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Part I.**INTRODUCTION**

TO THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BRITISH BURMA, 1872-73.

INTRODUCTION.

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR'S ADMINISTRATION,

1872-73.

ALTHOUGH this introductory summary is intended to be "a survey of the moral and material movement of the country, as marked by the events and measures of the year," it may be still advisable to give very briefly a description of the province, which will lead to a more correct apprehension of the various subjects hereafter dealt with. British Burma is just the size of the united countries of Scotland and England, but its people number but little more than two-thirds of the population of Scotland alone. The province lies on the Eastern sea-board of the Bay of Bengal, and, with a coast-line of nearly one thousand miles, it reaches inland with an average depth of about one hundred miles. The inland frontier line marches with the tracts held by various hill tribes, with the territories of the King of Burma, and with the Kingdom of Siam. The three administrative divisions into which the province is divided have each their sea-port towns—Akyab, Rangoon, Moulmein, lying at the mouth of the rivers, the Koladyne in Arakan, the Irrawaddy in Pegu, and the Salween in Tenasserim; and in addition to these, the smaller ports of Bassein, Sandoway, Tavoy, and Mergui serve to export the produce of these out-lying districts. The position of British Burma is most eminently adapted, therefore, for the development of trade and commerce, and its past history under British administration shows a wonderfully rapid growth in material progress.

2. Adopting in this summary the same order as is maintained in the detailed report which follows, we pass to the political affairs of the province during the past year.

3. The year under review passed without any change in our relations with the several Governments and minor States bordering on British Burma. The improved condition of the frontier of the Hill Tracts of Northern Arakan, which

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier affairs.

was noticed in the review of the year previous, was fully maintained. The repulse of the Shindoo raiders therein mentioned produced a most excellent effect, and the watchful care of the officers in charge of the police frustrated two meditated attacks on our villages. The Chief of the Koon tribe had a friendly interview with the Assistant Superintendent of Police, and promised to cease harbouring outlaws from British territory, and to abstain from any raiding expeditions.

4. Captain Hughes, the Superintendent of the Hill Tracts, marched from his district into the Hill Tracts of Chittagong, where Captain Lewin was establishing a cordon of police stations. It was suggested that from the Arakan side two police stations should be established, in prolongation of those now occupied to the northward; but an exploration by Mr. Hannay, the Assistant Superintendent, showed the line to be one of very great difficulty, and the Chief Commissioner considered that communication could better be established by striking a route due west from the present police stations, leaving it to the Chittagong authorities to continue their cordon within their administrative frontier, rather than that the Arakan police stations should be advanced beyond the administrative frontier, which had been very lately fixed on after careful enquiry and consideration. On the Lemroo river, some non-tributary Khyins made a raid on a Khyin village and carried off seven captives. The raiders were, however, quickly followed up by Mr. Porter, the Inspector of Police, and, with the assistance of some friendly chiefs, he succeeded with much tact and judgment in recovering all the captives without the necessity of recourse to violent measures.

5. Towards the end of 1872, an Italian Envoy visited the Court of Mandalay with presents from the King of Italy to His Majesty the King of Burma. He also brought the ratified treaty which had been negotiated at Mandalay in 1870, and which was finally agreed to by the Burmese Government with some few modifications.

6. The frontier dacoities on the border of British and Upper Burma, which had in past years given cause for anxiety, materially diminished during 1872-73; and on the frontier of the Salween District, where the province borders on Karennie and the Zimmay Shan States, although some formidable gangs of robbers entered on several occasions, they were almost always encountered by the police, and satisfactorily dealt with. The Siamese Government made a careful and formal enquiry into the claims of British traders in regard

to timber transactions in the Zimmay State, and orders were passed on all the cases under dispute.

7. There were no surveys in connection with land administration during the year under review, but a small staff of Revenue Survey Officers commenced work in the Henzada District at the close of the year. The basis of the land revenue settlement in British Burma has been twenty per cent. of the gross produce payable to Government in money at the rates of the price of grain in the circle within which the land is situated. Practically, however, a lower percentage is taken. The land under cultivation is under settlement by leases of three or five years, or is assessed annually. The settlement, whether annual or by lease of a term of years, is made directly between the cultivator and the Government: there are no zemindaree landholders, and no middlemen who get a rent exclusive of the Government demand. The individual holdings are small, and average about eight acres.

8. The area of land under cultivation in 1862-63 was 1,629,956 acres, and in the year under review (1872-73) it had risen to 2,203,539, or nearly 35 per cent. in ten years. Of the total cultivated land, 858,190 acres, or more than one-third of the whole, were under settlement by leases, and the remainder under annual assessment.

9. The total area of the province is about 93,000 square miles, of which one-half is culturable. It may be said, therefore, that at present for every square mile of cultivation there are fifteen square miles of culturable land, and the same area of uncultivable jungle.

Waste lands.

Government estates.

Wards' estates.

With the exception of some small reserved forest tracts, there are no Government estates in the province; and there are no wards' estates.

10. The police in British Burma are recruited from the indigenous inhabitants almost entirely.

Police.

The Buddhists in the force number 4,863, while Indians and Europeans amount only to 1,493. It is for service in the sea-ports, where the population is mixed, and for guarding the jails, that the Indians are mainly used; while the actual criminal work throughout the province is carried out by the people of the country themselves. The duty of guarding a long frontier of nearly one thousand miles is performed by the police, and the men are recruited on the spot from the villages in the neighbourhood of the police

stockades. In many parts the service approaches that of a militia force, and the duties are almost military; but the unhealthy and difficult condition of much of the frontier renders it necessary to embody the guards locally.

11. The amount of crime in British Burma has always, rated on the population, been higher than in the majority of the provinces of India Proper, and especially in crimes of violence, such as murder, dacoity, and robbery, the proportion has been excessive. In the case of murder the people have been classed as showing a strong homicidal tendency, and certain it is that, on an average, only one-third of the murders are committed for gain, while the remainder are the result of jealousy in connection with women, or of personal animosity. There is no doubt the Burmese and Arakanese are passionate and impulsive, and in every house there is a ready weapon to the hand of an angered man. The so-called *dah* varies from a knife to a sword, or from a chopper to a felling-axe, according to the purpose for which it is required: it is generally kept fairly sharp, and it is always heavy backed, so that one or two cuts given in a passion too often suffice to take life. For the past two years, however, murders have been less frequent. There were 103 cases in 1870, 86 cases in 1871, and but 76 cases in 1872. The detection of the crime (39 per cent.) has not been good, although the failure in this respect is most marked in frontier districts, where the culprits can most readily get across the border into foreign territory.

12. The crime of dacoity—or, in other words, robbery by five or more persons—has been a serious difficulty to the Police Administration ever since our occupation of the province, and, although the character of the crime has slowly modified, inasmuch as the gangs have become smaller and more restricted to the neighbourhood of the frontiers, still the crime has continued prevalent in spite of all the exertions of the magistracy and the police. In 1860 there were 236 dacoities in the province; in 1865 there were 125; and in 1870, 132 cases. In 1871 these were reduced to 118, and in the year under review there were only 65 cases. Even now there is room for improvement, but the reduction of late years has been very marked, and so far very satisfactory. It is probable that the changed conditions of native society has had much to do with the gradual diminution of this crime. Under native rule, the various petty officials retained in their service fighting men, by whose aid to ensure their local authority; and we inherited a class of men who in our early occupation

combined a sort of patriotism with their predatory attacks and defiance of our Government; from that position they merged into the condition of brigands or bushrangers, but their traditional prestige and semi-authority have died out, and the people themselves are not now prepared to look on them as other than ordinary criminals.

13. Simultaneous with the decrease in dacoity, the crime of robbery diminished from 193 to 111 cases, so that in the three great heinous offences there has been a very marked improvement during the year under review.

14. As regards the minor offences, there was a decrease in house-breaking, and ordinary thefts remained much the same as the previous year. The action of the police against the crime which has been described has somewhat improved on the working of previous years. What are styled “cognizable” offences are those against which the police can take action without the intervention of a Magistrate—that is, they are empowered by law to arrest the criminals or suspected criminals *suo motu*, without having to apply for a warrant. Of such offences there were 14,263 committed during the year, and in more than one half (56 per cent.) the crimes were detected and convictions obtained. Then, as regards the persons concerned in these offences, there were 18,553 persons put on their trial, and of them 77 per cent. were convicted. The number of offences in the past two years were almost identical, but in the year under review the number of persons convicted increased from 12,817 to 14,393, showing that the police were active and intelligent in arresting criminals.

15. It has been already pointed out that the particular duties which the police have to perform in British Burma require recruiting to be strictly local, and it has been remarked that the force is made up of the indigenous population; but the Burman does not as a rule like the regularity and discipline of an organized establishment. The number of resignations, therefore, is considerably higher than among similar establishments among the Indian Administrations; but there is a gradual improvement in this respect, which seems to show that the service is becoming more attractive. In 1867 the proportion of resignations was 25 per cent. of the whole force, but last year they had fallen to 14 per cent.

16. The conduct of the police force during the year, as tested by the number of the men punished by the magistracy or by the departmental officers, has been satis-

factory. A mere statement of figures and proportions will, to the ordinary reader, convey an imperfect view of the working of the police as compared with similar bodies elsewhere; but in reviewing the Police Administration for the year, the Government of India remarked that:—"In regard to the general position as judged by statistics of the Police Administration of British Burma, His Excellency in Council is glad to observe from the tables given in your letter that it can be proved to be comparatively so high. A careful examination of the returns given in the Report tends to support the favourable comparison with the statistics of other provinces which your letter desires to establish, although such conclusions can of course be only confirmed by much larger observations."

17. Passing from the action of the police to the work of the criminal courts, it is found that in the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon, who sits as a Court of Sessions for the trial of offences committed within town limits, there were only 39 sessions trials during the year, which indicates but a small amount of heinous crime in a city of 100,000 inhabitants.

18. Of fifty-five persons brought to trial for these offences, thirty-five were convicted. In the Court of the Town Magistrate of Rangoon the non-bailable offences remained much the same as during previous years, but a large increase in the number of summonses against persons for petty misdemeanour occurred. A very small proportion of the persons so charged were convicted, and greater care seems necessary in issuing summonses on frivolous complaints. Excluding the Courts in the town of Rangoon, there still remain those under the supervision of the Judicial Commissioner, the various courts throughout the whole province for the administration of criminal justice, including those presided over by the native magistracy, as well as those administered by the higher European officials. They had to deal with about 8,000 non-bailable crimes and 16,000 minor offences; there were 37,657 persons brought to trial; and of these 24,440 were tried by the Subordinate Magistrates, who are almost entirely native; and 13,200 were tried by the superior magistracy.

19. The punishments inflicted on 14,717 persons were fines only, 5,000 were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, and the remainder were awarded simple imprisonment or had to give security for good behaviour. One noticeable feature is the

preference shown by the native magistracy to inflict a fine rather than sentence to imprisonment,—four out of every five prisoners tried by them received the former punishment. It is probable that in many instances the fine was the more suitable punishment, as the distance of the district jail from outlying Courts makes it unadvisable to award sentences of short terms of imprisonment; but where the law allows the alternative of imprisonment to fine, the latter would instinctively recommend itself to the Burmese Judge as more in consonance with the Burmese criminal law. The average amount of fine levied by the Courts in British Burma is considerably higher than that found in other provinces, and reaches Rs. 20, while in the Punjab, the Central Provinces, and Oudh the average ranges from Rs. 9 to Rs. 6. It is found, however, that the amount realized was nearly as high as in these provinces, so that the fines do not seem beyond the capacity of the offender.

20. It may be accepted as a highly satisfactory state of affairs that of 9,000 persons convicted by the Subordinate (native) Magistracy, only 312 (or four per cent.) appealed against the decisions. The proportion of appeals from the decisions of the Superior Magistracy was higher, and the number of the decisions modified and reversed was considerable; but in the highest Court—that of the Judicial Commissioner—of sentences passed in 113 cases which came before the Court on appeal or were called for, the sentences in 108 were confirmed. It is by no means a matter of regret that the appeals to the highest Court should be so few. The Judicial Commissioner has much useful work to perform in regulating and controlling the Courts subordinate to him, and in ensuring greater accuracy and regularity in the performance of their work.

21. Considerable progress was made during the year 1872 in Jail administration. The average daily number of convicted prisoners in the various places for incarceration was 4,434, and of these about 2,400 were confined in the Rangoon Jail, and the others in thirteen subordinate jails or lock-ups. The proportion of female prisoners was only three per cent., whereas in India it is about 5.5 per cent.; and this seems a curious result when we consider the unrestrained and busy life led by women in Burma—they are not restricted to the house or kept in any seclusion; they join in the trade of all the towns; they not only, as in India, share in agricultural work—they almost monopolize the bazaar business in town and villages, the stalls

being kept and managed by saleswomen. The anomaly in the matter is that, rated on the total population, the total number of criminals (male and female) in confinement is higher in British Burma than in India, and this would seem to point to a criminal tendency among the people from which the female portion are exceptionally free. If it be so, and if further examination of statistics bearing on the point can establish this peculiarity in Burma, there will group round it some curious questions in regard to the influences which affect the occurrence of crime among various peoples, as these influences may severally take their rise from inherent disposition, bad moral and religious tone, or the defective economic position of the different classes of society. The apparent fact, however, remains that, with more freedom than is enjoyed anywhere else in the East, the Burmese women are likewise freer from the commission of what, by our laws, is considered crime.

