.50	83	71	29.62	89	84	30.06	71	66	29.92	80	58	30.08	65	44	30.48	52	28	24
29.54	86	76	29.59	89	81	30.02	76	73	30.14	67	55	30.20	47	39	30.42	45	29	25
29.60	86	77	29.62	90	80	30.02	79	72	30.04	66	50	30.40	40	30	30.35	45	33	26
29.60	85	77	29.68	79	73	29.92	77	71	29.92	69	54	30.40	47	32	30.56	42	21	27
29.60	84	78	29.78	74	70	29.90	74	67	29.96	71	54	30.32	56	32	30.46	42	21	28
29.64	86	80	29.72	75	70	29.90	68	65	30.02	78	61	30.32	58	31	30.36	33	24	29
29.60	89	83	29.80	75	71	29.94	71	67	30.12	71	53	30.16	50	36	30.38	35	32	30
29.54	94	80	29.90	75	70				30.18	64	50				30.38	42	34	31

WUHU TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 21st March 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,
WUHU, 15th March 1881.

Sir,

In compliance with your instructions, I now have the honour to hand you my Report on the trade of Wuhu for the year 1880.

The net total value of the trade of the port for the year amounted to *Hk.Tls* 3,934,144, against *Hk.Tls* 3,563,573 in 1879. This increase will be found in the value of our Export trade, for while there is a slight increase in the value of Foreign goods imported, there is a corresponding decrease in the value of the Native produce imported.

IMPORTS.

The net value of Foreign Imports was *Hk.Tls* 2,374,575, against *Hk.Tls* 2,323,857 in 1879. OPIUM ranks first, showing a net value of *Hk.Tls* 1,562,535 (after deducting *Hk.Tls* 401, being the excess of re-export above import of Benares), or 74.23 per cent. of the value of the trade in Foreign Imports. During the year there have been 3,430.80 piculs net imported (or an average of 286 chests per mensem), being an increase of 289.80 piculs over the year 1879, 1,049.90 piculs over 1878, and 2,259.31 piculs over 1877. Of this amount, Malwa alone represents 3,367 piculs.

In 1879 Wuhu ranked as the eleventh of the 19 open ports as a distributing centre for drug, but, basing my calculations on the figures given in the "Customs Gazettes" for the four quarters of 1880, she will now be found to be the eighth.

It is said that at the close of the year there remained some 300 chests on the market unsold; and of the quantity sold, about $\frac{1}{11}$ ths were sent to Lüchow-fu, Wuwei-chow, and Hoehow; $\frac{1}{5}$ ths to Anking; $\frac{1}{5}$ ths each to Hweichow-fu and Chihchow-fu; $\frac{1}{5}$ th to Ningkwo-fu; and the balance of $\frac{1}{5}$ ths to Taiping-fu (including local consumption at Wuhu).

The system of farming the Likin, referred to in my Report for 1878, not having met with the approval of the higher authorities, was abolished very shortly after its introduction.

COTTON GOODS amounted to *Hk.Ths* 207,779, or 8.75 per cent, being *Hk.Ths* 10,564 in excess of 1879. The quantities imported of most of the items vary but slightly from the figures of the previous year. The most noticeable exception being English Sheetings, which prior to 1880 do not appear to have found a market at this port; the net importation for the year was 3,840 pieces, valued at *Hk.Ths* 8,064,—a sum which of itself almost accounts for the increase in value of our total Cottons.

WOOLLEN GOODS amounted to *Hk.Ths* 80,658, or 3.40 per cent, being *Hk.Ths* 20,031 less than in 1879. The principal items were English Camlets, 2,620 pieces; Broad and Medium Cloth, 702 pieces; Long Ells, 2,800 pieces; Lustrés and Orleans, 900 pieces; and Spanish Stripes, 690 pieces; all of which, with the exception of Spanish Stripes, show a falling off.

METALS only represented 0.90 per cent. of the value of the Foreign Imports, or *Hk.Ths* 21,411, being *Hk.Ths* 4,118 less than in 1879. With the exception of Tin in Plates, the importations have all been in slightly smaller quantities than last year.

SUNDRIES amounted to *Hk.Ths* 302,192, or 12.72 per cent. Of this amount, Sugar alone represents *Hk.Ths* 164,352; there having been 13,375.27 piculs of Brown and 17,609.48 piculs of White imported during the year, the whole of which, with the exception of 475.17 piculs, has been sent inland under Transit Pass. This branch of the trade shows a falling off of about 6,650 piculs in comparison with last year. Sandalwood only attained to 5,664.85 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 22,065, against 7,161.16 piculs in 1879; of which about one-third was forwarded inland under Transit Pass. The demand for Kerosene Oil appears to be steadily increasing. In 1877 the net importation was only 2,190 gallons, in 1878 it was 20,040 gallons, in 1879 it was 59,190 gallons, and last year it was 69,410 gallons.

The net value of the Native Imports was *Hk.Ths* 544,860, and the gross value *Hk.Ths* 552,971. Of this amount, Shanghai contributed *Hk.Ths* 347,140, or 62.78 per cent.; Hankow, *Hk.Ths* 163,437, or 29.55 per cent.; Kinkiang, *Hk.Ths* 33,574, or 6.07 per cent.; Chinkiang, *Hk.Ths* 6,803, or 1.23 per cent.; and Ningpo, *Hk.Ths* 2,017, or 0.37 per cent.

The net quantities of the principal articles imported were:—

Dates, Black and Red	Piculs	1,438.96	<i>Hk.Ths</i>	6,545
Fans, Paper	Pieces	67,025	"	4,051
Fungus	Piculs	496.53	"	14,902
Grasscloth, Coarse and Fine	"	996.87	"	29,741
Iron, Unmanufactured	"	2,785.50	"	6,069
Lung-ngans, Dried	"	1,176.60	"	9,291
Medicines	"	2,197.64	"	12,552
Nankoens	"	954.16	"	32,378
Oil, Wood	"	10,259.46	"	54,451
Sugar, Brown	"	15,567.98	"	61,943

Sugar, White	Piculs 32,914.26	Hk.Tls 207,590
" Candy	" 756	" 6,744
Tallow, Vegetable	" 2,234.40	" 18,993

Of the above, Fans, Wood Oil, and Sugar show an increase, while Dates, Nankoons, and Vegetable Tallow have decreased. With the exception of Wood Oil and Nankoons, however, the fluctuations call for no comment. With regard to the former, I am inclined to the opinion that the increase is owing to a less than average yield of the seed in the producing districts in 1879 having caused a less than average importation during that year, consequently the small stocks in hand at the commencement of 1880 were soon exhausted, and caused dealers to send forward larger orders during the year to meet the demand. This trade, however, is carried on principally in Native bottoms. Nankoons reach us from Shanghai and Hankow. Those from Shanghai are principally Foreign Cottons which have been dyed in China, and thus changed their origin. The importations of these goods have been in average quantities; but the Hankow Native Cloths have decreased by about one-half. I am told by one of the principal local dealers in this class of goods that Hankow Nankoons, laid down at Wuhu by Native boat, cost for freight and Customs dues about Tls 1.25.0 per bale of 90 cattiees. Consequently, if this man's statement can be believed, the decrease in our Returns of this article is not to be wondered at, for if carried by river steamers the Customs duties alone (Export and Coast trade) would be Hk.Tls 2.25.0 per picul, and the freight would be about another 5 mace per picul.

Szechwan Opium, which has not previously figured among our articles of import, has this year come to hand to the extent of 8,78 piculs, valued at Hk.Tls 2,539. Its cheapness, in comparison with the Foreign drug, will doubtless commend it to the poorer class of consumers.

RE-EXPORTS.

The total value of the Foreign and Native goods re-exported was Hk.Tls 45,965. Of this sum, Opium alone represented Hk.Tls 35,835, and Grasscloth, Hk.Tls 7,333.

EXPORTS.

The value of our Native produce exported has steadily increased year by year. During the year under review it amounted to Hk.Tls 1,014,709, against Hk.Tls 635,374 in 1879, Hk.Tls 594,945 in 1878, and Hk.Tls 365,669 in 1877.

The proportion of trade with each port was as follows:—

Shanghai	Hk.Tls 840,948, or 82.88 per cent.
Hankow	" 81,049, " 7.99 "
Canton	" 70,975, " 6.99 "
Kiukiang	" 16,131, " 1.59 "
Chinkiang	" 5,606, " 0.55 "

and consisted of—

Silk Piece Goods	<i>Hk.Ths</i>	401,014, or 39.52 per cent.
„ Raw	„	118,553, „ 11.68 „
Rice	„	265,271, „ 26.14 „
Teas	„	67,776, „ 6.61 „
Paper	„	63,381, „ 6.25 „
Cotton, Raw	„	40,723, „ 4.01 „
Other articles and Sundries unenumerated „	„	58,691, „ 5.79 „

Cool shows a decrease of 2,305 tons in comparison with 1879. The quantity hitherto produced has been of so indifferent a nature that there has been but little demand for it. Of the 1,010 tons exported during the year, Shanghai has taken 840 tons, and Chinkiang the balance. I am told that a seam of superior quality has lately been found, and hopes are entertained that a large demand will spring up during 1881. Soochow is spoken of as a probable market for it.