22. There were no juvenile prisoners—*i.e.*, under 12,—but nearly one per cent. of the prisoners were under 16 years. These young offenders are of course to be found in the large towns—the sad but apparently inevitable outcome of dense city population. Although not sufficient as yet to require a reformatory for their confinement under the Prisons Act, care is taken to segregate these young criminals.

23. As might be expected from the greater care taken yearly in getting at the history of our criminal classes, the proportion of re-convictions appears to increase, having been during the year 18 per cent. of the jail population, as compared with 13 per cent. in previous years.

24. An attempted escape of 13 prisoners in a body from one of the jails was frustrated by the energetic action of the police, which resulted in the death of two of the prisoners and the capture of the others. In addition to this attempt, there were 21 cases of isolated escapes from the various jails—a great reduction on previous years, when the average was 65 escapes. A large proportion of the jail population was punished for breaches of jail discipline, the number being 15 per cent. This is attributed to increased efforts to ensure a full amount of labor, both intra and extramural. While the total jail accommodation was sufficient for the jail population, there was overcrowding in some of the prisons, but sickness did not increase over the average of previous years, having been 3.49 per cent. on the daily average population, while the deaths were 1.13 per cent. on the total prison population. The total expenditure on

account of the maintenance and guarding the various prisons amounted to £5-4-9 per head of the convict population, and this does not materially differ from the rates of the past years. The earnings, on the other hand, reached £17,126, or almost double that of the previous year. There was a difficulty in providing good and useful employment inside the jails, and extramural labor was performed to a larger extent than previously.

25. It was mainly in the Rangoon and Akyab Jails that profitable labor was obtained from the prisoners; but the extensive employment of extra-mural convict labor in a large town like Rangoon is attended with difficulties, and may with some justice, be resented by the civil population. The particular works on which convicts can be satisfactorily employed beyond the precincts of the jail are limited in character, and to utilize the large number of 2,400 men within one enclosure requires arrangements which do not at present exist. Much importance is attached to the introduction of machinery for the purpose of manufacturing jute twine, from which employment could be given for prisoners in many jails in weaving gunny-bags; and although this is not feasible for the present, the increased use of machinery will be gradually introduced, by which a fairly severe and also profitable employment may be afforded to the convicts.

26. Some changes in the constitution of the Civil Courts of the province took place during 1872. The Court of the Judicial Commissioner was instituted for the performance of the business of the Chief Court, formerly presided over by the Chief Commissioner; the Court of the Recorder of Moulmein was abolished, and there was substituted the Court of a Judge subordinate to the Judicial Commissioner; a Special Court was constituted, with certain appellate powers, principally exercised on the decisions of the Judge of Moulmein; and a Small Cause Court was established at Akyab.

27. In regard to the work of the various Civil Courts, it is found that the cases in the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon have fallen from 1,238 to 598, and then to 449, in the last three years respectively, and this was attributed by the late Recorder to the greater commercial prosperity which prevailed during the latter periods. In the Small Cause Court in Rangoon there were 5,914 cases disposed of, as compared with 5,550 cases the previous year. The value of the

suits remained almost stationary, but the receipts of the Court were nearly double the expenditure.

28. In the Civil Courts throughout the province litigation decreased from 22,068 to 21,238 cases; and as this was accompanied with a very small proportion of appeals, it does not appear that the people are discontented with the Courts. It is, however, difficult to know what may be considered a normal amount of litigation for any given population, and it is not very certain how far varying conditions of society, such as a general possession of means or a general state of poverty, go to swell or diminish the amount of litigation. A ready recourse to the law courts is sometimes said to be a sign of the advancement of the people; while on the other hand, it is sometimes held to betoken a discontented and ill-adjusted condition of the population.

29. In British Burma the number of civil suits instituted equals one suit to 130 of the population; in the Punjab the proportion is one suit to 130 of the population; in the Central Provinces one in 105; and in Oudh one in 32.

30. The value of the subject-matters of litigation was £160,000, which is somewhat lower than during the previous year. More than half the litigation was on account of money due on contract, and about one-twentieth only was connected with immovable property. Six-sevenths of the suits were for sums below £10, and one-half were valued at sums not exceeding £2. Twenty-seven per cent. of the cases brought on the file were disposed of without passing a decree, and the proportion of suits decided after contest in court was forty per cent. That the aid of the Court was sought for usually with good reason is shown from the fact that seventy per cent. of the contested suits were given in favor of the plaintiffs. While there were 14,872 decrees passed by the Courts there were only 5,326 applications for execution; and the large proportion (56 per cent.) of applications which resulted in the complete satisfaction of the decrees shows very favorably when compared with the averages from other provinces. Of 10,421 appealable decrees which were passed, only 1,195 (or 11 per cent.) appeals were preferred, which very clearly shows that the people are contented generally to accept the decisions of the lower Courts; and this is the more satisfactory when it is considered that of these 10,421 appealable decrees 9,405 were passed by the Extra Assistant Commissioners, who are all natives of the country.

31. Registration has not been very largely availed of in British Burma during the year under review. When the Act came into force in 1871, an Inspector-General was appointed and 35 Registration Offices opened. It was found, however, that the receipts were insufficient to defray the pay of the Inspector-General, and his appointment was abolished. During 1872 there were 2,300 documents registered, and three-fourths of these were registered in four offices.

32. The collection of local rates and taxes in towns for Municipal Administration expenditure on local improvements has existed from the time of the annexation of Pegu, and especially in the Pegu Division has the system been widely applied. These taxes are collected in no less than forty-five towns. Nineteen of these towns have populations of 5,000 or upwards, and twenty-six have populations under that total. The total revenue amounted during 1872-73 to £58,000 and this was obtained from three main sources,—(1) a tax on the area of land covered by buildings; (2) receipts from the rents paid for the stalls in bazaars and markets erected and maintained from town funds; (3) miscellaneous receipts from the sale of licenses of kinds—as for the sale of liquor, for carriages, carts, passenger boats, slaughter-houses, and the like. The rules under which these funds have been collected and extended have since been superseded by a Municipal Act; but already much good has been done, and with few exceptions these towns in the interior have well-built, clean, and commodious markets, wherein almost all the local sales of the place are made. Very few articles are exposed for sale in private shops, but cloths, dry goods, grains, fish, vegetables and meat are, in their various portions of the common establishment, all disposed of in the town market. There is an efficient establishment to maintain order and cleanliness, and these bazaars are not only generally an ornament to the place, but they are a great convenience to the people. The revenue derived from the rent of the stall-keepers is doubtless a tax on the purchasers who frequent the market. This may in one sense be styled a voluntary tax, because it is not obligatory that sales should be made only in the bazaar, and private shops might compete if they chose; but Burman custom requires a bazaar, and the better and more attractive it is, the less chance for the success of the individual shops, and the more necessary for the purchaser to frequent the market. Care has therefore to be taken that the rent of the stalls is not forced

up too high, inasmuch as, after the expense of establishment and maintenance of the market has been met, everything collected beyond what is necessary for that, becomes a tax on the people. Hitherto this evil has not arisen. The towns are increasing with great rapidity, and the market accommodation has periodically to be extended and improved.

33. The military garrison of British Burma is of moderate strength, with a frontier to watch of about 1,000 miles facing foreign powers, and a population of nearly 3,000,000 inhabitants to control. The troops number about 2,000 Europeans and 3,000 Natives (Madras Army). These serve to occupy the valleys of the Irrawaddy and Sittang, and furnish a small native garrison for the town of Moulmein. A detachment of sepoy was during the year for a time employed on station duty in the Arakan Hills, and was afterwards placed in Akyab; but they suffered so much from sickness (fever principally) that they were withdrawn. In the other military stations the health of the troops was on the whole good.

34. The sea-borne trade of the province made a great advance during the year, and in consequence there has been a material increase in the shipping that frequented the ports,—1,751 vessels, representing 893,116 tons, entered the ports during 1872-73, which was an increase of 294 vessels and 217,172 tons over the previous year. The clearances were 1,859 vessels and 870,589 tons, being an increase of 229 vessels and 195,395 tons over the previous year. The Suez Canal and facilities for steamers to convey rice to Europe, and 63 steamers, aggregating 60,303 tons, were so employed during the year. The high price of coal hindered a still further development of this traffic. Inland river navigation on the Irrawaddy has been more and more falling into the hands of the steamers. They made during the year 162 up or down trips, against 127 the previous year, and, as a consequence, the native boat traffic has considerably decreased between British and Upper Burma.

35. The valuable line of coast light-houses has been successfully worked during the year, and the casualties to the shipping have been few. There is some divergence of opinion in regard to the position of one of the light-houses near the mouth of the Rangoon river, and arrangements are being made to place it more favorably for ready observation.

36. The steady extension of the cultivation of rice which has yearly taken place since the British occupation of Burma, and which has enabled

Agriculture.

the rapid increase of the export of that cereal which is described elsewhere, has continued during the year under review. The land-tax-paying area under rice cultivation has risen from 1,836,021 to 1,893,193 acres, showing an increase of 57,178 acres, or somewhat more than three per cent. This extension of land brought under taxation has been pretty general throughout the province. For various reasons connected with the system under which land is held by the cultivator, there is always a considerable area under cultivation which does not pay land-tax. Exemption is granted for several years on freshly-cleared ground, so that the actual increase of rice-bearing lands is greater than the returns show, and may probably have reached 80,000 acres during the year.

37. Speaking in round numbers, an acre of land produces a ton of paddy, or unhusked rice, which would give about half a ton of cleaned or white rice; and if the crop be a really fine one, each acre will give a ton and a half. The total population to be fed in the province was 2,747,000, and the assessed acreage was 1,893,199 acres; but if we allow five per cent. addition for non-paying lands, and also in consideration of a crop which yielded probably more than one ton an acre, we shall have 1,987,858 tons of paddy for consumption and export. From this total quantity we may deduct 686,750 tons required for consumption by the population at the rate of one ton of paddy to four persons for the year, and also (say) 1,000,000 tons to provide the 700,784 tons of rice (cargo and white) exported during the year, and this would still leave 300,000 tons of paddy for seed, for the cattle, and for storage. These figures indicate that only one-half of the rice cultivated is required for consumption in the province, and the remainder is available for exportation. If this proportion be maintained, and if the population increases at a normal rate, the expansion of the rice trade will be rapid.

38. There is but little cultivation of other crops than rice. Sessamum is cultivated on elevated ground, and is remunerative, and sugarcane is raised in small quantities. There is some cotton cultivation, principally on hill clearings. The indigenous cotton is of short fibre, but strong, it does not fetch a high price in the market. Although as yet the cultivation of tobacco has not sufficed for home consumption, and has been supplemented by imports from India,

There are many fine species of the plant in the province, and measures are being taken to make them more generally known, and to introduce a better mode of curing. As a rule, the tobacco is of a mild, delicate flavor. The finest kinds obtainable at present are grown on hill clearings, but ordinarily the plant is grown on the banks and islands of the rivers, after the annual overflow has subsided.

39. A very important matter in regard to successful cultivation is the maintenance of a good supply of cattle for draught. During the year the cows and cattle increased from 529,654 to 546,804, and the buffaloes from 551,566 to 569,610. The latter animals are of great value in the cultivation of the rich delta land, where the soil is heavy; but they are more delicate than cattle, and succumb more readily to disease. This may to some extent be due to the fact that in the localities where they are employed there is usually an indifferent supply of water. The services of a Veterinary Surgeon have now been obtained, and a school will be established to teach the Burmese the diseases and treatment of cattle. Care also is being given to such measures as will improve the ordinary hygiene of the cattle. Assistance is given to the people in digging tanks; and pieces of water hitherto reserved as Government fisheries are being set free for the use of the villagers wherever it is found that this is advisable for the sake of the cattle.

40. Considerable progress was made in Forest administration during the year under review. The plantations of teak trees were extended by 142 acres, and 263 acres were cleared and prepared for next year's planting. There are now upwards of 2,000 acres planted out with teak, and the cost of the operation has been Rs. 13,832. The growth of the trees, particularly in the upper parts, is most promising.

41. The number of cinchona trees has increased from 354 to 522, all fairly established, and 1,362 cuttings have been prepared and 5,062 seedlings were raised from Darjeeling and Ooacamund seed. Specimens of the bark from the older trees were forwarded to the Government Quinologist, Madras. There seems little doubt that in several localities in British Burma the cinchona tree will succeed well.

42. The number of teak logs extracted from the forests within British Burma fell from 42,205 to 39,698. This was caused, in the Government forests, from the introduction of a new system in regard to girdling; and in the forests held by

private holders, from a severe epidemic among the elephants employed in dragging the timber, which compelled the suspension of work. The importation of teak timber by the Salween from the Shan States and Karennee decreased considerably, from a scarcity of rainfall, which prevented the timber being floated out of the forests.

43. The cash receipts of the Forest Department were £82,757, of which the sum of £21,315 was derived from the duties levied on foreign timber entering British Burma. The expenditure of the department amounted to £33,620, of which £1,526 was for collection of the timber duties. The net revenue derived from forests in British Burma was £29,348, and from duties, £19,789. There has been during the past five years a steady reduction of the expenditure in this department, while the receipts have not materially changed. Attention has been given to utilizing valuable wood, other than teak, and the department has supplied the trade with many varieties likely hereafter to meet with a steady demand.

44. The only mines worked in the province are the tin-mines and Quara-mines in the Tenasserim Division, in the most southern portion of the province. Throughout the whole of the Mergui District tin is to be found, but it has hitherto been worked after a very simple fashion by Chinese. The mineral is obtained by removing and washing the deposits of the river bed. It occurs as a binoxide of the metal in the foundation of black sand, and is very pure. One of the richest portions of the district has been for many years under lease to a Chinaman, on payment of a fixed yearly sum; but on its expiry it was not thought advisable to renew it, as proposals were made by competent European firms to lease the mining privileges for the purpose of working the mines on a large scale. An area has now been granted on suitable terms, but it is too soon yet to judge of the results, although the prospects of obtaining good metal are considered very promising.

45. The conversion of paddy (rice with the husk still on the grain) into cargo rice, which is the condition under which it is shipped to Europe and elsewhere, may be considered one of the most important manufactures in the province. Cargo rice consists of four parts of mill-cleaned rice and one part of paddy. The mill-cleaned rice consists of the grain cleared of the outer husk, but not yet cleaned or deprived of the skin of the grain. When this

latter process is performed, the grain is styled cleaned, or white, or polished, rice. For the purpose of husking the rice for shipment, extensive mills have been erected, which are driven by steam power, and kept at work often night and day during the busy season; and the large mills can convert and bag ready for shipment as much as 800 tons of cargo in twenty-four hours. Five years ago there were only 3 mills, and now there are 38, while new ones are being yearly constructed. For the conversion of teak logs into squared timber for export there are also several steam mills in Moulmein and Rangoon. The use of the weaving-loom is general throughout Burma, and especially is cotton-weaving a practice in almost every household. The articles are for local consumption, and consist of dresses for men and women—strong thick wrappers and bed curtains. A great deal of English yarn is used, and the articles are always substantial and serviceable. Silk-weaving is carried to a high perfection, but the most skilled artisans are naturalized Munipooreans. Silk dresses are universally worn by the well-to-do classes of the population, and even in the lower classes they are used during feasts and festivals. The local silk is stronger and coarser than China silk, but is thus more suitable for the particular fabric required by the Burmese. The colors, especially in the dresses of the younger people, are very brilliant, and the patterns are bold and variegated. The value of the article is judged by the number of bars of different colors going from side to side of the pattern, which in fact implies the number of separate shuttles used in working the loom, and the intricacy of the patterns may be judged from the circumstance that it is not uncommon to use from fifty to seventy separate shuttles in the manufacture of a really good piece of silk. The dress of the men is a cotton jacket and a long silk waist-cloth, which is worn as a kilt, and will permit of a portion being also thrown over the shoulder as a plaid. This piece of silk, as used by the ordinary population, costs about £2, and the richer patterns run up to £10, while the still handsomer dresses go even beyond that.

46. The gold and silver work of the Burmese is bold and original, and of late years, from the encouragement given by European purchasers, it is improving in delicacy and finish. For Burman use, a rough *repoussée* work on bowls and drinking-cups is the usual form employed; but some of the more skilled workmen are now producing centre-pieces and cups with pedestal, handles, and covers of excellent design and

proportion. These are gradually finding their way to India and England, and have been much admired.

47. The lacquer-ware of Burma is in universal use in the province: it consists of fine cane and bamboo work covered with lacquer, on which fanciful designs are traced. The articles are in use as covered boxes, and their virtue principally is that they keep out the damp which is so destructive during the rainy season. Food dishes of various kinds are also made of lacquered-ware, and boxes in which to preserve the palm-leaved sacred writings in the monasteries are lacquered and gilded with much richness of design. The wood-carving of the Burmese is bold and grotesque, as might be expected from the disposition of the people. Their places of worship and monasteries are frequently covered with highly-elaborated ornamentation, and on their boats and carts some piece of carved work is pretty sure to be seen. Wildly fanciful representations of demons and animals, and men in every conceivable position are treated with much originality, and the flower and tracery designs are marked by much freedom and graceful outline.

48. The trade of the province expanded very materially during the year under review. The gross value of the commerce by sea and land was £13,218,841, and this was an increase of two millions and a half sterling over the previous year. Looking back to previous years, we find how rapid has been the growth of British Burma, both in production and consumption. In 1855 the trade amounted to nearly five millions sterling; in 1865 it had advanced to ten millions and a half; and in 1872-73 it amounted, as we have seen, to thirteen millions and a quarter.

49. In regard to the merchandize *exported*, the principal improvement during the year was in catch, hides, rice and timber. At the same time an increase is shown under almost every head of *import*.

50. There has been an unprecedented increase in the export of rice. In the calendar year 1862, the quantity exported was 277,963 tons; in 1871, 470,893 tons; and during 1872, 700,784 tons. There is no doubt the export of rice will continue to develop: there is no article of food which is consumed by so many communities, and the economic purposes to which it can be applied in manufactures will ensure a steady demand so long as the price can be kept moderate. New markets will be easily found, and now that the mills in the province are being adapted to prepare white or cleaned rice, it will find its way to localities hitherto

unsupplied from Burma. The value of catch exported rose from £116,022 to £230,757, while that of timber increased from £551,210 to £725,114.

51. In regard to imports, it seems that cotton twist and yarn increased from £366,165 to £408,777; crockery-ware from £22,739 to £33,298, and cutlery from £17,488 to £40,949. The imports of cotton goods were to the value of £731,408, an increase of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; those of silk amounted to £399,177, an increase of $15\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; and those of woollen goods to £119,440, an increase of 35 per cent. This last increase looks as if the goods were passing more readily into the foreign territories well to the northward, where the climate is more severe than in the province itself. Under the treaty with Upper Burma, goods imported into Rangoon can be bonded and exported to Upper Burma on the payment of a duty of one per cent. only. The value of the goods thus exported into the King's territories was in 1868-69, £52,437; in 1869-70, £140,161; in 1870-71, £268,561; in 1871-72, £332,103; and in 1872-73, £432,050. These goods do not represent the total exports to Upper Burma from this province, which were to the value of £1,331,092, as against £1,215,151 during the previous year; while the imports from the King's territories also increased from £1,104,833 to £1,191,072. An interesting point in the trade with Upper Burma is the increased consumption of salt imported from Europe. The export of salt from British to Upper Burma was in 1870-71, 10,091 tons; in 1871-72, 16,705 tons; and in 1872-73, 32,114 tons. The salt is finding its way rapidly *via* Mandalay and Bhamo to the States bordering on China.

52. The outlay on public works during the year consisted of £73,020 for imperial objects, £129,631 for provincial, and £48,075 for local purposes. The Imperial (ordinary) expenditure was almost entirely on military buildings, and amounted to £42,321. The works were mostly of a subsidiary character. The Imperial outlay on embankments was £30,018, the main work being a continuation of the large embankment in the Kenzada District to preserve the west bank of the Irrawaddy from inundation. What has been completed of this scheme has proved of great service: much valuable land has been protected, and is rapidly brought under cultivation. The details of the remunerative results of this work cannot be accurately stated until the revenue survey now being carried on there is concluded, but it is very certain that great tracts of

rich land are now culturable which have hitherto been useless from yearly inundation.

53. There were some minor works of extension and improvements. A small embankment was in progress at Kyouk-phyoo, in the Arakan Division; and in the Thayetmyo District, where the rainfall is scanty, bunds were thrown across three small streams for storage of water. The plans and estimates for the Rangoon and Prome Railway were carefully revised and submitted to Government. At a period subsequent to the year under review, the line of the railroad was traversed by Mr. Molesworth, who was entirely satisfied of the successful issue of the work, if undertaken. The project has been so exhaustively discussed, and revised, and reported on, that it is superfluous to re-state the many considerations which make its early completion very advisable. The railroad will be of extreme political and commercial importance to the province; there is no doubt it will be remunerative. The cost is comparatively small, and, in an engineering point of view, the construction has no difficulties whatever.

54. The provincial expenditure includes £17,346 on civil buildings, £70,643 on communications, and £17,380 on miscellaneous public improvements. That on buildings was mainly devoted to the improvement of the jails and to the construction of schools, court-houses, and additional wards in the Lunatic Asylum. The sum devoted to communications was mainly spent in finishing and bridging the Rangoon and Prome road. The entire bridging is complete, and cart traffic is possible at all seasons of the year from Rangoon to Allanmyo, within six miles of the frontier. The road has proved an entire success; it is thronged with travellers, and on either side the ground is being rapidly taken up for cultivation. The line of road from Rangoon to Toungoo, which lies in the valley of the Sittang, is being gradually extended; the portion already open to Pegu is much used, and, when the fine valley of the Sittang is reached, this communication will prove of great value in opening up a fine tract of country which at present has no market. With the view also of improving the communication between the Sittang and the Irrawaddy rivers, a still-water locked canal has been commenced, and if it prove successful it will be of great value in enabling the transport of produce now unable to find egress from the district during the best season of the year.

55. A considerable sum was spent in the construction of town markets from the funds collected by municipal taxes. These are useful institutions, in accordance with the habits of the people, and are fair sources of revenue; many of them are really handsome structures. The market at Henzada, which has cost £7,250, is a very fine, well-proportioned building; and at Prome a large and commodious market was finished for about the same sum. In Toungoo also, where some outlay was made, the market is in first-rate order. There were other miscellaneous municipal works, such as raising parts of the towns, forming streets and roads, construction of jetties, and such like, on which smaller sums were usefully expended.

56. The receipts realized on telegraphic messages despatched during the year amounted to £12,720; and the expenditure in maintaining the establishment was £10,120. There was an increase of 5 per cent. in the number of messages despatched, and the revenue increased by 19 per cent. The telegraph line in British territory was connected with the line in the King's territories. This has proved a great convenience to traders; and although the arrangements for quick and correct working have still to be made in Upper Burma, the line has proved serviceable. Some improvements were carried out in selecting new routes for existing lines in British Burma. A useful line to Elephant Point, at the mouth of the Rangoon river, was opened, and a proposed line to Bassein (since opened) was proceeded with. A very important extension of this line to the mouth of the Bassein River, and so to Diamond Island, would prove of great value to all the shipping which frequents the Bay of Bengal. The Alguada Light-house stand just 14 miles at sea from Diamond Island, and a telegraph station there would make it a very ready place of call for all ships visiting the eastern ports. How far this would be a convenience may be judged when it is considered that during the year under review 1,751 vessels entered and 1,850 vessels cleared from the Burman ports, with an aggregate tonnage of 1,763,705 tons.

57. The usual steamer mail services were continued during the year. The increase in the total number of covers that passed through the Post Office was as nearly as possible ten per cent. The Post Office is but little used by the Burmese for correspondence in the vernacular character; even in towns of considerable size,

where there are offices of the Imperial Post Office establishment, this is the case, and the wide area of the districts, with deficient internal communication, makes it still less probable that minor towns can avail themselves of the services of the Post Office. Efforts are, however, being made to introduce greater facilities for letter communication, and in time the people may learn the practice. An accurate and quick delivery is required to inspire confidence in the use of the Post Office, and that is the point where it fails in regard to native correspondence.

58. The Imperial revenue assessed throughout the year aggregated £1,462,513, or nearly one million and a half sterling, and this was an increase of £196,713 on the previous year. The steady increase in the revenue may be judged by going back to the figures of previous years. In 1855 the revenue was £531,791; in 1865 it was £1,030,060; and in 1872-73 it had, as we have seen, reached a million and a half. Speaking in round numbers, it may be said that the land-tax and customs furnish, in nearly equal proportions, one half of the total revenue, the capitation tax furnishes one-fifth, and excise one-twelfth; and these taxes are all of a nature to increase with the advancing progress of the province.

59. The revenue realized from land amounted to £357,472, being an increase of 3.75 per cent. The average incidence of the land tax is about three shillings and three-pence per acre, which is a very moderate assessment; but this is supplemented by an export duty on rice, which practically falls on the cultivator, and in this indirect way as nearly as possible doubles the land-tax.

60. The revenue derived from customs increased from £316,102 to £458,672, or nearly forty-four per cent., in one year. There was a general increase throughout the ports of the province, but the rise in this source was mainly due to an extraordinary increase in the quantity of rice exported. The average annual exports of rice during the ten previous years was 383,521 tons. In 1871-72 the export was 487,162 tons, and in the financial year under review it reached 720,350 tons. The export duty on this commodity is ten shillings per ton, and hence the great improvement in customs revenue.