Ross Cotton was shipped to the extent of 5,701.39 piculs, being about four times the quantity exported during 1879. Of this amount, 4,397.25 piculs were supplied by Wuchiang-chên, and 1,295.31 piculs by Hochow. The increase is partly owing to favourable crops, and partly to shippers coming to the conclusion that transport by steamer, though more expensive, is quicker and more profitable in the long run than that by Native boats.

Liquid Indigo was exported to the amount of 653.09 piculs, valued at *Hk.Ths* 2,308. It reached us principally from the province of Kiangsi, and was shipped to Shanghai and Chinkiang—536.66 piculs to the former port, and 116.43 piculs to the latter.

Medicines, in comparison with last year, show a falling off of 1,266.23 piculs. There were 32 different sorts, against 29* in 1879. The following list of the varieties exported during the last three years may perhaps be of value to those who take an interest in Chinese *medicinal materia medica* :—

NAME	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i>
Chaihu (柴胡).....	...	...	10.32	20.64	...	...
Chikang (桔梗).....	14.05	27	118.87	346.30	42.01	118.53
Ch'ienshih (天寶).....	1,614.84	4,481.79	2,674.30	8,012.29	1,835.41	5,512.90
Chihling (赤苓).....	...	...	...	...	0.70	2.80
Chinghsiang (菁香).....	...	...	...	...	1.17	4.68
Ch'ienshih (積石).....	3.90	27.80	...	...	...	...
Chungshu (種膚).....	...	...	11.24	56.20	56.23	500.33
Fingshiyah (楓樹葉).....	34.75	68.60	188.32	564.96	180.29	694.27
Hsiehtai (鱒子).....	...	...	0.95	14.25	...	...

NAME	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Piculs.	Hk. Zh.	Piculs.	Hk. Zh.	Piculs.	Hk. Zh.
Hsueh (滑石).....	...	...	...	...	11.78	5.89
Hongkiangtsi (紅娘子).....	...	...	...	...	0.97	3.88
Inutsi (益母).....	...	...	...	...	2.83	2.83
Kutsin (苦參).....	...	...	1.93	2.89	...	...
Kuangku (羌活).....	...	...	71.81	281.34	173.45	689.80
Kueipan (龜板).....	0.74	4.50	2.13	16.72	5.87	46.96
Lienhai (蓮鬚).....	1.70	10.20	...	...	1.30	6.50
Lupa (蘆巴).....	...	...	...	...	1.40	5.60
Mapo (馬勃).....	...	...	0.53	8.89	...	...
Maohu (茅苈).....	...	...	5	15	...	...
Minghsia (蒙花).....	...	...	1.12	5.04	...	...
Mingtsang (明堂).....	327	2,441	989.96	9,517.99	685.26	6,460.92
Nanhsing (南星).....	...	...	...	...	1.75	10.50
Paiho (白合).....	...	...	...	...	4.03	18.14
Paiputs'ao (百部草).....	...	...	...	...	2.50	7.50
Paihsienpi (百鮮皮).....	...	...	...	...	5.47	10.84
Paihsao (白芍).....	...	...	33.52	130.08	75.03	300.12
Paihsu (白朮).....	33.53	243.92	...	...	...	...
Paihsia (半夏).....	24.22	135.02	21.73	167.30	36.16	185.80
Piehchia (蟹甲).....	3.42	11.67	16.10	48.77	29.20	87.60
Shancha (山楂).....	...	...	5.20	7.80	...	...
Shanyujou (山莢肉).....	...	...	20.82	131.76	...	...
Shouwa (首烏).....	...	...	...	...	1.61	7.09
Sutsi (蘇子).....	...	...	2.92	8.76	...	...
Tsushi (丹鬚).....	8.66	24.60	115.01	325.80	54.03	164.79
Tsushin (丹模).....	0.80	1.60	53.87	154.91	...	...
Yanpi (丹皮).....	353.35	1,693.52	523.74	2,665.80	373.61	1,868.15
Yants'ao (顏草).....	3.42	20.26	13.11	37.73	65.18	230.45
Yantsin (丹參).....	...	...	41.83	136.74	14.83	43.46
Yanghia (蒼朮).....	...	...	5.42	16.26	9.81	19.62
Tsaojia (藜仁).....	0.80	6.40	...	...	...	...
Tsuehngpi (土刺皮).....	...	...	...	...	1.72	5.44
Tsuehng (杜仲).....	0.50	15	0.66	33	1.75	61.25
Tsuehsat (紫蘇子).....	...	...	...	...	3.96	7.92
Tsuyian (紫莖).....	13.30	24.58	...	...	...	...
Yaku (藜蘆).....	1.36	4	...	...	...	...
Yaku (玉竹).....	32.30	132.74	32.34	127.96	6.07	24.28

NAME	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Piculs.	Hk.Tls.	Piculs.	Hk.Tls.	Piculs.	Hk.Tls.
Yujou (黄 肉).....	2.50	30	...	...	...	...
Yüpi (榨 皮).....	...	...	...	...	13.68	18.16
Yaschih (蓝 志).....	0.50	1.60	1.19	10.71	...	...
Yinhsa (银 花).....	...	...	3.60	10.80	...	...
Wupso (乌 藻).....	4.20	9.20	...	...	...	...

Paper has been exported to the extent of 1,501.05 piculs, against 1,192.59 piculs in 1879, and has come from Chinghsien.

Rice has been greatly in demand for the South. The crops in this province have been remarkably good, but, owing to the large quantities on the market, rates have ruled low, and the farmers feel disappointed at their profits having been thus curtailed. Shippers, on the other hand, have been able to realise handsome prices. The total exportation was 210,369.96 piculs, or more than three times the quantity that left the port in Foreign bottoms during the preceding year. Of this amount, about eight-tenths are said to have come from Ningkwo-fu and Tsai'ing-fu, while only two-tenths from the large Rice-producing districts of Lüchow-fu. There have been 86,312 piculs shipped under Huchao, and free of duty, for use in the distressed districts in Kwangtung.

Rice Silk shows an increase over last year of 152.67 piculs; the export in 1880 being 534.54 piculs, against 381.87 piculs in 1879. Nearly the whole of this amount came from Chinghsien, in Ningkwo-fu, a small portion coming from Chingyang, in Ch'üchow-fu. The bulk of the Chingyang Silk, I am told, is sent direct to Nanking.

Silk Piece Goods, which are almost all Nanking Satins, were exported to the extent of 98,590 piculs, valued at Hk.Tls 401,014, against 639,81 piculs, Hk.Tls 294,315, in 1879.

Tea has not yet developed into an important branch of the trade of this port. The total export was—Black, 1,027.04 piculs; Green, 780.39 piculs; and Leaf, 380.13 piculs; against Black, 2,154.03 piculs, and Green, 232.30 piculs, in 1879.

TRANSIT.

The value of the Foreign goods sent inland under Transit Passes was Hk.Tls 279,092, or 45.60 per cent. of the net Foreign Imports (excluding Opium), against Hk.Tls 328,283, or 50.41 per cent., in 1879.

I append a table showing the quantities of the principal goods sent to each department under Transit Pass during the year, from which it will be seen that Ch'üchow-fu has been our largest consumer, the supplies drawn from us by that department being valued at Hk.Tls 95,483; next come An'king-fu, representing Hk.Tls 79,810; Ningkwo-fu, Hk.Tls 53,348; and Lüchow-fu, Hk.Tls 23,444; the balance may be said to have been divided between Hoehow,

Kiangning-fu, and Luan-chow, as the value of the trade with the remaining four departments is too small to be noticed—making a total of only *Hk.Ths* 1,066. It will be noted that, with the exception of Kiangning-fu (in Kiangsu) and Kwangchow (in Honan), which took goods to the value of *Hk.Ths* 8,335 and *Hk.Ths* 121 respectively, the whole of our Transit trade has been confined to the prefectures in this province. Kiangning-fu naturally draws the bulk of its supplies from Chinkiang. In 1877 it took 100 pieces Gray Shirtings and 150 pieces T-Cloths under Transit Pass from this port; but during the years 1878 and 1879 not a single piece of either Cottons or Woollens was sent to that department through this office. During 1880, however, a change seems to have taken place, and a recommencement of trade spring up, as we have issued Transit Passes for that prefecture covering 1,035 pieces of Cottons, 97 pieces of Woollens, 224.56 piculs of Metals, 450.86 piculs of Sugars, and 314.47 piculs of Sandalwood.

Although our trade with Löchow-fu is still insignificant, it has considerably increased as regards Sugars and Sandalwood, while Piece Goods and Metals show a slight falling off. The dealers in this large Rice-producing district have hitherto sent their produce to Chinkiang in preference to Wuhu, as the older port offers not only a better market for the disposal of their grain, etc., and enjoys greater facilities for storage and shipping, but it is also a much larger and better market for purchasing such Foreign goods as may be required to be taken back on the return trip. Consequently, until Wuhu can boast of more suitable godown accommodation, and a market stocked with a larger and more varied assortment of Foreign produce, she can hardly expect to tempt the Löchow men to ascend the 10 miles of the Yangtze from Yuchi-k'ow to Wuhu, instead of following the stream 90 miles to Chinkiang. A step in the right direction, however, has been made by an enterprising Native merchant (engaged principally in the Piece Goods trade), who has commenced the erection of a very fair-sized godown, immediately adjoining our present offices, for the purpose of storing grain. Three or four more buildings of this nature, erected near the bank of the river, would do much, I fancy, towards increasing the trade and prosperity of the port.