61. The revenue derived from the sale of opium amounted to £67,848. Of this sum nearly 43 per cent. was paid for the privilege to sell, by the licensed vendors. The number of shops for the year having been determined, the licenses are separately put up to auction, and the result was that £29,047 was paid for the right to sell. In addition to this, the profit on the sale of opium by Government to these vendors, after deducting actual cost of the drug, was £38,801. The total increase in the revenue derived from the sale of opium was £6,731. The quantity of the drug issued from the Government Treasury, whence all sales to the licensed vendors are made, rose from 20,699 to 23,490 seers, or upwards of 13 per cent.

62. The revenue from salt consists of the customs duty on imported salt, and an excise duty on home-made salt. The former increased from £6,396 to £8,725; and the latter fell from £5,504 to £4,466. The imports of foreign salt rose from 338,686 cwts. to 613,220 cwts., and the exports from the Pegu Division into Upper Burma largely increased. The duty on salt is very small, and the declared value in Rangoon of the foreign salt was a little over two shillings per cwt. A great deal of salt is taken up the Irrawaddy to Bhamo, where it finds a ready sale for the hill population to the northward, and between Burma and China.

63. The total receipts on account of the sale of spirituous liquors amounted to £44,789, and this is irrespective of the customs duty levied on imported liquor. The revenue derived the previous year was £37,260. For licenses to distil country spirits and fermented liquors after the native method a sum of £10,821 was given. The distillery fees and fixed duty at the still-head for spirits manufactured in the province after the English method amounted to £5,400, while the licenses to sell this description of liquor produced £8,838. The licenses to sell imported wines and spirituous or fermented liquors produced £5,483; and the amount paid for the privilege to sell the fresh or fermented juice of the palm-tree was £14,340.

64. There was a general increase in the sale of stamps during the year, and the revenue rose from £64,761 to £70,481. In the Arakan Division the increase was 10 per cent, and occurred mainly in judicial stamps. In Pegu an increase of 11 per cent. was mainly due to increased sales of postage and telegraph,

although judicial and impressed stamps showed improvement also; and in the Tenasserim Division, while the revenue from postage and telegraph stamps increased, there was a falling off as regards judicial and commercial stamps.

65. There are two important sources of Imperial revenue in British Burma which have no place in other Administrations. The capitation tax is levied on the male population of the province between the ages of 18 and 60, at the rate of ten shillings per head for married men and five shillings for bachelors; exemptions are made in favor of religious teachers, school-masters, Government servants, all persons who are unable to earn their own livelihood, and all immigrants for the first five years of residence. This tax is consequently progressively productive with the increase of population, and the amount realized was £234,596, against £226,954 the previous year, or an increase of 3.35 per cent. The number of persons brought under assessment rose from 556,035 to 575,097, or, in other words, 19,062 male adults were added to the population during the year; and, as the male adults represent about one-fourth of population, we may calculate that the total population increased by about 76,248 persons, and the population returns show a somewhat higher result. The capitation tax, as a direct personal and unvarying tax, is of course open to many objections, on the ordinarily-accepted principles of sound fiscal administration; but it is one to which the people have been long accustomed. There is no salt tax in Burma, as in India, and the land tax is kept very low. Under these circumstances, it is an impost generally acquiesced in by the people, and to them it contrasts favorably with the irregular and heavy contributions required from them under previous native administrations.

Other taxes levied for Imperial purposes.

Capitation Tax.

66. The right of fishing in certain reserved fisheries has been sold by Government, under various terms, ever since our occupation of the country, and the revenue thereby derived was during the year under review £72,224, against £68,875 the previous year. The great bulk of the Burmese population almost never eat the flesh of warm-blooded animals, but they consume fish in large quantities, both in the fresh state and cured into a condiment called *gnapee*. The sea fisheries are taxed according to the number of implements (nets or baskets) used by the fisherman; and inland pond fisheries are put up to

Fisheries.

age was 32.48. It is now believed that Burma is a very healthy country for children, and in opposition to the opinion reiterated for years, that infantile mortality is high in this province, the ordinary traveller throughout the towns and villages cannot help noticing how numerous are the healthy-looking children.

74. There is no emigration from British Burma, but there is a steady immigration into the province, so that the population has rapidly risen, at an average far beyond what can be allowed for natural increase.

75. Still there is a constant movement of a margin of the population, and in this sense there were 82,550 emigrants and 122,328 immigrants, thus giving an apparent residue of nearly 40,000 immigrants. About one half of this fluctuating element of the population consists of Burmans from the King's territories, who come in to work for a season and return to their homes, but many of whom settle in British Burma. About one-third of the emigrants are coolies from India, mostly from the northern ports of Madras and from Chittagong. They come to work during the rice season and return at the beginning of the rains; but from them also there remains a proportion who settle in the country for a longer or shorter period. The remaining emigrants and immigrants are Chinese, Shans, Malays, and Karens, most of whom become permanent additions to the population.

76. Charitable medical relief was afforded by fourteen civil dispensaries in the province. The year was a very healthy one, and the numbers who sought out-door relief fell from 48,975 to 45,260; but the in-door patients increased from 3,678 to 4,104. As these represent the persons suffering from the severer forms of ailment, this increase in an exceptionally healthy year would seem to show an increasing confidence in the European mode of treating disease. Fevers led to 24.66 per cent. of the in-door and 16 per cent. of the out-door patients seeking medical aid; and injuries were the cause of 28.07 per cent. of the in-door patients coming to the dispensaries, and they were for the most part police cases. The income of the dispensaries during the year was £17,135, and the expenditure £13,975. The Government contribution to the receipts amounted to £11,756, the remainder being made up of voluntary subscriptions. Besides the civil dispensaries, there were six lock hospitals. All of them are doing good, and so far as the returns of the

military and civil hospitals are a guide, there is every reason to believe that the registration of public prostitutes and the establishment of these hospitals have had a decidedly beneficial effect on the public health. In addition to the Institutions already described, there is a Lunatic Asylum at Rangoon, in which 151 persons were treated for insanity of these, 22 were discharged as cured, and 6 died. Of the 151 lunatics, 38 were criminal insane. A comparison with the expenditure in similar institutions in India shows that the asylum is most economically managed. The health of the patients has been good, and useful occupation is found for many of them whose form of insanity will permit of their being employed at various forms of labor.

77. From the reports of District Officers and those of the Statistical and Medical Departments, it would appear that the year 1872 was on the whole an unusually healthy one. Cholera and small-pox were confined to small areas, and, except the former in Akyab, were nowhere epidemic. Fevers are recorded as having caused 64.37 per cent. of the total recorded mortality during the year, and the returns show that this disease is most fatal in the Arakan Division, that the Pegu Division holds a middle place, while the Tenasserim Division suffers least from this form of illness. At the same time, the Burmans are unable to distinguish true fevers from other ailments which are attended with a hot skin, and the averages cannot be much relied on, although the dispensary returns show that fever is the main disease for which medical aid is sought. Cholera was confined almost entirely to the Arakan Division, and there even it was restricted mainly to the Akyab District, where 524 deaths occurred. In no year of which there is any record has Burma been so free from small-pox as during 1872; only 845 deaths were recorded from it, or 0.31 per 1,000 of the population.

78. During the year great efforts were made to improve the conservancy of Rangoon, the rapid increase of the town and population having necessitated special sanitary measures. An assignment of funds was made to assist the local resources in introducing a new system for the removal of the night-soil, and this has already proved fairly successful, and is now almost self-supporting. Rangoon and Akyab are still in want of good drainage, and the former town is much in need of an improved water-supply,—a matter of urgent importance in consideration of the increase in the

auCTION for stated periods, with the reservation that only those are allowed to purchase who reside in the neighbourhood of the fishery. This source of revenue has steadily increased during past years, and, so long as the Government do not reserve too large a proportion of the ponds or lakes, it need not become an objectionable form of taxation; but constant care will be required that a full proportion of these water supplies are kept free from reservation and left to the common use of the people. An examination into the condition under which fisheries were reserved led the Local Government to release several small fisheries, and District Officers have been instructed that all recommendations to the same end will meet with ready acceptance.

67. The assignment from the Imperial revenues to meet the expenditure of the departments transferred to Provincial Services, amounted to £326,300, and the receipts in these departments aggregated £24,327. This sum was mainly contributed by the receipts in the Jail department, which rose from £11,594 to £16,087; there were however small increases in the Educational, Medical, and Miscellaneous receipts.

68. The expenditure on these Provincial departments amounted to £317,448; the three principal heads of charge being Public Works, Jails, and Police, and on each of those there was increased expenditure.

69. The gross income of the Local Funds amounted to £100,554, made up principally of municipal receipts and port dues, but including loans of £30,000 from Provincial Service. The expenditure was £91,508, of which £39,200 were for Public Works, and £17,945 in repayment of loans; the local departmental expenditure was mainly on Police, Education and Marine; the opening balance of Local Funds £63,385, and they closed with a balance of £72,432.

70. The gross receipts of revenue from all sources during the year under report amounted to £1,573,380, which was an increase of £209,928 on the aggregate collections of the previous year.

71. This increase was made up by an increase in Imperial revenue of £174,918, and in Local Funds of £48,003; while Provincial receipts decreased by £12,993.

72. The incidence of taxation was 11s. 5½d. per head of the population, of which 10s. 1½d. were Imperial, 2½d. Provincial, and 1s. 1½d. Local. The revenues of British Burma are

considerably in excess of the expenditure. Leaving out Local receipts and expenditure, it is found that the gross revenue (Imperial, Provincial, and Public Works) amounted to £1,420,319; while the gross charges for the Civil Administration of the province amounted to £500,170, and the expenditure on Public Works was £199,236. There was, therefore, a net surplus of £716,892 available for the Military expenditure, for contribution to the Post Office, Electric Telegraph, and a share of the cost of the Central Government. During the past eleven years a surplus of £5,245,400, or an annual average of nearly £476,900, has been contributed by the province for these purposes. As the garrison of British Burma is very small, it is probable that one-half of these sums is the absolutely clear surplus after payment of every kind, and this clear surplus during the year under review was probably £450,000.

73. The value of the vital statistics in British Burma is materially affected by the imperfect machinery for registration of births and deaths. The year under review was the first during which an attempt was made to register these events throughout the province; but, as no special agency was employed, and the registers had to be prepared by revenue subordinate officers, with jurisdiction over very large areas, the results were practically valueless. In some of the larger towns however, a more complete system of registration has been in practice for some time, and from this it is ascertained that in these town populations the birth-rate was 31.12 per 1,000, and the death-rate was 26.15 per 1,000. These are fair averages, and may be accepted as showing a healthy condition of the town population; and we may also conclude that the birth and death-rates of the rural population are better than the proportions ruling in towns. The detail of the causes of death are not at present available, as the registers are prepared by natives of the province, entirely unacquainted with the true classification of disease; but one important feature in the returns is the apparently low rate of infant mortality. It would appear that the deaths of children under five years of age were in the proportion of 27.85 of the total population, whereas in England they were 40 per cent.: this is to some extent confirmed from the census returns, which show that the proportion of infants to the total population was high; and as regards children under twelve years of age, the percentage was 35.8 of the total population, while in Bengal the percent-

shipping which frequents the port. The important town of Prome (population 31,157) a very useful reclamation work was proceeded with, in the filling up of a large swamp, which has in past years considerably affected the general health.

79. The total number of people vaccinated increased from 14,076 to 16,377, and of them the successful cases increased from 9,569 to

Vaccination.

11,565. These were the operations of the Government vaccinators, and in addition to these there were other cases operated on in cantonments and by members of the American Baptist Mission, who were supplied with the lymph. One hopeful matter connected with vaccination during the year was, that Burmese inoculators were supplied with lymph in several districts, and undoubtedly used it largely in vaccinating, with very good results. As already mentioned, the province was singularly free from small-pox during the year, the locality which suffered most was the Prome District, in the Pegu Division, where it was epidemic. On account of the small number of successful cases hitherto obtained during the rains, it has been considered undesirable to continue vaccination at that season.

80. Although but little change was actually introduced into the system of education during the year under review, the various proposi-

Education.

tions which have hitherto been under discussion were matured, and a scheme, with details of its intended working, was laid before Government, and preparations made to give it effect; meanwhile the condition of the province remained the same as regards the educational institutions. There were but seven Government schools, teaching 519 pupils; and twenty-two Missionary or Private schools, with 2,289 pupils. In addition to this, there were 192 Missionary Primary schools, educating 4,777 scholars, male and female. All these various teaching institutions may be described as affording an exotic education to the people, except in so far as they were attended by the European or Eurasian population. But besides these foreign aids to knowledge, there were in the province about 4,000 Indigenous Monastic schools, with 44,000 pupils; and 350 Indigenous Lay schools, educating 3,850 boys and 1,250 girls. These are only estimates, however, of the extent of the indigenous education. The Government schools stationed in some of the principal towns in the province were what is called Anglo-Vernacular schools. At none of them was there a high standard of education, and one of the most important features

in the future provincial education will be to provide a curriculum of study complete in itself, enabling the students to finish their education in the province. Besides these Government schools, there were twenty-two Middle schools under the supervision of the Educational department. The standards of the different schools are by no means uniform--some are scarcely above the rank of Primary schools, and, but for the English language being part of their curriculum, would be classed as such; others, again, are somewhat above the rank of Middle schools, but have not reached a standard which would entitle them to be called High schools. They are the various Missionary scholastic institutions wherein English is taught, and which are in receipt of grants-in-aid. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the American Baptist Mission, and the Roman Catholic Orders all have their schools, wherein, with varying merit, a very great service is rendered in training the young of both sexes, and in giving an education based on the English system.