There have been no Transit Passes taken out during the year to bring Native produce from the interior.

REVENUE.

The total dues and duties collected during the year amounted to *Hk.Ths* 51,657.54.9, being an excess of *Hk.Ths* 16,833.26.5 over 1879. The subjoined comparative table shows the different heads under which the duties were collected, and the amount of increase or decrease of each heading:—

DESCRIPTION.	1879.	1880.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.
	<i>Hk.Ths</i> <i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i> <i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i> <i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i> <i>l.</i> <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>
Import Duties.....	177.6.5.5	106.1.5.7	...	71.4.9.8
Coast Trade Duties.....	2,757.7.6.9	6,097.4.8.5	3,339.7.1.6	...
Export Duties.....	25,449.5.1.9	40,341.8.7.4	14,792.3.5.5	...
Tonnage Dues.....	157.8.7.9	77.9.6.3	...	79.9.1.6
Transit ".....	6,281.4.6.2	5,134.0.7.0	...	1,147.3.9.2
TOTAL..... <i>Hk.Ths</i>	34,834.2.8.4	51,657.5.4.9	16,823.2.7.1	1,298.8.0.6

The decrease in Import Duties and Tonnage Dues cannot, as far as this port is concerned, be taken as a sign of diminution of trade, as we have no direct Foreign Imports, and the Tonnage Dues on river steamers, which constitute nearly the entire shipping business of this port, are collected by the Shanghai office. So that such Import Duties as we do collect are either on goods that have short paid at the port from which imported, or else on uncertificated goods brought by passengers in too large quantities to be exempted; and Tonnage Dues are confined to either the Ch'ihchow coal-boats or an occasional lorch.

Our Export Duties show the most satisfactory and encouraging increase of *Hk.Ths* 14,792.3.5.5. Of the total collected, viz., *Hk.Ths* 40,241.8.7.4, Rice may be said to have contributed 31 per cent.; Silk Piece Goods, 29 per cent.; Raw Silk, 13 per cent.; and Teas, 13 per cent.; or, in other words, 86 per cent. of our Export Duties have been collected on the four above-mentioned articles.

SHIPPING.

The total amount of tonnage employed during the year, inwards and outwards, was 1,630 vessels, representing 1,450,063 tons, and was divided between the different nationalities in the following proportions:—

	TOTAL TRIPS.	TONNAGE EMPLOYED.
British	63.44 per cent.	58.15 per cent.
Chinese	35.21 "	41.51 "
American	0.74 "	0.12 "
German	0.49 "	0.20 "
Danish	0.12 "	0.02 "

Our tonnage table is considerably augmented by the entries and clearances of three lines of British steamers running on the river, which, as far as Wuhu is concerned, can hardly be said to be engaged in the carrying trade, as they for the most part only stop here to land and take in passengers; the actual carrying trade being done almost entirely under the Chinese flag, as demonstrated by the following figures of the per-centage of the gross value of the total trade:—

	VALUE.	PER-CENTAGE.
	<i>Hk.Ths</i>	
Chinese	3,027,299	97.55
British	71,612	1.78
German	18,036	0.44
American	8,802	0.22
Danish	325	0.01

TREASURE.

The total Treasure and Copper Cash imported in 1880 was *Hk.Tls* 280,659, against *Hk.Tls* 294,156 in 1879; while the amount exported was *Hk.Tls* 3,493,402 in 1880, against *Hk.Tls* 3,187,393 in 1879. The following table shows the quantity supplied to and from each port during 1880:—

PORT.	IMPORTED.	EXPORTED.	PORT.	IMPORTED.	EXPORTED.
	<i>Hk. Tls</i>	<i>Hk. Tls</i>		<i>Hk. Tls</i>	<i>Hk. Tls</i>
Shanghai.....	129,842	1,844,155	Brought forward.....	265,674	3,216,726
Chinkiang.....	125,833	1,357,634	Anking.....	...	106,515
Nanking.....	...	3,084	Kinkiang.....	10,549	159,669
Tat'ung.....	...	11,853	Hankow.....	4,336	10,492
<i>Carried forward.....</i>	<i>265,674</i>	<i>3,216,726</i>	Total.....	280,659	3,493,402

When it is taken into consideration that a considerable quantity of our Imports are paid for by Native bank bills, it may seem somewhat strange that our export of Treasure should so much more than balance the difference between the value of our Import and Export trade, as shown by the following figures:—

	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
	<i>Hk.Tls</i>	<i>Hk.Tls</i>	<i>Hk.Tls</i>	<i>Hk.Tls</i>
Net value of Foreign Imports . . .	893,408	1,025,075	2,323,857	2,374,575
" " " Native " " . . .	327,605	699,456	604,342	544,860
Total Imports	1,221,013	2,624,531	2,928,199	2,919,435
Total Exports	365,669	594,045	635,374	1,014,709
The value of the Imports therefore } exceeded our Exports by . . . }	855,344	2,029,586	2,292,825	1,904,726
But the excess of Treasure ex- } ported over imported was . . . }	890,562	2,224,624	2,893,237	3,212,743
Thus leaving <i>Hk.Tls</i>	35,218	195,038	600,412	1,308,017,

more Treasure exported than appears to have been necessary to counterbalance the excess of Imports over Exports. The excess may be said to be Treasure (principally Carobis and Mexican dollars) shipped to Chinkiang for the purpose of—

1^o, paying for the Yangchow Salt brought here by Native junks; and

2^o, buying up Kiangsi bills which have been sent to Chinkiang by the Kiangsi men for Salt. Not only is there a great demand here for those bills—as the

Kiangsi merchants prefer them to hard cash in payment for the Paper, Earthenware, etc., they bring here by Native craft,—but it is also found to be a profitable transaction, owing to gain by exchange.

These two reasons will almost account for the difference shown above, but a certain proportion may also be put down as Government remittances.

I have, etc.,

J. LLOYD E. PALM,

Acting Commissioner of Customs.

To

ROBERT HART, Esquire,
Inspector General of Customs,
PEKING.

Appendix.—

TABLE of the principal FOREIGN GOODS sent INLAND

SOUTH OF THE YANGTZE.			Shirtings, Grey.	T-Cloths.	Drills, American.	Drills, English.	Sheetings, American.	Sheetings, English.	Handker- chiefs.	Velvets.	Cottons, other sorts.	Total Cottons.
Department.	Chinese.	Province.										
Ch'ichow-fu....	池州府	Anhui....	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Duns.	Piecs.	Piecs.	Piecs.
Kiangsu-fu....	江甯府	Kiangsu....	9,990	7,990	330	855	2,430	1,170	1,600	630	640	25,235
Ningkwu-fu....	甯國府	Anhui....	1,150	200	105	730	20	...	200	10	20	1,935
Ts'ip'ing-fu....	太平府	"....	400	200	135	...	60	120	...	84	30	1,079
Kwangt'chow....	廣德州	"....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....			11,140	8,390	570	1,685	2,510	1,290	1,800	724	690	28,199
NORTH OF THE YANGTZE.												
Ank'ing-fu....	安慶府	Anhui....	30	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	30
Ch'ichow-fu....	滁州府	"....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hochow....	和州	"....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kwangchow....	无州	Hunan....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lian'chow....	六安州	Anhui....	900	700	15	90	80	30	...	24	...	1,539
Lichow-fu....	廬州府	"....	274	100	...	...	40	...	...	2	...	415
Total.....			1,194	800	15	90	120	40	...	26	...	2,215
Total sent inland in 1880....			12,334	9,190	585	1,775	2,630	1,330	1,800	750	690	30,414
" " 1879....			12,825	10,880	566	1,615	3,027	...	2,634	676	687	32,000
Number of Transit Passes issued												
" " " "												

TRANSIT TRADE.

under TRANSIT PASSES during the Year 1880.

Cumblers, English.	Long Ells.	Woodless, other sorts.	Total Woodless.	Iron, Nail-rod.	Metals, other sorts.	Total Metals.	Sugar, Brown.	Sugar, White.	Total Sugar (including Candy).	Sandal- wood.	Value of Trade with Departments, including London not concerned in this Table.
Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Rs. Pn.
520	647	229	1,396	1,761.90	318.55	2,080.45	1,401.75	2,377.23	3,827.48	491.55	95,483
...	60	37	97	217.56	7	224.56	253.50	197.36	450.86	314.47	8,335
33	13	11	57	264.60	65.53	330.13	2,819.18	5,629.69	8,463.87	301.67	53,348
16	8	6	30	134.40	8.22	142.62	19.50	18.60	38.10	...	906
...	...	...	...	8.40	...	8.40	...	...	...	...	16
569	728	283	1,580	2,386.86	399.30	2,786.16	4,493.93	8,222.88	12,786.31	1,107.69	158,088
8	9	...	17	4.20	...	4.20	5,524.03	6,015.48	11,549.51	320.72	79,800
3	6	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
31	91	10	132	...	...	...	237.00	1,621.91	1,862.01	36.55	12,668
...	...	...	...	...	22.96	22.96	...	...	...	...	121
33	78	16	127	...	...	...	50.60	63.50	114.10	...	4,888
10	3	11	24	37.80	6	43.80	2,705.53	1,572.62	4,283.15	302.15	23,444
85	187	37	309	42	28.96	70.96	8,513.26	9,273.51	17,808.77	659.42	121,004
654	915	370	1,889	2,418.86	428.26	2,857.12	13,011.19	17,496.39	30,589.08	1,767.11	279,092
1,042	1,340	719	3,001	2,696.82	861.14	3,557.96	17,927.05	19,384.49	37,445.79	2,645.80	318,283
during the Year 1880..... 1,179.											
" " 1879..... 1,493.											

CHINKIANG TRADE REPORT, FOR THE YEAR 1880.

[Received 9th May 1881.]

CUSTOM HOUSE,
CHINKIANG, 31st March 1881.

SIR,

In compliance with your instructions, I have the honour to hand you my Report on the trade of Chinkiang for the year 1880.

SHIPPING.

The total number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared during last year compare with the figures for 1879 as follows:—

DESCRIPTION.	1879.		1880.		INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Steamers	1,372	1,315,396	1,728	1,618,968	366	293,572	...	...
Sailing Vessels	1,461	143,301	1,311	148,098	...	4,705	150	...
TOTAL	2,833	1,478,789	3,039	1,777,066	216	298,277	...	...

The total number of steamers trading under the Shanghai River Pass were—British, 1,044, 853,438 tons; and Chinese, 547, 601,858 tons; the former showing an increase by 276 steamers and 160,466 tons, and the latter by 24 steamers and 66,908 tons, or a total increase by 300 steamers and 227,474 tons in the vessels regularly engaged in the river traffic, and in which no vessels of any other nationality took part.

The total number of ordinary ocean steamers was 152, 173,672 tons, as against 86 of 107,574 tons. Of these, 98 of 116,694 tons, against 66 of 93,024 tons in 1879, were British; 16 of 12,226 tons, against 16 of 9,190 tons, Chinese; 20 of 18,826 tons, against 4 of 4,460 tons, were German; and the remainder was made up by 2 Danish steamers, 1,566 tons; 2 Dutch, 2,074 tons; 4 French, 4,604 tons; and 10 Russian, 17,682 tons. Of these ocean steamers, 48 British steamers, 76,284 tons; 4 German, 4,544 tons; 4 French, 4,604 tons; and 8 Russian,

16,780 tons, passed up in ballast to Hankow, and back, bound to Europe direct with Teas, against a total of 68 steamers, 97,860 tons, in 1879; 1 British, 1,240 tons, returned again in ballast, en route to Shanghai, owing to damage sustained by collision in Hankow; and the remainder, 36 British, 32,830 tons; 4 Chinese, 3,178 tons; 16 German, 14,282 tons; 2 Dutch, 2,074 tons; 2 Danish, 1,566 tons; and 2 Russian, 902 tons, arrived in ballast, and left with full cargoes of Rice, all for Canton, with the exception of a small per-centage which went to Tientsin, Chefoo, and Foochow.

Among sailing vessels, those under the American flag increased to 284 of 40,474 tons last year, from 224 of 31,024 tons in 1879; British to 162, 32,838 tons, from 150, 26,560 tons; Danish, to 96, 15,076 tons, from 39, 4,928 tons; German to 78, 11,078 tons, from 62, 8,110 tons. On the other hand, those under the Spanish flag fell from 116 of 12,878 tons in 1879 to 8 of 1,390 tons during last year; and the number of Chinese junks chartered by Foreigners that frequented the port under the Special Junk Pass also declined from 873, 59,893 tons, to 685, 47,242 tons.

VALUES.

The total values of the trade during the last three years compare as follows:—

—	1878.	1879.	1880.
	<i>U.S. \$</i>	<i>U.S. \$</i>	<i>U.S. \$</i>
Net Foreign Imports.....	9,268,259	9,900,889	8,903,265
“ Native “	3,475,230	3,000,259	3,485,136
Exports.....	2,163,823	773,450	1,908,918
TOTAL..... <i>U.S. \$</i>	14,857,312	13,674,598	14,297,319

Our Foreign Import trade is thus shown to have decreased in value by close upon *U.S. \$* 1,000,000, whereas our Native Imports improved by nearly half that amount; and our Exports rose again by more than double the total decrease in the value of our Import trades, Foreign and Native taken together. Yet, on the whole, the trade during last year has not been altogether satisfactory. The serious decrease in our Foreign Import trade must be attributed generally to the trouble which threatened China all last year, viz., a war with Russia, which kept many large buyers both here and in Shanghai from entering into extensive operations; and partly also to the long drought, which cut off all water communication with many of the large inland distributing markets, even of those districts where no actual failure of the crops had occurred to check the means of the consumers to fully meet their wants by the purchase of Imports. Wuhu also continues to affect our Import trade more and more every year. This is more especially the case as regards Opium and Sugars; it is not so as yet with regard to Piece Goods, owing to the absence of Native hongas at that port with sufficient capital to keep a stock of suitable goods on hand. Whilst Opium and Sugars are paid for in cash, a large credit has to be given to Anhwei (安徽) dealers in Piece Goods for several months, and this cannot be got at Wuhu. But even

here of late the credit system has been considerably curtailed, owing to constant failures. Cash payments for Piece Goods have therefore been also demanded here from all inland dealers of not sufficiently unquestionable reputation, and the result has been that those dealers who have had to bring their specie with them have since gone for their supplies as much, if not in preference, to Shanghai, where they can get them cheaper, and enjoy moreover a greater selection, with the same facilities also as regards the transport of their Foreign purchases direct to their homes inland under Transit Passes.

As regards our Native Import trade, which, on the other hand, shows an increase in value, it yet cannot be taken as of much direct importance, so far as our general Import trade is concerned, inasmuch as that increase again is brought about in great measure by the arrival of Native Sugars in larger quantities direct from the southern ports, instead of, as previously, with a detour *via* Hongkong; and it is on the ground of this detour alone that, in accordance with existing practice, the Sugars thus conveyed, which otherwise are the very same kinds of Sugars, are treated as Foreign, and accordingly permitted to be conveyed inland under Transit Passes like Foreign goods. Indeed, looked at in this light, the terms *Foreign* and *Native* Sugars in our Returns are altogether misnomers. It happened last year that Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE's and other steamers went more frequently than before with northern cargoes to Swatow, and thence brought back Sugars to Shanghai; not only was the freight very low on these direct shipments, but, besides, the extra freight and charges to and from Hongkong were in this way altogether avoided. Eight-tenths of the Chinese hongcs dealing here in Sugars are owned by Swatow merchants, and since they only deal for the most part with local firms, and do not care to sell their Imports to inland dealers on credit for conveyance inland under Transit Passes, they gladly availed themselves of the extra means offering to get their Sugars brought direct from Swatow, rather than *via* Hongkong, in spite of the privilege attached to the latter route, this privilege being of no direct value to themselves.

The increase in the total value of our Exports, which, as before shown, amounts to *Hk.Tls* 1,135,468 over the 1879 value of *Hk.Tls* 773,450, is, to within rather over *Hk.Tls* 55,000 of the total, made up by the increase in our Rice export to Canton. In the northern districts of that province the crops had been destroyed by floods, and the extra demand thus caused was towards the end of the year still further intensified by the prohibition put upon the export of Rice from Annam, whence also Canton ordinarily procures its extra supplies. The first portions of Rice shipped for Canton, 454,991 piculs in all, out of a total of 1,361,091 piculs, were shipped hence duty free under Passes issued by the Provincial Treasurer of Canton, under Imperial sanction, on account of these inundations and the relief required in his province. These Passes were issued to a humane society, and sold by it for amounts much less than the duty leviable on the Rice covered by the respective Passes. The money so obtained formed, on the one hand, a relief fund to meet more directly the distress in the devastated districts as required, while, on the other, Rice could be laid down at Canton at cheaper rates besides. When these Passes appeared, they were eagerly bought up by rich merchants on these or similar grounds, viz., that they thus, as an act of charity, assisted the society with funds, and themselves too enjoyed the prospect at the same time of doing a profitable business. The latter, however, has not been fully realised. A great many steamers were chartered all at once, and too much Rice

arrived at Canton, if not at one time, at least with too short intervals. As Rice stored in large quantities easily spoils, it had to be sold at great losses for whatever it would fetch, and as, moreover, charter-parties had to be fulfilled (for to break them would have cost dearer still), further shipments had to be continued, even notwithstanding such losses. It was not until the latter part of the year, when all Rice had to pay duty again—the Passes were valid only up to the 1st December,—that an active and more profitable business sprang up, and this more especially on account of the prohibition of the export of Rice from Annam, as before mentioned, has continued. On the whole, however, as thus shown, the immense increase in our values of Exports during last year, so far as Rice is concerned, is only exceptional. Yet while otherwise no such quantities would ever have reached Chinkiang, and the abundant harvests gathered in the inland districts would have remained there for home consumption at, comparatively speaking, merely nominal values, it is nevertheless a cause for some satisfaction at least that once in a while, when such necessity does arise, the scarcity in one part of the country can be met by drawing on the surplus harvested in another part of itself, instead of upon Foreign countries.