81. The Primary schools are the indigenous schools of the province, Lay and Monastic; but in them, or at least in the Monastic schools, many of the lads receive a vernacular Burmese education far higher than can properly be applied to the education obtained in a Primary school. The monasteries in British Burma form the schools wherein almost every boy passes some portion of his youth. The Phoongyees, or members of the Burmese religious Order, perform the office of teachers—not as a duty imposed on them in joining the religious order, but as an action incidentally connected with their position, and from the performance of which they derive great merit. To the great bulk of the pupils the education is of a very elementary kind: the boys learn the spelling-book; they can repeat their prayers and can read a few selected religious books; and, the language being strictly phonetic, they also can write, at least while under instruction, with more or less proficiency; but beyond that the majority of the pupils do not go. They learn, however, many useful elements of education in its widest sense, besides the moderate book learning which they are taught. They are as students entirely under the control of the Phoongyees; they are taught deference to their superiors and obedience to their teachers; humility is inculcated, inasmuch as they have each morning to pass from house to house in the town collecting the alms of food which form their daily meal. They see the virtues of self-denial in the life led by their religious masters; and in their own sever-

ance from home and from worldly duties and cares, as well as in the adoption of the yellow robe and the shaven head, there must be brought home to them the importance attached to the acquisition of learning, associated as it is so closely with piety and purity of life. The day the boy enters the monastery and the day on which he rejoins the world are epochs in his life, and throughout his future career are constantly used as dates from which to calculate subsequent events. It is from this student life that many of the young men pass after due probation into the condition of Phoongyees; and even if they do not take the obligations of that Order, they not unfrequently remain at their studies until they have a good knowledge of the half-religious, half-metaphysical Burmese literature of the country.

82. It cannot be a wise policy to destroy the influences for good which are undoubtedly to be found in the traditional Monastic schools of the province, and it has been found a difficulty to devise means which shall remedy the defects in these institutions without endangering the valuable position they occupy in forming the character of the people. As a first step, Examiners have been appointed, who visit the monasteries, and, if the Phoongyee will agree, examine the scholars by their own standard of teaching. In this there is no intention to interfere with or influence in any way the present indigenous mode of instruction; but such boys as pass the tests which have been adopted from the usual curriculum of study in the monasteries are rewarded, and in this way it is hoped they will gradually be stimulated to work up to the higher standards. Another measure in connection with these Monastic schools, which has been sanctioned on a small and tentative scale, is the supplying to the Phoongyee, if he makes application, a trained Burman teacher who has acquired instruction in more advanced subjects, and who will be able to teach some useful branches of education, such as arithmetic after the English system, land-measuring, and plan-drawing. It may prove that a trained teacher who has been a pupil in the monastery, and who would naturally on that account act with deference to the Phoongyee, may succeed in working harmoniously. There will, however, only be a very few teachers for the present available for occupation of this kind, and it will only be in the larger towns where there is likely to be any demand for them.

83. The Lay Indigenous schools to which reference has been made have also been brought under a system of optional

examination, and the teachers, as well as the boys, are rewarded by results. To these schools also trained teachers have been, and will be, sent to introduce an improved standard of instruction. In addition to these, it is contemplated to introduce at head-quarters of districts Middle Vernacular schools, wherein a higher standard of Burmese education will be afforded, with the option of the study of Pali and of English as additional languages. This does not seem to meet the wishes of the people in the larger towns, who have a general desire for schools wherein English shall be the principal language taught. This desire for an education in English is very marked, and every endeavour is being made to provide competent teachers, and to encourage the private teachers, who are gradually establishing themselves even in the larger villages. From the district Anglo-Vernacular schools such pupils as desire a still higher instruction will be able to join the High School of the province, which (only just opened) will be gradually organized on a quasi-collegiate footing.

84. The standards of the various schools are graduated so as to lead from the Primary Indigenous Lay school up to the principal educational institution; and scholarships will be attached to each grade of schools, which will enable the deserving student to push his way through the complete curriculum. During the year being now reviewed, much of what has been described was still in prospect, and it will require time to develop the scheme, and modify it as experience may show its merits and its defects. The total amount expended on education by Government amounted to £11,569; and the private expenditure in schools aided by Government was £6,181; in future years, however, the Government expenditure will be much more considerable.

Part II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

THE following account of the Physical Geography of British Burma is merely a repetition of what appeared in last year's report, as obviously there can be little or no alteration in a chapter treating of the physical features and geographical position of a province.

2. The province of British Burma, which extends along the eastern shore of the Bay of Bengal from the Chittagong Division of the Lower Provinces to the kingdom of Siam in 10° N. latitude, is geographically divided into four portions.—Arakan, stretching from the Naaf estuary, which separates the province from Chittagong, to Cape Negrais, and consisting of a comparatively narrow strip of country between the sea and a high mountain chain;—the valley of the Irrawaddy, which, divided from the Sittoung valley by the Pegu Yoma range, unites with it in its southern portion; to the eastward is the chain of hills which forms the watershed between the Sittoung and the Salween rivers, and on the west, the Anouk-pek-toung-myeng, literally "the high western range of mountains," sometimes called the Arakan Yoma range;—the valley of the Salween;—and Tenasserim, a narrow strip, like Arakan, reaching down to the Pakchan stream in 10° N. latitude and separated from Siam by a lofty chain of hills running from north to south, nearly parallel to the coast, at a distance of from 30 to 40 miles inland, but approaching nearer to the sea at its southern extremity.

3. Arakan, originally a powerful kingdom, conquered by the Burmese, and taken from them by the British after the first Burmese war in 1825, and having an area of 18,530 square miles, lies between the Naaf estuary and Cape Negrais, and is bounded on the south and west by the sea, and on the north and east by the high chain of mountains which, forming the eastern boundary of Bengal, extends from the south-eastern extremity of Sylhet and Cachar in a south-westerly direction as far as the Fenny

river, and, from about the 23rd parallel of N. latitude, turns south-east for 360 geographical miles, when, turning again to the westward of south, it gradually diminishes both in breadth and elevation till it ends 15 or 16 miles south-east of the rocky promontory of Cape Negrais at Pagoda Point, called by the Burmese *Hmau-deng*. This chain, though of considerable height to the north (the Blue Mountain is supposed to be 8,000 feet above the sea level), diminishes in altitude as it reaches Arakan, and none of the passes across it in that portion of its length are more than 4,000 feet above the sea; the

Coast. Aeng pass into the valley of the Irrawaddy is much less. From Combermere Bay, 25 miles south of Akyab, the coast is rugged and rocky, offering few harbours for ships. Kyouk-phyoo harbour, inside the island of Ramree, is safe and easy of approach, and at the mouth of the Gwa river further south there is a fairly-sheltered roadstead and an inner harbour easy of access through a channel with two fathoms of water at low tide: the rise and fall of the tide is 7 feet only. The coast is studded with fertile islands, the largest of which are Cheduba and Ramree.

Rivers. 4. Owing to the nearness of the range which bounds Arakan, there are no large rivers: the principal ones are, the Naafestuary, on the extreme west;—the Mroo river, an arm of the sea about 40 miles to the eastward, and from 3 to 4 miles broad at its mouth, and extending more than 50 miles inland;—and the Koladan or Arakan river, rising somewhere near the Blue Mountain in about 23° N., which is navigable for 40 odd miles by vessels of 300 or 400 tons burden, and on the right bank of which, close to its mouth, is situated Akyab, the head-quarters town of the Akyab District and of the Arakan Division, the approach to which, however, is dangerous and difficult. Beyond this the rivers are of but little importance; they are the Talak and the Aeng, navigable by boats only, and the Sandoway, the Toungoop, and the Gwa streams, the latter of which alone has any importance, owing to its mouth forming a good port of call or haven for steamers or vessels of from 9 to 10 feet draught. The whole of the rivers in the Akyab and Ramree Districts anastomose by channels which, though dry in some instances during ebb tides, are all navigable for boats during the flood: the whole coast-line is, in fact, a labyrinth of creeks and tidal nullahs which rise at the foot of the hills and receive the contribution of numerous small streams. The entrance to the Koladan or Arakan river is one which has to be ap-

proached with care by ships of heavy draught; the channel is narrow, not more than two miles in breadth, and there are only 3½ fathoms of water over the bar at low-water springs.

5. There are no lakes properly so called, but there are some small sheets of water, the principal of which are near the old town of Arakan, the capital of the ancient kingdom, formed by bunds placed across different valleys by the former kings, which are now all out of repair and have become marshes, rendering that portion of the country very unhealthy. The soil is mainly

Lakes. alluvial, in many places mixed with sand, and the rocks are composed of a dark brown sandstone, black gneiss, and brown or grey clay slate, and towards the southern portion basalt is plentiful. Except a small quantity of iron and of limestone, there are no mineral products of any value.

Soil. 6. The valley of the Irrawaddy at its lower end unites with the valley of the Sittoung to form an extensive plain, stretching from Cape Negrais on the west to Martaban on the east. The watershed between these two streams is the Pegu Yoma range, which, running north and south, terminates in low hills at Rangoon. The boundaries of the tract of country which compose these two valleys are, the Anouk-pek-toang-myeng on the west, and the Poungloung range, rising to a height of 7,000 feet, it is said, on the east. The northern boundary-line which separates the British possessions from the territory of the King of Ava, and which is marked by a line of stone pillars, leaves the Arakan hills at a point called "the ever visible peak," and, running due east, passes the Irrawaddy at its 50th mile, and 43 miles further on, the Pegu Yoma range; thence, after 33 miles it crosses the Sittoung, and finally loses itself in a desert of mountains 13 or 14 miles further east. The Irrawaddy valley, which is about 80 miles broad at the frontier line, counting from chain to chain, and is there so rugged that little regular cultivation can be carried on, gradually widens towards its southern extremity, and, about 60 or 70 miles south of the frontier, hills which bound it have receded so far that it becomes a broad, level plain, highly cultivated, and the richest portion of the whole province. Owing to the spurs thrown out by the Pegu Yoma range, the main valley is divided into several smaller ones, principally that of the Hleing river, which is almost identical with the main valley, that of the Pegu river, and that of the Poozoendoung river.

7. The Sittoung valley, in its northern portion, resembles the valley of the Irrawaddy, and towards the south it gradually widens, leaving on the west a strip of country about 25 or 30 miles broad, covered with dense jungle, which stretches down as far south as Shwè-gyeen; thence to the sea on the western side is rice cultivation. On the eastern side there is a lower range of hills between the main range and the river, to which they approach so close that there is hardly any plain: they gradually recede and leave a narrow strip for some distance below Shwè-gyeen, and at last end a short distance below Sittoung. From this point to the sea there is one immense plain stretching from Martaban to Cape Negrais, and intersected only by rivers and tidal creeks.


8. The coast-line, which is low and flat, runs in an easterly direction from Hmaudeng, or Pagoda Point, to Baragou Point, and thence in a north-easterly direction to the Gulf of Martaban.

9. The main rivers are the Irrawaddy, the Hleing or Rangoon, the Pegu, the Sittoung, and the Beeling. The Irrawaddy, rising in about latitude 28° N. and longitude $97^{\circ} 30'$ E., flows for upwards of 600 miles before reaching the British possessions, and thence its waters roll on for 240 miles to the sea in a S.-S.-W. direction. As it nears the coast, it divides, converting the lower portion of the valley into a net-work of tidal creeks. A little above Henzada, about 90 miles inland, it sends off its first branch to the westward, which, flowing past Bassein, receives the water of the Panmawaddee and of the Penglaygaylay, and bifurcating, enters the Bay of Bengal by two main mouths, the Bassein and the Thekkay-thoung rivers. This branch is navigable for large ships for 80 miles—that is, as far as Bassein, which is a port of some importance. After passing Henzada it sends off a small branch to the eastwards, which joins the Hleing just above Rangoon. The main river then divides and sub-divides till it empties itself into the sea by ten mouths, the Yuay, Dayaybhyoo, Pyennaloo, Pyengazaloo, Dalla, Phyapoon, Donyan, Thanateat and China Buckeer rivers, and the Irrawaddy, which is between the Pyengazaloo and Dalla mouths. The waters of the Irrawaddy commence to rise in March and continue to rise till September, when, or in October, they begin to fall, having risen from 37 to 40 feet. It is navigable for river steamers as far as Bhamo,

600 miles beyond the British frontier. The velocity of its waters when the river is full is five miles an hour.

10. The Hleing rises close to Prome, where it is called the Myitmakat stream, and flowing in a southerly direction nearly parallel to the Irrawaddy, it gradually assumes the name of the Hleing, and finally of the Rangoon river, and flows past the town of that name, having received some of the waters of the Irrawaddy through the Nyoungdon stream. Just below Rangoon it is joined by the Pegu and Poozoondoung rivers, flowing from the east and north-east. It is navigable for vessels of the largest size for some little distance above Rangoon, but, owing to the Hastings shoal, formed at the junction of the Pegu, the Poozoondoung, and Rangoon rivers, vessels of more than six feet draught cannot come up at low tide.