IMPORTS.

Opium.—The total import of Opium has declined by 804 piculs; being 10,293 piculs, against 11,097 piculs in 1879. Malwa declined by 604 piculs; Patna, by 373 piculs; Persian, by 152 piculs; whereas Benares increased by 324 piculs. As with our Foreign Imports generally, so especially in the case of Opium has our trade been much affected by the opening of Wuhu as a Treaty Port, and the decrease noted in Malwa more especially is chiefly attributed to that cause. Although as yet there are various impediments against such happening abruptly, it is, I am informed, only a question of a year or so, and Wuhu must in the end wholly supply the Lichow district (蘆州府) with Foreign Opium. Now, the Lichow district, it may be noted, has hitherto taken a quarter of our total import of Malwa. To some, though as yet lesser, degree the increased importation from Szechwan of Native Opium, viz., 165 piculs, against 19 piculs in 1879, may also be taken to account for the decrease in the importation of the Foreign drug. The quality of the Native drug is said to have considerably improved. In Szechwan (四川) and some parts of Shantung (山東) the cultivation of Opium has continued unabated. A great demand for the Szechwan drug made itself felt at the beginning of last year, causing a rise in its price to nearly Tls 25 per 100 taels (兩), or Tls 400 per picul. A good crop, considerably in excess of local consumption, afterwards led to larger importations, till the market was overstocked, and at the latter end of the year prices fell again to Tls 240 per picul, and dealers who were ultimately forced to sell in view of the approaching new year suffered heavy losses. Consumers, on the other hand, who formerly would hardly have looked at the Native drug, cannot now do without it; it is alleged that the residue of the consumed Opium, when re-prepared for smoking, surpasses even all kinds of Foreign drug both in taste and strength. The importation of Malwa Opium is in consequence expected to decline still further in the ensuing year. The price of Malwa fluctuated some Tls 30 to Tls 40 per picul during the year under review, and at the close was Tls 535 per picul. Patna and Benares Opium are still preferred in the districts mentioned in

my last Report; the closing prices were $\text{₹} 525$ for the former, and $\text{₹} 435$ for the latter. Persian Opium, the import of which was at one time expected to increase considerably, has fallen off, and seems to have entirely lost favour with consumers. It was generally used for mixing with prepared Opium, both Malwa and Patna, but its price advanced to about $\text{₹} 80$ to $\text{₹} 90$ less than that of Malwa, and the Native Opium was consequently substituted for it. The Native Opium thus mixed with Patna and Malwa defies detection even by old smokers, because it is better in colour and taste, and more like the Bengal drug, from the seed of which it is also grown. Altogether, therefore, the prospects of the Foreign Opium trade do not look very bright.

COTTON GOODS.—The total importation of Cotton Goods was last year 1,125,863 pieces, against 1,207,716 pieces in 1879, showing a decrease of 81,853 pieces. More or less considerable decreases are noted in the importation of Grey Shirtings, T-Cloths, English Drills, American Drills, Jeans and Twills, Dyed Damasks, etc.; while American Sheetings, Chintzes, Furnitures, etc., Turkey Red Cloths, etc., have increased in the quantities imported.

On the whole, American manufactures have found a better market than English goods during the past few years. American Drills and Sheetings were but little imported here until lately; having been found more durable than the English manufactures, they have become more in request, and the falling off in the importation of English goods is to a great extent attributed to their inferior quality alone. It is generally, and with some show of reason, argued by manufacturers and dealers in such inferior goods that the Chinese prefer cheapness above all things, and even actually care but little, if at all, for durability and quality, and that in suiting such tastes there is no harm. Such arguments would seem correct only so far as the Chinese purchaser is concerned, who, like many other equally frugal people elsewhere, even on the continent of Europe, buys the cheap article with his eyes open, *i.e.*, knowing its inferior quality. But I am much afraid that English manufacturers, if adhering to such ideas, will discover, and at a similarly heavy cost, what German manufacturers found out some years ago, namely, that by following similar principles their industries are ruined and left behind in the race of international competition. As has been shown, the Chinese have already begun to avail themselves of the chance offered them by the importation of the better class of American goods in preference to English goods, which previously held the monopoly. Their appreciation of these goods has continued steadily to increase, because, though at first dearer, they proved to them to be the cheaper after all in the long run, on account of their greater durability. American Sheetings are the same in appearance as Grey Shirtings, and are called so also by the Chinese.

WOOLLEN GOODS.—The qualities of Woollen Goods imported of late years are also reported to have been very inferior. Woollen Goods, moreover, become easily worm-eaten, and, owing to these circumstances, combined with the fact that Silk Piece Goods have become much cheaper, Silk is more extensively worn by the people in preference. In many districts of Anhwei (安徽), northern Kiangsu (江蘇), and Shantung (山東), a Native coarse Silk manufacture is much preferred to Medium Cloth and Broadcloth. The Native product is very cheap, and wears nearly as long as Medium Cloth, especially of such depreciated qualities as are imported nowadays. The total importation of Woollen Goods during last year decreased by 8,779 pieces; being 43,079 pieces, against 51,858 pieces in 1879. In the different kinds—all show decreases,—

the most important are noticed in Broadcloth and Medium Cloth, which decreased by 1,500 pieces, the total being 2,772 pieces; and Long Ells, by 3,360 pieces, the total being 6,940 pieces.

METALS of all kinds, with the exception of Lead in Pigs, which during last year rose to 11,081 piculs, from 7,384 piculs in 1879, show decreases of more or less importance. Nail-rod Iron declined by 7,133 piculs, with a total importation of 40,999 piculs; Bar Iron, by 1,547 piculs, with a total of 2,127 piculs; Iron Wire, by 3,311 piculs, with a total of 2,938 piculs; Tin, in Slabs, by 396 piculs, with a total of 620 piculs.

SUNDRIES.—Among the sundry Imports, Foreign Sugars declined by 64,886 piculs, showing a total importation of 210,189 piculs; Brown Sugar declined by 53,633 piculs, and White Sugar by 11,992 piculs. These decreases, as they are far larger than the increases in the import of Native Sugars, are, as before explained, due partly to Wuhu, partly—and this holds good also of the decreases noted in Sandalwood, Sapanwood, Pepper, etc.—to the circumstance, likewise before alluded to, that inland dealers of late have found their way more readily to Shanghai. An increase, on the other hand, among our sundry Imports is to be noted in Mat and Gunny Bags, both Foreign and Native, which were required for packing the Rice exported. Kerosene Oil and Cotton Towels continue to increase; both of these articles are extensively used throughout the country, and are found in every house or shop in Chinkiang. So far as is known, no accidents have occurred from the use of the Kerosene Oil, notwithstanding the ignorance of the people of its danger. The Oil of late imported, moreover, is supposed to have been considerably reduced in strength, and will not so readily ignite at a touch with a burning match as was the case with the kinds of Oil formerly brought to China. The Cotton Towels are of a different kind to those used by Foreigners; they are very small and smooth, and worth only about 3 cents each in retail.

Window Glass is also from year to year used more extensively—indeed, no newly-built houses are without glass windows; and as building operations are likely to continue yet for some years to come, ere the destruction and ruin left by the rebels can be completely made good, large importations of Window Glass are likely to go on.

Among the other Native Imports, Wood Oil and Vegetable Tallow show considerable increases; both come from Hankow. The former is used extensively for painting the myriads of boats that ply to and fro in all directions over the network of creeks and canals of which Chinkiang forms so important a centre. All boats require painting twice a year; and the greater quantity of boats which arrived during last year with Rice for export, still further affected the import figures.

Vegetable Tallow is exclusively used for candles; but the larger importation is attributed more to the large crop and its cheapness during last year at the place of production, Szechwan (四川). Since Kerosene Oil has been used for household purposes, the manufacture of candles for ordinary use has considerably diminished; and, in addition to this, on account of the prohibition of females from visiting temples, issued by the Provincial Governor, the consumption of candles for worship also declined, so that serious losses were sustained in this branch of our trade.

Tobacco Leaf also was imported last year in considerably larger quantities, and a picture of somewhat more than passing interest is offered by this occurrence. The leaf is the product of the Susung (宿松) district, in the province of Anhwei (安徽), and distant from Kiukiang only

about 180 li (10 li=3 English miles). In former years, as shown by our Transit tables, most of the leaf came down here under Transit Passes in Native boats; it has since been sent to Kiukiang for shipment to this port by steamer, owing to the exceptionally cheap freight—\$2.50 per ton of 7½ piculs—charged by one of the steamer companies, which made it more profitable for importers to rather direct the Tobacco *via* Kiukiang, and pay a full and a half Tariff Duty there, besides the steamer freight to this port, than to have it brought here in Native boats under Transit Passes, which latter plan, beside the cost of carriage, subjected the goods to the payment of three full Tariff Duties, in accordance with the Chinkiang Transit Rules in force; for the leaf is not brought here for Foreign exportation, but for consumption locally and in the districts east of the Grand Canal and to the north of this. Accordingly, in addition to the *one-half Tariff Duty* ordinarily leviable upon Native produce on arrival from inland under Transit Pass, if the produce be not re-exported to a Foreign country, another *two and a half Tariff Duties* have to be paid as a "fine," as it is called in the rules; more properly and practically, it can be taken to be only a commutation of the extra inland taxes, which, according to a rough calculation, would have been leviable if originally brought down for *local consumption*, and not for *Foreign exportation*. It is produce coming under the second of these categories alone which under Treaty is freed by the Transit Pass from the imposition of those extra taxes. Other Native produce, therefore, has in all to pay three duties. It is thus the competition of steam traffic *versus* inland taxation, which would seem a subject of some moment for more mature investigation in the interests of both Native producers and consumers, while, as another party concerned, the Foreign merchant at Chinkiang naturally on his behalf suggests that it is therefore obvious that if Tobacco Leaf is to remain on the list of Native produce conveyed under Transit Pass from inland, some modification of the Chinkiang Provisional Rules bearing on the article in question is necessary.

EXPORTS.

Among our Exports, beside Rice, which has been dealt with before, there are only Beans and Peas, and Lily Flowers, which, especially if compared against 1875, are of some special interest. The former increased during that period from 33,682 piculs to more than double that quantity, 75,913 piculs; and the latter rose to 40,793 piculs, close upon four times the amount exported during 1875, viz., 10,636 piculs. As regards Beans and Peas, as articles for food they rank with the other chief staples, Rice and Wheat, and have last year experienced similar fluctuations. The increase in our export of Lily Flowers is due as much to exceptionally favourable crops as to increased cultivation brought about by the higher and remunerative prices formerly ruling for the article, viz., *Tls* 5 to *Tls* 6 per picul. Owing to the large quantities which in consequence reached Chinkiang, the price fell to *Tls* 3 or *Tls* 2.80 per picul, and even to *Tls* 2.50 towards the end of the year, notwithstanding the new outlets sought by exporting to Wuhu and Hankow as chance ventures. Latterly, however, some improvement took place.

TRANSIT TRADE.

INWARDS.—The total value of Foreign goods sent inland under Transit Passes declined from *Hk.Tls* 3,250,403 in 1879 to *Hk.Tls* 2,922,652 last year. The total value of Foreign

goods entitled to conveyance inland under Transit Passes was *Hk.Ths* 3,612,490. A balance of *Hk.Ths* 689,838 is thus left to represent the value of Foreign Imports consumed locally and within the more immediate neighbourhood, or remaining in stock at the close of the year, against *Hk.Ths* 723,693 during 1879.

The different chief items compare as follows:—

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	IMPORTED.		SEST ISLAND.		BALANCE.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Hk.Ths</i>
Cotton Goods	1,115,861	1,604,861	930,704	1,327,006	205,159	277,855
Woolen "	45,079½	319,280	26,933	184,247	16,146½	135,033
Metals .....	...	209,282	...	157,334	...	57,448
Sundries .....	...	1,478,367	...	1,254,065	...	224,502
TOTAL VALUE <i>Hk.Ths</i>	...	3,612,490	...	2,922,652	...	689,838

To cover use above, 10,637 Transit Passes were issued,—to American merchants, 3,625; to British, 6,997; and to Chinese, 15,—against a total of 12,373 Passes issued in 1879.

While, as just shown, our Transit trade inwards has decreased by *Hk.Ths* 327,751, our total importations of Foreign goods entitled to conveyance inland, as compared with 1879, have decreased by *Hk.Ths* 361,606 in value.

The distribution inland of our Foreign Imports is again shown in detail by a table annexed to this Report, supplemented also by a map upon which the increases and decreases are besides indicated.

OUTWARDS.—There is some improvement noticeable in the Transit trade outwards. The total value of Native produce brought down from the interior under Transit Passes during last year was *Hk.Ths* 197,386, against *Hk.Ths* 155,757 in 1879.

The most important variations are the increases shown in the quantities brought down of Lily Flowers, 41,211 piculs, against 17,725 piculs in 1879; Medicines, 2,572 piculs, against 1,669 piculs; Samshu, 560 piculs, against 350 piculs; Senna Seed, 1,200 piculs, against 100 piculs; Soap, 4,250 piculs, against 2,710 piculs; and Walnuts, 1,780 piculs, against 200 piculs. Besides, Green Beans, 2,000 piculs; Red Dates, 250 piculs; Bamboo Mats, 210,000 pieces; Bean Oil, 350 piculs; Sesamum Oil, 1,300 piculs; and Dried Persimmons, 300 piculs, were brought last year, which articles were not in our list of Native produce outwards for 1879. On the other hand, of Tobacco Leaf, 875 piculs only, valued at *Hk.Ths* 7,311, thus reached this port last year, against 9,366 piculs, value *Hk.Ths* 63,224, in 1879; and Refuse Silk, as also Vegetable Tallow, again disappeared from our list. 488 Transit Passes were surrendered on the before-mentioned produce: 39 by American merchants, 306 by British, 1 by German, 5 by Austrian, and 137 by Spanish. Of these Passes so surrendered, 310 were issued here, and 178 in Shanghai, against 102 and 145 respectively in 1879.

TREASURE.

Treasure and Copper Cash imported and exported during last year amounted to—Treasure, *Hk.Ths* 261,330 imported, against Treasure, *Hk.Ths* 1,800,814, and Copper Cash, 165,280 strings, valued at *Hk.Ths* 99,168 (in all *Hk.Ths* 1,899,982), exported; thus leaving a balance of *Hk.Ths* 1,638,652 net export. The balance left after deducting the total value of our Exports from the total value of our Foreign and Native Imports amounts to *Hk.Ths* 12,388,401, and deducting from this, again, the above amount of the net value of Treasure exported, there is a balance of no less than *Hk.Ths* 10,749,749 remaining to the debit of the trade of this port unaccounted for. The deficit left in a similar way in 1879 amounted to *Hk.Ths* 6,616,884; the total value of Treasure exported above that imported in that year was *Hk.Ths* 5,510,814.

REVENUE.

The total collection during last year amounted to *Hk.Ths* 235,299,44.0, displaying an increase of *Hk.Ths* 74,299,2.7.5 over the amount collected in 1879, made up as follows:—

Import	Duty	increased by <i>Hk.Ths</i>	113,79.3,	being <i>Hk.Ths</i>	932.00.0
Coast Trade	"	"	4,768.8.5.8	"	33,345.6.6.2
"	"	Deposit	3,178.3.7.0	"	4,881.2.7.4
Export	"	"	68,815.1.8.4	"	111,794.5.5.2
Tonnage Dues	"	"	622.0.1.0	"	7,352.6.3.0

Transit Dues decreased by *Hk.Ths* 3,198.9.4.0, being *Hk.Ths* 77,003.3.2.2. The causes of these variations have been fully explained both in this and, in greater detail, in my last year's Report.

GENERAL OCCURRENCES.

On the 30th January the master of the Danish lorch *Kingyungbo* reported that he had collided with and sunk a small Ningpo boat 5 miles below Beaver Island; no lives were lost.

On the 23rd May the first Tea steamer, the s.s. *Glencoe*, passed through from Hankow for London.

On the 4th July a most violent squall passed over this place, doing great damage to the Native shipping, and causing great loss of life, owing to its suddenness.

On the 9th July the s.s. *Gay Mantering*, the last Tea steamer of the season, was cleared for London.

On the 30th October H.B.M. despatch-vessel *Vigilant* went ashore near Tantu (丹徒) Beacon, but succeeded soon after in getting off again without injury.

On the 8th December the first Legation Mail overland to Peking of the season 1880-81 was despatched; the last was sent on the 20th February. The average time taken en route was—to Peking, 11 days 18½ hours, and from Peking, 11 days. 13 mails, consisting of 32 bags in all, were sent to, while 1 mail only of 1 bag was received from, Peking. Legation Mails arrive here made up in bags by the Shanghai or Peking office, as the case may be, and are simply forwarded as received.

On the 20th December the first mail by Customs overland courier left for Tientsin, etc. During this season, which ended on the 23rd February, when the last mail was sent from this port, the average time taken by these couriers was—to Tientsin, 11 days 23½ hours; from Tientsin,

11 days 14 hours; to Chefoo, 17 days 8 hours; from Chefoo, 18 days 12 hours. In all, 30 mails, made up of 5,654 letters, 7,400 papers, 76 parcels, and 35 Native post bags, weighing altogether 2,071 cattie, were sent to Tientsin. From Tientsin were received 26 mails, with 263 letters, 56 papers, 7 parcels, and 36 Native post bags, of a total weight of 502 cattie. In the mails to and from Tientsin, the Peking and Newchwang correspondence is included. To Chefoo, 8 mails, with 407 letters, 363 papers, and 9 parcels, of a total weight of 99½ cattie, were sent; and from Chefoo were received 6 mails, with 73 letters and 6 papers, weighing 6½ cattie. The grand total of mail matter thus sent through the Customs postal service in weight was 2,679 cattie.