11. The Pegu and the Poozoondoung rivers rise close together in the Yoma range, about 58 miles above the town of Pegu, the capital of the ancient Taline kingdom, conquered by the Burmese under Alompra, and which gives its name to all this portion of the country. Here the Pegu river, which is almost dry during the hot season at low tides, is 105 yards broad: in its further course of 60 miles to the Rangoon river it rapidly increases in breadth, but, narrowing at its mouth, a bore goes up it, the effects of which are felt at Pegu. The Poozoondoung river, which empties itself into the Rangoon river at the same spot as the Pegu river, is a much smaller stream, being only 50 yards wide at a distance of 35 miles from its mouth. Throughout the whole of the lower portion of the valley the rivers intercommunicate so much that it is almost impossible to say that they are distinct: the Poozoondoung and the Pegu rivers are connected by many small streams; and the Rangoon river itself returns some of its waters to the western mouth of the Irrawaddy.

12. The Sittoung river rises far north of British territory, which it enters just above Toungoo; here it is narrow and navigable with difficulty for large boats during the dry season. Below Shwè-gyeen, where it receives the waters of the Shwè-gyeen river from the east, it gradually and slowly widens till at Sittoung it is half a mile broad. Thence it curves backward, so as to form an inverted , and at last flows into the Gulf of Martaban through a funnel-shaped channel, widening so rapidly that it is impossible to tell where the river ends and the gulf begins.

Owing to the meeting in this gulf of the tidal wave of the Indian Ocean from the south-west and the currents along the Tenasserim coast from the south-east, a bore with a curling crest, nine feet high, sweeps up the Sittoung river, its effect, though broken by the serpentine curve below Sittoung, being felt at Shwè-gyeen. The Beeling river rises in the Pongloun hills, and flows southward to the sea, entering the gulf between the Salween and the Sittoung.

13. There is only one canal, which was constructed a few years ago, connecting the Pegu and Sittoung rivers. There always was a stream there, which was deepened and widened so as to allow of the passage of large boats, and a small river steamer once passed through it from Rangoon up the Pegu and Sittoung rivers to Toungoo. With a view to the construction of a second canal, a careful survey has been made of the country between these two rivers. The canal is now under construction, and it is hoped that it will be nearly ready for traffic by steamers in the course of a year. A boat now takes from ten to twenty days going to Toungoo: it is anticipated that when the canal is completed, steamers will be able to run the distance in four days. Of lakes there are but four, which are more properly lagoons,—the Thoo lake, in the Myanoung District, on the west bank of the Irrawaddy, between that river and the Arakan Hills, which is 8 or 9 miles round and $2\frac{1}{2}$ across; the Labgyin, in a large low tract of ground on the opposite bank of the Irrawaddy; the Kandaugyee, or "Royal lake," near Rangoon, about 3 miles round; and the lake of clear water in the Bassein District, about 5 miles in circumference, with a pretty uniform breadth of 280 to 300 yards, and a depth of from 20 to 45 feet in the centre.

14. The valley of the Salween is British territory only in its lower portion. The right bank of that river is a wilderness of mountains drained by various streams, the most important of which is the Yonzaleen; but lower down, and especially below the Thoungyeen river on the east bank, there are large alluvial plains which are drained by the Gyne and the Attaran rivers. The Salween, though a large river, is not navigable, owing to its rapids. At its mouth is the town of Moulmein, the head quarter town of the district of

Amherst and of the Tenasserim Division. The Attaran rises in the chain of hills which forms the boundary between the kingdom of Siam and British Burma, and flows in a south-westerly direction through dense teak forests and an almost uninhabited country. The Gyne, which flows in a somewhat similar direction, passes through a more open country, and there are numerous villages on its banks: it is navigable for 180 miles for small boats.

15. Tenasserim is that tract of country lying between 17° and 10° N. latitude along the eastern side of the Bay of Bengal, and between it and a high chain of hills about 40 miles inland, and includes the Mergui Archipelago—that is, the chain of islands along the coast and 15 or 20 miles distant from it. The surface of the country is mountainous, thinly populated, and much intersected by streams. Between the sea and the boundary range is another lower one, separated from the higher by the Tenasserim river. The grand range is in some places 5,000 feet high; its breadth at Martaban has never been ascertained, but further south, in the latitude of Tavoy, it appears to be 40 miles wide, whence it gradually narrows to 10 miles near Mergui. The whole range is covered with pathless jungle, and may be said without exaggeration to be without a human habitation of any kind. The coast is very irregular and low for some miles inland, consisting of uncultivated mangrove islands.

16. The Tenasserim, which rises in about 15° N. latitude, flows through a valley scarcely broader than its bed to the southward, when, after passing the ancient town of Tenasserim, which gives its name to the division, it turns suddenly to the west and empties itself into the sea by two mouths, the northern of which is more easily navigated by large ships, although in 1825 the cruiser *Thetis* sailed up the southern entrance as far as old Tenasserim. The river is navigable for boats for 100 miles.

17. The total area of the province of British Burma is 93,664 square miles, of which 18,530 are in Arakan, 28,404 in Pegu, and 46,730 in the Tenasserim Division, which includes the valley of the Sittoung, the southern portion of the left bank of the Salween, i.e., the country to the eastward, drained by the Gyne and the Attaran, and the eastern coast of the Bay of Bengal. Of this total area of 93,664 square miles,

3,450 are cultivated. This is an increase over 1870-71, when 3,283 miles were under cultivation; but it is only 3.7 per cent. of the total area, and 9.5 per cent. of the culturable area, which is 36,204 square miles, exclusive of the area in Northern Arakan, which is, however, very limited. In Pegu alone there are no less than 13,418 square miles of culturable waste land, which only requires population to become as fertile as any in the world.

18. The communications throughout the province are mainly by water. Steamers ply on the Irrawaddy between Thayetmyo, Prome, Myanoung, Henzada and Rangoon, and a small steamer runs occasionally from Bassein to Rangoon. There is steam communication *via* Chittagong from Calcutta to Akyab, and from Akyab to the southern stations of Arakan; also from Akyab to Rangoon and Moulmein. A steamer runs once a month from Moulmein, south, to Tavoy and Mergui, and two other steamers run down to these ports once or twice a month from Rangoon and Moulmein. The only artificial water communication in the province is that by the Pynekyun creek, between the Pegu and Sittoung rivers, through which boats on their way from Rangoon to Sittoung can pass during the flood-tide.

19. Notwithstanding the comparatively large revenue of the province, there are but 815 miles of road altogether, of which 650 miles are returned as first class and 165 miles as second and third class. In the Akyab District there are only 17 miles of first class road; in Sandoway there are 8 miles of third class road; in Ramree, 152 miles of third class road—that is, a road passing over the Aeng Pass from Pegu to Arakan, which was commenced in 1854, when a foot-track was made, so that, according to the official report, a horseman could pass along the whole length of it at any pace: this road has never been completed, and has been allowed to fall into a mere path for bullocks. The road from Rangoon to Prome is completed. The road to Pegu branches off from the Rangoon and Prome road at the 21st mile, and is nearly completed. A proposition to extend this road to the frontier station of Toungoo has been sanctioned, and the work commenced, and is progressing rapidly.

20. The soil throughout Arakan is alluvial, mixed in places with sand; the islands are of volcanic formation, and, though rocky, are fertile. With

the exception of iron and limestone, which are found in small quantities, the former in the island of Ramree, there are no mineral productions of any value in that division.

21. The soil of the delta of the Irrawaddy is very rich, and where cultivated gives a high return. The Pegu Yoma range is composed mainly of brown or grey slate-clay, alternating with beds of argillaceous sandstone, assuming at times a basaltic character. Overlying the slate-clay is a bed of laterite forming an undulating tract about 13 miles wide, which when on the surface is always covered with trees or bamboos. The Arakan range abounds in limestone, and in some portions granite, greenstone and hornblende are met with, and further north, granite or greenstone and gniess; quartz nodules are common. Coal has been found in large quantities near Thayetmyo, but after a careful examination by Dr. Oldham, of the Geological Survey of India, it was found to be worthless, both as regards quality and quantity. In 1854 the soil in the northern portion of the valley of the Irrawaddy was reported to be well suited for the growth of cotton, but rice is the principal cultivation.

22. The soil of the upper portion of the Sittoung valley is clayey, mixed with a good deal of sand, the sand disappearing towards the south. The chief formation of the small hills is laterite, and but few rocks are met with in the low land to the west of the river. To the east of the Sittoung river large masses of rock (limestone) rise suddenly and perpendicularly out of the soil to a height of 400 or 500 feet, and from a quarter to half a mile in length, with sharp, jagged ridges. These are apparently outcrops of a chain which runs NW. and SE. from the plains to the NE. of Moulmein, across the Salween and Yoonzaleen rivers, to the inner Ponglounrange. The soil of the northern portion of Tenasserim is alluvial, but not much cultivated except near the Gyne, though cultivation is spreading. Stratified sandstone is the prevailing rock in the north, intersected with veins of quartz, in which crystals of great beauty are sometimes discovered; vesicular ironstone, or tufa, or laterite, is also prevalent, and bituminous shale is found below the rocks. At Amherst there is a granite reef which is uncovered at low tide only; and towards the south, granite with white felspar becomes the main formation, clay-slate and micaceous iron ore being found on the eastern slope of the hills. Still further south, sandstone, grey-wacke and conglomerate, in which latter there is much iron, prevail. Fifteen miles

Communications.

Roads.

Soil.

Arakan.

Tenasserim.

inland, the secondary stratified formations predominate, and of these the old red sandstone is most common. Coal has been discovered in five distinct localities, and has been reported to be "well adapted for steamers having a low specific gravity, burns with a brilliant white flame, and leaves but a very small proportion of ashes;" but owing to the difficulty and expense of removing it, the seams are not worked. Excellent tin also is found, and copper ores, gold in small quantities, and ores of manganese and iron in abundance. Lead in the form of galena has lately been discovered in the hills beyond Toungoo, about 24 miles south of the frontier, and on one of the islands of the Mergui Archipelago. The ore is rich in metal, and a sample of that from Toungoo yielded on assay a produce of silver equivalent to 20 ozs. to the ton.

23. The climate is moist and depressing for part of the year, but cooler than India; and in some of the forest tracts it is, during the mon-

soons and for some time after the cold weather has set in, deadly. On the coast, however, and on the frontier, it is not an unhealthy climate: the average mortality of the European troops during the year 1872 was 12.68 per 1,000. During the first five years that troops were stationed at Tavoy (since withdrawn) not a single death from disease took place amongst the 54 Europeans there stationed, or their wives and children. The most prevalent complaints amongst Europeans are fever, dysentery, and hepatic diseases, from which the Natives are by no means free. On the whole, the climate of British Burma seems much better adapted to the European constitution than any part of India. The rainfall varies considerably, from 196.6 inches at Sandoway to 39.91 inches at Thayetmyo.

Rainfall and temperature.

The average temperature is greatly affected by the sea breeze; at Kyouk-phyoo, Moulmein, and Tavoy it is 80° F. at 2 P.M. in July, and at Toungoo, to the extreme north, 90° F. The rapid changes in temperature must have a great effect on the health of the inhabitants. In May, the thermometer ranges from an average of 78° F. at sunrise to 86° at mid-day; in July, from 76° to 84°; and in December, from 67° to 83°: in Rangoon in the month of May, the temperature ranges from 79° at sunrise to 93° at 2 P.M.

POLITICAL

Historical Summary.

24. The province of British Burma is composed of the kingdoms of Arakan, Tenasserim and Pegu. Arakan and Tenasserim were ceded to the Government of India after the first Burmese war of 1825-26, while Pegu was not annexed to the dominions of the East India Company until after the second Burmese war of 1852.

25. The progress which the three provinces of Pegu, Arakan and Tenasserim have made, since they became British territory, is astonishing. In 1826 the population may be fairly estimated at 939,320 souls, while in 1855 it numbered 1,274,640. During these 29 years, however, the population of Pegu, which had been under Burmese rule up to 1853, decreased from 769,120 to 719,640, while that of Arakan had increased from 100,000 to 341,310, and of Tenasserim from 700,000 to 213,692. The revenue of these three provinces during the year 1855-56 aggregated £532,100, while the value of the commerce by sea and land amounted to £4,856,400. The statistics for 1872-73 show that the revenue has increased to £1,614,446, and that the value of trade now amounts to £13,208,184. The population of the province according to the last census taken in August 1872 was found to be 2,747,148. These figures prove clearly that the province has made unprecedented strides since it came under British rule.

Form of Administration.

26. The province of British Burma is composed of the three divisions of Arakan, Pegu, and Tenasserim, which from the time of their coming under British rule up to January 1862 were governed separately by their respective Commissioners, under the control of the Supreme Government in the case of Pegu and Tenasserim, and under that of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in the case of Arakan. In January 1862, however, the three divisions were amalgamated and formed into a Chief Commissionership under Major-General Sir Arthur Phayre. Subordinate to the Chief Commissioner, there are three Commissioners in charge of divisions, 13 Deputy Commissioners in charge of districts, and numerous other officers Executive and Judicial. A Judicial Commissioner was appointed in January 1872.