The health of the port during last year, I regret to have to report, was very bad. We had an unusually cool summer, but at the same time a very unhealthy one; inflammation of the lungs occurred among Foreign adults, acute bronchitis was prevalent among children, and intermittent cases were not few. Natives were similarly affected: lung diseases, as above, were more frequent than usual, and several cases of pleurisy presented themselves. Typhus fever was prevalent on the north bank of the river, but occurred in the settlement only when brought over; it was reported that many Natives died on the north bank in the first few days' illness. The first case of typhus among Foreigners which came under observation was on board H.B.M.S. *Pegasus*, which was anchored close to the north shore, while the prevailing winds at the time were from the quarter attacked by the epidemic to the ship. One fatal case occurred on board; another case treated on shore recovered. Small-pox also attacked two residents here, but both recovered. On board the *Pegasus*, the worst form of small-pox broke out, and proved fatal after the departure of the ship to Shanghai. No deaths, however, among the Foreign community here have to be recorded.

The hopes entertained in my last Report relative to the serious want of a sufficient number of convenient berths near the southern (Chinkiang) side of the river, I regret to say, as yet have not been as fully realised as I had expected. After long and protracted negotiations, another berth for a hulk was secured above the *Codiz*, under a compromise by which the (Native) Free Ferry Society relinquished their opposition on an extra jetty being provided by this office for their exclusive use as long as their old jetty is interfered with by the hulk. But the larger measures which are so urgently needed in the interests of the whole port, and which were proposed for adoption, with a view to raising the necessary funds to make the foreshore along the whole frontage of Chinkiang sufficiently secure for accommodating more hulks, are still in abeyance. It is to be hoped, therefore, that we may pass through the high-water season of this year again without any more serious damage to the bunding and foreshore than, fortunately, was the case last year.

In conclusion, I beg to enclose a meteorological table for the year.

I have, etc.,

To
 ROBERT HART, ESQUIRE,
Inspector General of Customs,
 PEKING.

F. KLEINWÄCHTER,
Commissioner of Customs.

Appendix No. 1.—

TABLE of the principal FOREIGN GOODS sent INLAND

N.B.—The Roman Capitals in the third column are the initial letters of the Provinces in which the various localities

West. VALLEY OF THE YANGTSE. South.			Shirtings, Groy.	T-Cloths.	Dolls, English, Dutch, and American.	Cottons, other sorts.	Total Cottons.	Lustres and Orisons, Figured and Plain.	Spanish Stripes.	Woolens, other sorts.	Total Woolens.
English.	Chinese.	Province.									
Ch'angchow-fu.....	常州府	Ku.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Chinking-fu.....	鎮江府	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kiangsing-fu.....	江甯府	"	43,572	9,471	2,595	3,662	59,300	165	6	792	963
Ch'ichow-fu.....	池州府	A.	75	...	...	...	75	...	...	...	...
Jaochow-fu.....	饒州府	Kl.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kwangt'chow.....	廣德州	A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fuchow-fu.....	德州府	Kl.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nanch'ang-fu.....	南昌府	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ningkw'ow-fu.....	甯國府	A.	20	...	...	10	30	...	...	...	...
T'wiping-fu.....	太平府	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL.....			43,667	9,471	2,595	3,672	59,405	165	6	792	963
West. VALLEY OF THE YANGTSE. North.											
Ank'ing-fu.....	安慶府	A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hochow.....	和州	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ch'ichow.....	滁洲	"	495	55	80	3	633	...	...	...	...
Lian'chow.....	六安州	"	38,918	17,555	6,079	7,002	69,554	780	231	3,721	4,732
Lochow-fu.....	廬州府	"	4,090	1,743	1,069	655	7,557	803	11	220	334
Kiangsing-fu.....	江甯府	Ku.	8,128	806	87	55	9,076	43	26	22	91
TOTAL.....			51,651	20,159	7,315	7,715	86,820	926	268	3,963	5,157

TRANSIT TRADE.

under TRANSIT PASSES during the Year 1880.

is situated, e.g., A, Anhwei; Ho, Honan; Hsu, Hubei; Ki, Kiangsi; Ku, Kiangsu; S, Szechwan.

Sugar, Brown.	Sugar, White.	Sandal- wood.	Sapan- wood.	Iron, Bar and Nail-rod.	Lead, in Pigs.	Window Glass.	Value.	West VALLEY OF THE YANGTSE South.		
								Province.	Chinese.	English.
Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Sp. ft.	HK. \$s.			
...	...	...	...	2.94	...	...	5	Ku.	常州府	Ch'angchow-fu.
...	...	...	...	14.70	...	...	37	"	鎮江府	Chinkiang-fu.
253.69	490.48	395.20	333	3,868.84	694.53	...	113,849	"	江甯府	Kiangning-fu.
719.19	134.49	52	...	386.72	18.33	...	4,160	A.	池州府	Ch'ichow-fu.
...	...	...	...	63	97.95	...	538	Ki.	饒州府	Jaowchow-fu.
7.50	3.75	4	...	...	...	...	62	A.	廣德州	Kwangt'chow.
...	...	...	20	...	...	...	41	Ki.	撫州府	Fuchow-fu.
...	...	...	208.15	...	...	...	477	"	南昌府	Nanch'ang-fu.
369.60	306.76	155.10	...	796.32	6.40	...	5,166	A.	甯國府	Ningkw'fu.
87.74	43.30	20	...	28.80	...	...	665	"	太平府	Tai'ping-fu.
1,437.72	967.68	626.30	961.15	5,161.32	777.21	...	124,040	.....	.....	TOTAL.
								West VALLEY OF THE YANGTSE North.		
1,244.73	320.62	50.25	1.70	105.48	...	100	6,394	A.	安慶府	Ank'ing-fu.
471.85	903.40	123.10	...	397.82	...	...	7,705	"	和州	Hoehow.
144.74	550.30	40.20	...	73.74	2.90	...	4,075	"	滁州	Ch'uchow.
13,076.53	8,257.90	7,343.10	234.79	7,281.90	246.32	900	745,349	"	六安州	Litan'chow.
6,453.60	4,504.46	1,026.60	76.48	811.92	...	...	66,216	"	廬州府	Luchow-fu.
1,903.61	1,490.78	99.05	123.14	457.21	2.35	200	30,081	Ku.	江甯府	Kiangning-fu.
23,245.06	16,022.55	3,682.30	425.61	4,122.59	251.68	1,200	357,630	.....	.....	TOTAL.

TABLE of the principal FOREIGN GOODS sent INLAND

North. WEST OF THE GRAND CANAL.			Shirts, Grey.	T-Cloths.	Dolls, English, Dutch, and American.	Cottons, other sorts.	Total Cottons.	Lustres and Orisons, Figured and Plain.	Spanish Stripes.	Woolens, other sorts.	Total Woolens.
English.	Chinese.	Provision.									
			Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Ch'inchow-fu.....	陳州府	Ho.	9,745	2,824	2,205	729	15,503	201	9	46	256
Fengyang-fu.....	鳳陽府	A.	6,061	1,316	544	466	8,387	266	27	47	340
Sichow-fu.....	徐州府	Ka.	107,469	15,610	6,125	14,136	143,340	3,774	319	803	4,896
K'ailing-fu.....	開封府	Ho.	42,020	8,110	8,290	26,052	74,472	1,160	306	945	2,411
Kwangchow.....	光州	"	...	...	...	10	10	...	...	...	...
Kwait-fu.....	歸德府	"	18,429	1,503	1,766	569	22,267	71	6	96	173
Jening-fu.....	汝甯府	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suechow.....	泗州	A.	10,979	870	261	339	12,349	29	1	15	45
Yingchow-fu.....	潁州府	"	17,877	1,500	1,520	820	21,717	296	9	39	344
TOTAL.....			312,580	31,733	20,611	33,121	398,045	5,797	677	1,991	8,465
North. EAST OF THE GRAND CANAL.											
Hsichow.....	徽州	Ka.	64,145	6,245	2,065	8,091	80,546	891	84	247	1,222
Hwaiin-fu.....	淮安府	"	51,558	6,913	1,686	12,152	72,609	1,660	606	1,804	4,070
Tungchow.....	通州	"	7,693	6,903	415	2,640	17,650	502	98	223	823
Yangchow-fu.....	揚州府	"	50,373	10,228	1,326	6,611	68,538	1,160	437	810	2,407
TOTAL.....			173,968	30,289	5,792	29,494	230,343	4,213	1,225	1,084	8,522

under TRANSIT PASSES during the Year 1880—Continued.

Sugar, Brown.	Sugar, White.	Sandal- wood.	Sapan- wood.	Iron, Bar and Nail-rod.	Lead, in Pigs.	Window Glass.	Valam.	North.		
								WEST OF THE GRAND CANAL.		
								Provinc.	Chinese.	English.
<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Piculs.</i>	<i>Sq. ft.</i>	<i>Hk. Zh.</i>			
48,570.78	23,020.94	217.96	4,182.91	31.64	3,820.32	300	353,647	Ho.	陳州府	Ch'unchow-fu.
7,447.28	3,917.02	250.96	335.33	119.36	253.83	200	65,766	A.	鳳陽府	Fengyang-fu.
12,754.95	11,492.69	172.47	848.40	785.74	791.88	800	346,786	Ku.	徐州府	Szech-fu.
13.70	33.48	...	4.80	...	...	...	134,328	Ho.	開封府	K'ai-fing-fu.
1,132.49	317.61	83.05	...	...	...	...	5,898	"	光州	Kwangchow.
1,043.58	329.70	8.50	194.90	0.84	3.90	...	41,081	"	歸德府	Kwaid-fu.
215.74	114.95	1.50	...	...	...	...	1,375	"	汝甯府	Juning-fu.
573.63	310.53	2.50	25.20	36.28	...	...	22,778	A.	泗州	Szechow.
1,085.91	610.98	64.70	65.75	39.40	41.40	400	41,306	"	穎州府	Yingchow-fu.
72,838.06	42,536.87	801.64	5,655.28	1,023.26	4,911.33	1,700	1,010,965			TOTAL
								North.		
								EAST OF THE GRAND CANAL.		
730.84	1,260.43	132.28	59	318.08	53.42	1,100	131,953	Ku.	梅州	Heichow.
7,824.50	3,603.17	777.95	930.78	10,025.30	916.87	25,200	211,066	"	淮安府	Hwan-fu.
3,896.72	1,750.62	1,218.72	0.60	781.35	294.58	8,100	59,532	"	通州	Tungchow.
30,189.71	10,312.71	2,730.41	1,469.52	14,377.41	1,450.39	57,400	290,870	"	揚州府	Yangchow-fu.
32,541.77	16,906.93	4,859.77	2,459.90	25,592.18	2,715.26	91,800	693,420			TOTAL

TABLE of the principal FOREIGN GOODS sent INLAND.

North. SHANTUNG.			Shirts, Grey.	T-Cloths.	Dolls, English, Dutch, and American.	Cotton, other sorts.	Total Cotton.	Lustre and Orlons, Figured and Plata.	Spanish Stripes.	Woolens, other sorts.	Total Woolens.
English.	Chinese.	Previous.									
Tsinan-fu.....	濟南府	S.	Pieces. 2,550	Pieces. 570	Pieces. 195	Pieces. 430	Pieces. 5,745	....	Pieces. 12	Pieces. 41	Pieces. 53
Taining-chow.....	濟甯州	"	167,015	21,826	5,505	9,787	205,131	2,161	89	1,139	3,369
Ichow-fu.....	沂州府	"	4,905	1,200	225	690	7,020	60	9	10	79
Ts'aochow-fu.....	曹州府	"	....	....	....	15	15	20	....	....	20
Tungsh'ang-fu.....	東昌府	"	16,456	1,550	495	1,170	19,771	120	6	80	206
Yenchow-fu.....	兗州府	"	2,917	1,215	45	232	4,409	48	3	28	79
TOTAL.....			195,843	26,461	4,465	12,324	237,991	2,409	119	1,298	3,826

COMPARATIVE TABLE of the principal FOREIGN GOODS sent INLAND.

Total sent inland in 1880.....	530,704	....	....	....	26,933
" " 1879.....	1,015,930	....	....	....	32,863
" " 1878.....	822,220	....	....	....	25,946
" " 1877.....	672,625	....	....	....	19,593
" " 1876.....	665,177	....	....	....	15,932
" " 1875.....	763,937	....	....	....	21,606

Number of Transit Passes issued

"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	"
"	"	"

TRANSIT PASSES during the Year 1880—Continued.

gr. wt.	Sugar, White.	Sandal-wood.	Sapan-wood.	Iron, Bar and Nail-rod.	Lead, in Pigs.	Window Glass.	Value.	North SHANTUNG.		
								Provinces.	Chians.	English.
16.40	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Sq. ft.	Hk. Zh.	8.	濟南府	Tsinan-fu.
31.25	...	...	25.50	...	39	...	6,898	..	濟甯州	Taining-chow.
8,178.16	47.79	1,652.21	138.32	731.38	3,400	386,986	10,398	..	沂州府	Ichow-fu.
...	...	...	15.54	...	...	...	181	..	曹州府	T'aochow-fu.
12.50	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,405	..	東昌府	Tung'ang-fu.
37.30	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,093	..	兗州府	Yenchow-fu.
7.50	...	...	...	1.26	103.30	...	440,961	.....	TOTAL.	
8,266.61	47.79	1,677.71	155.12	873.58	3,400	440,961				

TRANSIT PASSES for the Years 1875 to 1880.							Total Value of the Trade in each year (including merchandise).
1880	84,740.64	10,066.70	10,779.65	35,964.43	9,579.06	98,100	Hk. Zh. 2,022,652
1879	82,559.22	14,154.04	14,492.36	35,773.65	5,029.34	87,700	" 3,250,403
1878	88,000.19	14,299.90	22,852.41	28,333.02	2,976.75	78,200	" 2,892,886
1876	64,160.42	18,903.48	13,173.67	26,611.33	3,848.78	80,550	" 3,211,985
1875	80,344.30	14,685.53	7,806.74	24,135.50	2,888.93	95,300	" 2,253,115
1873	120,372.66	17,753.36	18,767.90	29,735.62	4,137	87,800	" 3,305,037

gr the year 1880.....	10,637
" 1879.....	12,373
" 1878.....	11,779
" 1877.....	9,035
" 1876.....	9,025
" 1875.....	13,036

Appendix No. 2.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE for the Year 1880.

Month.	AEROID BAROMETER.			THERMOMETER.			WINDS.						WEATHER.			TIDES.													
	Highest by Day.	Lowest by Day.	Mean.	Highest by Night.	Lowest by Day.	Highest by Night.	No. of Days N. to E.	No. of Days E. to S.	No. of Days S. to W.	No. of Days W. to N.	No. of Days Calm.	No. of Days No. Wind.	No. of Days No. Rain.	No. of Days No. Hail.	Highest Above Winter L. W. Level.	Lowest													
January.....	31.17	30.48	31.17	30.48	44	25	42	24	15	9	5	6	2	21	7	12	...	3	0	8	0	1.77	5	5	1	4 ^a			
February.....	31.04	30.43	31.05	30.43	44	37	45	30	17	9	4	48	0	6	15	...	1	0	3	12	7	0	2.28	8	10	0	1		
March.....	31.04	30.01	30.68	30.11	72	35	67	34	12	15	11	31	3	9	2	6	0	21	1	0	4	0	...	1.78	8	0	2	1	
April.....	30.87	29.94	30.81	30.02	73	47	71	43	7	15	10	18	4	12	7	0	3	...	5	3	...	5.00	10	0	1	6			
May.....	30.30	29.81	30.30	29.82	82	55	80	54	4	9	11	12	10	15	4	9	3	0	3	18	...	0.84	10	7	2	2			
June.....	30.34	29.93	30.38	29.93	86	68	83	62	4	12	15	3	4	12	5	0	21	...	1	0	...	0.84	11	11	3	2			
July.....	30.20	29.60	30.17	29.60	88	69	88	70	15	9	6	21	3	6	3	0	9	...	2	18	...	5.37	15	3	9	4			
August.....	30.37	29.85	30.40	29.86	89	68	85	68	22	15	3	31	1	3	2	0	12	...	3	21	...	2.22	14	7	9	5			
September.....	30.80	30.22	30.78	30.25	85	67	83	66	15	12	10	0	6	3	15	0	15	1	0	2	0	...	1.65	13	5	9	1		
October.....	31.05	30.47	31.05	30.47	76	59	72	50	14	18	13	9	1	6	3	0	12	2	0	1	9	...	0.59	13	9	5	7		
November.....	31.30	30.40	31.30	30.45	65	59	63	28	8	15	3	12	3	0	10	15	2	6	...	0	6	0	12	0.08	10	4	0	6 ^a	
December.....	31.50	30.65	31.48	30.76	53	24	48	22	11	0	5	12	0	9	12	21	1	6	0	12	1	6	2	3	2.24	6	9	1	10 ^a

REMARKS.—January: first part of the month fine; from 10th to 14th, snowing and melting at intervals; latter part of the month fine. February: first part of the month mostly rainy and disagreeable weather; more on the 4th and 6th; latter part fine, with a few dull and rainy days. March: very fine, with only a few rainy days; on the 18th, heavy thunderstorms, accompanied by heavy showers. April: beautiful weather, with occasional heavy fall of rain; on the 22nd, heavy gale from the westward. May: beautiful weather; only a few foggy and rainy days, with occasional thunderstorms, accompanied by light showers; on the 26th, a gale from the north-west. June: beautiful weather; 22nd, total eclipse of the moon; latter part of the month, thunder-storms, accompanied by heavy showers, with occasional thunder-storms, accompanied by heavy showers. August: beautiful weather, with occasional light showers. September: fine, with a few rainy days. October: very fine and clear weather; on the 5th, a strong gale from the north-east. November: very fine and clear weather, with occasional windy days; blowing a gale from north-east on the 7th and 25th; heavy fall of snow on the 18th. December: fine, with occasional cold and windy days; snowing on the 14th, 16th, 18th, and 19th; on the 18th, strong gale from the north-west, with rain and sleet.

^a Below winter low-water level.