Divisions of the province.

Character of Land Tenures; system of Survey and Settlements.

27. It is not necessary in this section, which is intended to be a permanent record of the system of land tenure, to go into minute detail, inasmuch as a Revenue Bill is now before the Legislative Council which, when passed into a legislative enactment, will authoritatively lay down the whole land revenue system of British Burma. For the present it will suffice to say that the cultivators have holdings of comparatively small area, averaging eight acres, and they pay their land tax direct to the Government Revenue Officers. The land tax is assessed yearly, or the holders may have leases at fixed rates for periods of five to ten years. So long as the landholder pays his yearly tax, or continues his periodical lease, he is not disturbed in possession. The revenue collectors are styled *Thoogyees*; they receive ten per cent. commission on all collections under £600, and five per cent. on all collections above that sum. They are appointed from time to time by the Deputy Commissioner, whom they assist generally in the revenue administration of his district.

28. There is no Revenue Survey Department in this province. The question of the settlement of the land in British Burma was very carefully considered by a Committee of experienced officers in 1872, and is now being carried out in accordance with their recommendations. The following are the chief principles which are observed in conducting these settlements. All settlements are under the supervision and control of the revenue authorities; the primary duty of the Settlement Department being to demarcate and map the various holdings. When possible, a uniform rate of assessment is imposed on the area of each *kweng* or plain; these rates are fixed by the Deputy Commissioner, subject to the approval of the Commissioner. The system of individual leases is followed in all cases, the joint system having been found to be productive of oppression; leases for portions of holdings are not granted; lessees are allowed to abandon their holdings on giving one year's notice, or on payment of a year's tax; an allowance for *bond fule* fallow land not exceeding one-quarter of the total area of the leased holding is permitted.

Description of the principles on which the settlement of the land is conducted.

The leases are given for periods of five or ten years, one term of duration only being allowed in each *kweng*. Due provision has to be made for insuring that the village enclosure is not encroached upon, and that a sufficiency of grazing ground is allotted to each village. The rights of the cultivators to the waste lands adjoining leased tracts have been declared not to be absolute, but only preferential. The newly organized department has been at work in the Henzada District during the latter portion of the year under report, but no returns have yet been received of what has been done.

Civil Divisions of British Territory

29. The estimated area of the province is 88,364 square miles, with a population of 2,747,148 souls, or 31 persons to a square mile; this is a very sparse population, but it must be remembered that a large portion of the country consists of mountainous tracts and impenetrable jungle which has not even one person to a square mile. To control this extensive province with its 1,000 miles of frontier, on some parts of which there are very turbulent races of people, only 6,061 police were employed during the year. This is equal to one policeman to every 453 persons, and to nearly 13 square miles of country

30. The Arakan division with its head-quarters at Akyab, consists of four districts, *viz.*, Akyab, Arakan. Northern Arakan Hill Tracts, Ramree, and Sandoway, and the first named district has for revenue and judicial purposes the four sub-divisions of Akyab, Rathaidoung, Myohoung and Naf. The area of this division is estimated to be 14,536 square miles, but its north-eastern boundaries are but indefinitely defined and surveyed. The population of the division during the year 1872-73 was 484,365 souls, or 33.32 persons to a square mile; the land tax yielded £75,760, and the gross revenue was £239,066.

31. The Pegu division with its head-quarters at Rangoon, is composed of the five districts of Rangoon, Pegu. with the sub-divisions of Yandoon and and Twantay; Bassein, with the sub-division of Ngathaingyoung; Myanoung, with its sudder station at Henzada, and the sub-divisions of Myanoung and Tharrawaddy; Prome, with the sub-division of Pongday and Engma; and Thayet; and has an area of 27,108 square miles and a population of 1,664,058 souls, or 61.31 persons to the square mile. The revenue from land tax was £213,324, while the gross revenue amounted to £892,814.

32. The Tenasserim division has its head-quarters at Moulmein, and comprises the districts of Amherst Tenasserim. with the sub-division of Thatone; Shwègyeen, with the sub-division of Sittoung; Toungoo, Tavoy and Mergui; and the newly formed district named the Salween Tracts, which was previously included in the Shwègyeen

district under the name of the Yoonzaleen sub-division. This division has an area of 46,730 square miles, with a population of 600,727 persons, or 12·8 persons to a square mile. The land tax yielded £68,390, while the gross revenue receipts amounted to £225,476.

Towns with 10,000 souls.

33. The following are the principal towns in the province, having a population of upwards of 10,000 souls :—

Rangoon	...	...	100,000
Moulmein	...	...	46,472
Prome	...	...	31,157
Bassein	...	...	20,684
Akyab	...	...	15,775
Henzada	...	...	15,307
Tavoy	...	...	14,555
Shwè-doung	...	...	12,654

Details of the last Census, Tribes and Languages.

34. A census was taken in the province of British Burma on the 15th August, 1872, and by it the population has been computed to be 2,747,148 souls. The following statement shows the population of each division, distinguishing the number of males and females :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arakan	254,075	230,288	484,363
Pegu	864,840	797,218	1,662,058
Tenasserim	316,603	284,124	600,727
Total	1,435,518	1,311,630	2,747,148

35. From these figures it will be seen that the number of males throughout the province exceeds the number of females by 123,888.

36. According to the returns given in last year's report the population of the province was 2,562,323 on 31st December 1871, so that the increase during the year amounts to 184,825 souls. Of this number, perhaps, 80,000 may be attributed to natural causes, but the remainder must be due to the more accurate statistics which have been obtained by the census.

37. The details of the population in each of the three divisions, according to last year's report, was—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arakan	340,675	230,461	461,136
Pegu	781,459	742,963	1,524,422
Tenasserim	398,796	277,969	576,765
Total	1,320,930	1,241,393	2,562,323

38. It will be thus seen that the increase in the population was divided in the following proportions between the two sexes—that is, that the male population increased by 114,588 persons, while the females increased by 70,237 during the year under report.

39. The following statements show the details of population according to sex and age :—

MALES.

DIVISION.	Not exceeding 1 year.	Above 1 and not exceeding 6 years.	Above 6 and not exceeding 12 years.	Above 12 and not exceeding 20 years.	Above 20 and not exceeding 30 years.	Above 30 and not exceeding 40 years.	Above 40 and not exceeding 50 years.	Above 50 and not exceeding 60 years.	Above 60 years.	Total.
Arakan ..	12,239	34,759	30,235	40,299	44,517	36,330	24,502	12,737	9,457	254,075
Pegu ..	47,343	126,300	124,214	116,008	143,701	131,602	84,859	48,002	40,802	864,840
Tenasserim	47,334	51,329	51,224	42,511	50,717	47,150	29,105	14,542	12,682	316,603
Total ..	76,916	214,397	214,673	198,818	238,935	215,091	138,466	75,281	62,941	1,435,518

FEMALES.

DIVISION.	Not exceeding 1 year.	Above 1 and not exceeding 6 years.	Above 6 and not exceeding 12 years.	Above 12 and not exceeding 20 years.	Above 20 and not exceeding 30 years.	Above 30 and not exceeding 40 years.	Above 40 and not exceeding 50 years.	Above 50 and not exceeding 60 years.	Above 60 years.	Total.
Arakan ..	10,923	35,362	37,450	40,065	37,872	29,286	19,738	11,226	8,866	230,288
Pegu ..	45,322	126,837	118,738	108,998	126,301	112,013	74,382	44,860	39,767	797,218
Tenasserim	16,550	49,197	45,070	43,423	46,742	36,499	22,148	13,120	10,375	284,124
Total ..	72,795	211,396	201,258	192,486	210,415	177,705	117,268	69,206	59,008	1,311,630

40. From these figures it will be seen that the usual proportion of children to the adult population exists among both sexes in this province.

41. As regards the religion of the population, the census returns give the following results :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindoo	28,910	7,748	36,658
Mahomedans	59,888	39,958	99,846
Buddhists	1,259,981	1,187,850	2,447,831
Christians	28,745	23,554	52,299
Others	57,994	52,520	110,514
Total	1,435,518	1,311,630	2,747,148

42. It may be noticed that the proportion of females to males is remarkably small among the Hindoo and Mahomedan population. This is due to the fact that they, especially the Hindoos, are most of them aliens, who are temporarily residents and have not their families with them.

43. The figures relating to the tribes and languages of the population are not yet available, but will be furnished in next year's report.

Changes in the Administration.

44. There were no changes in the administration of the province during the year under report. The Hon'ble Ashley Eden, who had been appointed in April 1871 to officiate as Chief Commissioner of this province during the absence on furlough of Major-General Fytche, was confirmed in that appointment.

Relations with Tributary States, and Frontier Affairs.

44A. The year under review passed without any change in our relations with the several Governments of Northern Arakan. and minor States bordering on British Burma. The improved condition of the frontier of the Hill Tracts of Northern Arakan, which was noticed in the review of the year previous, was fully maintained. The repulse of the Shindoo raiders therein mentioned produced a most excellent effect, and the watchful care of the officers in charge of the police frustrated two meditated attacks in our villages. The Chief of the Khoon tribe had a friendly interview with the Assistant Superintendent of Police, and promised to cease harbouring outlaws from British territory, and to abstain from any raiding expeditions.

44B. Captain Hughes, the Superintendent of the Hill Tracts, marched from his district into the Hill Tracts of Chittagong, where Captain Lewin was establishing a cordon of police stations.

44C. It was suggested that from the Arakan side two police stations should be established in prolongation of those now occupied to the northward; but an exploration by Mr. Hannay, the Assistant Superintendent, showed the line to be one of very great difficulty, and the Chief Commissioner considered that communication could better be established by striking a route due west from the present police stations, leaving it to the Chittagong authorities to continue their cordon within their administrative frontier, rather than that the Arakan police stations should be advanced beyond the administrative frontier, which had been very lately fixed on after careful enquiry and consideration. On the Lemroo river, some non-tributary Khyins made a raid on a Khyin village and carried off seven captives. The raiders were, however, quickly followed up by Mr. Porter, the Inspector of Police, and, with the assistance of some friendly chiefs, he succeeded with much tact and judgment in recovering all the captives without the necessity of recourse to violent measures.

44D. Towards the end of 1872, an Italian Envoy visited the Court of Mandalay with presents from the King of Italy to His Majesty the King of Burma. He also brought the ratified treaty which had been negotiated at Mandalay in 1870, and which was finally agreed to by the Burmese Government with some few modifications.

44E. The frontier dacoities on the border of British and Upper Burma, which had in past years given cause for anxiety, materially diminished during 1872-73; and on the frontier of the Salween District, where the province borders on Karennee and the Zimmay Shan States, although some formidable gangs of robbers entered on several occasions, they were almost always encountered by the police, and satisfactorily dealt with. The Siamese Government made a careful and formal enquiry into the claims of British traders in regard to timber transactions in the Zimmay State, and orders were passed on all the cases under dispute.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Surveys, Settlements and Waste Lands.

45. No surveys were made throughout the province during the year under review, and the measurement of the waste land grants was suspended in consequence of services of a qualified officer not being available for that duty.

46. The settlement of land was in abeyance in Arakan and Tenasserim, but the officers of the Settlement Department organized under the rules framed by the Special Revenue Committee of 1872, commenced operations under the Deputy Commissioner of the Henzada District. The results of the settlements effected had not been ascertained up to the present time. The following statement shows the area of cultivated land under lease in the several districts of the province during the year of review and that immediately preceding:—

DISTRICT.	Area under Settlement in		Increase.	Decrease.
	1871-72.	1872-73.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Akyab ...	75,800	75,532	...	268
Northern Arakan ...	...	...	...	...
Ramree ...	54,945	54,638	...	307
Sandoway ...	10,384	10,384	...	...
Rangoon ...	196,072	191,098	...	4,974
Bassein ...	65,224	61,901	...	3,323
Myanong ...	195,473	194,425	...	1,048
Prome ...	154,239	154,232	...	7
Thayet ...	...	...	...	...
Toungoo ...	28,695	28,695	...	...
Shwè-gyeen ...	10,449	10,435	...	14
Amherst ...	59,421	58,040	...	1,381
Tavoy ...	11,575	11,575	...	...
Mergui ...	20,166	7,245	...	12,921
Total ...	682,645	668,190	...	14,455

47. The area of land under cultivation throughout the province in 1872-73 was 2,203,539 acres, whilst the area in the previous year was 2,143,968 acres: the increase was therefore 59,571 acres, or 2·78 per cent. 1,850,206 acres were under rice tillage—an increase as compared with the preceding year of 75,430 acres; 32,914 acres were left fallow—a decrease of 13,047 acres; 123,328 acres were cultivated as gardens and orchards—an increase of 2,504 acres; 76,322 acres were under miscellaneous crops, such as cotton, oil-seeds, sugarcane, &c.—a decrease of 6,061 acres; 53,896 acres were cultivated by the people in the hills—an increase of 52 acres; and 8,719 acres which had been granted under the Waste Land Rules were assessed—an increase of 1,047 acres. The greatest increment was, it will be seen, in the acreage under rice cultivation, and, with the large demand for rice which exists, there is no doubt that the quantity of land tilled will still further increase year by year, and if sufficient population could be obtained, the supply of grain from this province, with its favourable rainfall, would be practically unlimited. There has been a steady increase year by year in the area of land under cultivation, and every district with one exception has improved, some of course in a greater degree than others.

48. The season appears on the whole to have been fairly generally good, there having been but little loss from inundation or drought; but dengue fever prevailed extensively in some districts of the Pegu Division, and interfered with cultivation; whilst cattle disease, which is one of the greatest drawbacks to the development of the agricultural wealth of the province, still existed in various parts of the country.

49. The revenue realized from land increased to the extent of 3·75 per cent., the assessment in 1871-72 having been £344,523, and in the year of report £357,473. The increment in Arakan was £1,268, in Pegu £7,877, and in Tenasserim £3,805. The increase in revenue of late years has been even greater than that in the area under cultivation. The average rental per acre in the year under review was 3s. 3d., which is not a high rate; but it is supplemented by the duty on the export of rice, the great staple of the country. It is the great object of the Administration to make the charges on land as light as possible. Of the total land revenue, £311,985 were realized from rice cultivation, £28,184 from gardens and orchards, £10,897 from mis-

cellaneous cultivation, £5,496 from toungya, and £911 from grants made under the Waste Land Rules.

50. The season having been favourable throughout the province, the applications for remissions of land tax were for a comparatively small sum, viz., £2,468, against £15,428 in the previous year.

51. No landed proprietors known in India as zemindars exist in this province. The holders of the land are with but few exceptions the cultivators, and the extent of their holdings averages about five acres. The exceptions are where grants of waste land have been made to Europeans or natives of India, but such grants are but little cultivated.

52. The whole of the land revenue and capitation tax is collected direct from the people by the Thoogyees, or revenue collectors. Each Thoogyee has a regular circle of collection, and is paid by a commission of 10 per cent. on all sums up to £600, and 5 per cent. on all sums above that. It is to be feared that as a rule the Thoogyees are not a very scrupulous or hardworking set of men, and their supervision throws much work on to the shoulders of the more active Deputy Commissioners; still, they do manage to collect a large revenue without any dissatisfaction to the people, and they take the place practically of the zemindars' naibs and gomasthas in Bengal, with about the same amount of honesty and keenness for their employers' interests.

III.—PROTECTION.

Legislating Authority.

53. The Administration of this province has no legislative powers. Whatever laws are required for British Burma are enacted by the Legislative Council of the Governor-General of India.

Course of Legislature.

54 The following Acts which were passed during the year 1872, are in force in this province:—

Act No.	I.—Indian Evidence Act.
" "	III.—Miscellaneous Marriage Act.
" "	VI.—The Oaths Act.
" "	VII.—Burma Courts Act.
" "	VIII.—Income Tax Act.
" "	IX.—Contract Act.
" "	X.—Criminal Procedure Code.
" "	XI.—Extradition Act.
" "	XII.—An Act to amend the Native Passenger Ships Act.
" "	XIII.—Patterns and Designs Act.
" "	XIV.—Exempting the Straits from the Emigration Act VII of 1871.
" "	XV.—Christian Marriage Act.
" "	XVI.—Burma Spirits Duty Act.
" "	XVII.—Postponing the day on which the Criminal Procedure Code is to come into force.
" "	XVIII.—Evidence Act Amendment Act.
" "	XIX.—Act to amend the definition of "Coin" in the Indian Penal Code.
" "	XXI.—Native Military Lunatics Act.
" "	XXIII.—Act for regulating the re-importation into British territory of goods cleared at Rangoon for the territory of the King of Ava.

55. The only Bill which was submitted to the Government of India by this Administration during the past year was a bill to provide for the importation of laborers to this Province. This Bill was still under the consideration of the Supreme Government at the close of the year. The Municipal Bill for British Burma which was submitted in 1871, has not yet been enacted.

Police.

56. The province of British Burma has an area of 94,000 square miles, and the population, which was estimated at 2,562,323 on the 31st December 1871, was found by the census taken in August 1872, to number 2,747,149; there was thus an increase of 184,824. The increase to the population in 1871 amounted to 70,587: we may conclude therefore that, of the large increase in 1872, about 84,000 was the natural increase by births and immigration, and the remainder was the result of the more careful computation of the population by the census returns.

57. The total number employed as the Police establishment during the year was 6,356, of whom 5,665 were supported from Provincial revenues at a cost of £125,255 and 691 from Municipal Funds at a cost of £12,227. The total expenditure on the department was, therefore, £137,482, or 8.5 per cent. only of the gross revenue of the province from all sources, and the cost per head of population one shilling. The proportion of the police to area was one to 14 square miles, and to population one to 432.

58. The total number of offences cognizable by the police, which have been ascertained to have been committed during the year, was 14,263; in 1870 the total number was 13,959; and in 1871 it was 14,226. There has, therefore, been a considerable gain when rated on population: for while crime generally has remained stationary, the population has increased during these years by 140,000.

59. Murder, which fell from 103 cases (19 by dacoits) in 1870, to 86 cases (12 by dacoits) in 1871, again diminished to 76 cases, and of these 12 were by dacoits. Of the 76 cases, 15 were from jealousy, or causes connected with women; 23 for plunder; and 38 from private malice, or other unknown causes. The proportion convicted was the same during the past two years,—namely, 39 per cent., and this is undoubtedly an unfavorable result. The success of the police varies considerably, as might be expected in a province where the condition of the several districts in regard

to the feasibility of detecting this crime resembles one another so little. During a year when murders on the frontier prevail, the success against the crime will ordinarily be less than when the crime occurs in the districts which lie more in the interior. During 1872 the culprits in 13 cases of murder escaped across the frontier: but even allowing for this, there was a great failure in bringing home this crime in some of the districts where the culprits did not abscond across the frontier. Thus, in the Akyab District, where there were the large number of 16 murders, convictions were obtained in four cases only, and in the Rangoon District of ten cases, only three were carried to conviction. In the districts of Prome, Anherst, and Mergui, where detection was even worse than in the districts just named, the details show that a large proportion was by foreign bands, or by persons who at once fled from our territory.

60. As regards the crime of dacoity, there was a very marked reduction. In 1867 the number of dacoities was 213; in 1868 this fell to 172 cases; in 1869 to 117 cases. In 1870 the number rose to 132, but in 1871 it again fell to 118, and during 1872 there were only 65 cases. Out of these 65 cases no less than 21 were committed by marauders from foreign territory (principally in the Tenasserim Division), so that the "home" dacoities numbered only 44. Against these foreign marauders the police were active and, on the whole, successful. On the frontier of the Salween District formidable gangs of Shan and Karenese robbers entered on several occasions, and were almost always encountered by the police, although often with very disproportionate numbers. The nature of the work may be arrived at from the fact that ten of the marauders were shot in British territory. There is no doubt the police behaved with great determination, and generally against superior numbers. They have twice received the commendation of the Government of India, and on another occasion were rewarded by the Local Government during the past year.

61. Of the total number of dacoities, 58 per cent. were carried to conviction. This is a high average and an improvement on the previous year, when the proportion was 41 per cent.; but on the other hand, of the persons brought to trial, the proportion convicted fell from 50 to 42 per cent.

62. The diminution in dacoity which occurred in 1871, was accompanied with an increase in the crime of robbery, but during 1872 this latter crime also markedly decreased. In 1871 there were 198 cases of robbery, and in 1872 there were only 111 cases, —the decrease was general throughout the province. In the Arakan Division this crime fell from 18 cases to 12; in the Pegu Division from 125 cases to 74; and in Tenasserim Division from 50 cases to 25. The action of the police against the crime was nearly the same as during the two previous years. Thirty-two per cent. of the cases that occurred in 1872 were carried to conviction, and of persons brought to trial 51 per cent. were convicted.

63. House-breaking decreased from 673 to 459 cases, and the detection in both the past years is nearly similar. Ordinary thefts have not materially varied; there were 6,882 cases in 1871, and 6,926 cases in 1872; while the action of the police against the crime somewhat improved.

64. But cattle theft, which fell from 1,358 cases in 1870 to 847 cases in 1871, again rose to 950 cases—an increase of nearly 100 cases. This, however, does not rightly express the course of the crime, which has fluctuated considerably in the various districts. As for the divisions, the Tenasserim Division showed an increase of 78 cases, and the Pegu Division an increase of 15 cases. The rise in the number of cases of cattle theft in Tenasserim was due to an increase in the districts of Amherst and Shwè-gyeen, and the slight increase in the Pegu Division was only obtained from a great falling off of the crime in three districts, which counterbalances a serious increase in Rangoon. In the Myanong District cattle thefts fell from 162 to 88 cases, in Prome from 235 to 168, and in Thayet from 156 to 114; while in the Rangoon District this crime rose from 120 to 295 cases. It is in this district, therefore, that we find the main cause of the increase for the whole province. It certainly is an abnormal state of things to find the crime decreasing in the other districts of this division and rising so rapidly in the Rangoon District. It has been said that the establishment of seven new police stations has caused the more complete reporting of crime, and no doubt that may be one result of bringing any locality under more complete supervision. But it may fairly be expected that, on the other

hand, the new police stations should prevent the occurrence of the crime which may have been prevalent when no police were there. Indeed, it was because cattle thefts had already been known to be on the increase that the new stations were established. But this has not been a result obtained as yet, and this sudden exacerbation of so serious a crime is by no means satisfactory, and calls for vigorous efforts on the part of the District Officers to put a stop to a state of things which certainly entails a heavy loss to the people, and seriously interferes with their agricultural work. It seems probable that an increase in the demand for slaughter-cattle has had something to do with the increase of thefts, and probably the men who were formerly engaged in dacoity and robbery have taken to the lesser offence when afraid any longer to commit more serious crimes.

65. The action of the police against this crime varies greatly in the different districts. The general result is, that convictions were obtained in 28 per cent. of the cases that occurred, which would be raised to 40 per cent. if we include the cases in which convictions were obtained against persons in possession of stolen cattle, who in many instances no doubt may have been the actual thieves.

66. The value of property stolen fell from £49,720 to £49,667—a very slight decrease; but the proportion recovered increased from 29 to 36 per cent., which may be considered a good average.

67. For 14,263 cognizable offences committed throughout the province during the past year, 18,553 persons were placed on trial as compared with 16,679 persons who were tried for 14,225 cognizable offences in 1871. The large number of persons tried in proportion to the number of cases which occurred is a very favorable feature in the working of the police of this province. 76 per cent. of those tried in 1871 were convicted, and in 1872, 77 per cent. have been convicted; or in other words, while the number of cognizable offences is nearly identical in both years, the number of persons convicted increased from 12,817 to 14,393, showing that the police were active and intelligent in arresting criminals. The proportion of cases carried to conviction improved from 52 to 56 per cent.

68. In regard to non-cognizable offences in which the police were employed, their number increased from 514 to 754. The number of this class of offences, which the magistracy may remit to the police for inquiry, will depend mainly on the discretion of the individual Magistrates, and their being so remitted is not necessarily indicative of an actual increase of crime. The particular offences which have thus been more largely remitted to the police for inquiry appear to be "offences against public justice;" "rioting, unlawful assembly, and affray;" "criminal misappropriation of property;" "mischief," and "intimidation and insult." As concerned in the 754 non-cognizable offences inquired into by the police, 1,484 persons were arrested, and of them, 1,118, or 75 per cent., were convicted. This is an improvement on the previous year, when the proportion was only 71 per cent.

69. From this brief recapitulation of the police administration during 1872, it is apparent that there is a great improvement over previous years. It is in the decrease of violent crime that there is the greatest reason for satisfaction. The province has hitherto compared very unfavorably with other administrations in respect to the prevalence here of crimes of violence viz., dacoity and robbery, and it is very gratifying to find that, for the present at least, these crimes are being better controlled, and there is promise that this good result may be maintained. The year was one of contentment; there was a very fine crop and a good market, and some important criminals were secured in 1871, which led to the disruption of what would have been troublesome gangs. Indeed, it is not improbable that we may find a marked change in regard to the crimes of dacoity and robbery, but especially dacoity, from the gradual dying out of the traditional dacoit, and those who were associated with him.

70. Police work is undoubtedly hard, and in many parts of the province, which has a wild, unhealthy, and unpopulated frontier, most unattractive. It will be the case therefore that resignations will be numerous compared with other provincial police establishments. Indeed in many portions of the frontier the police are much of the character of an armed militia. They are recruited among the Khyins in Arakan, the Karens in the Tenasserim Division, and even on a portion of the Pegu frontier among the Burmans, from the young men of the neighbouring villages, who

have a personal interest in protecting their tract of country. An alien police cannot be got to serve in such localities, and would be worse than useless if they could be obtained. It is necessary, therefore, to adapt the service to the circumstances, and to utilize the materials which are undoubtedly the best for the particular duties required. These duties the resident population will undertake; but individuals naturally prefer to give only what they think their fair share of a general obligation, and expect that after a reasonable service they will be allowed to revert to civil pursuits. It is only by recognizing this necessary element in our police organization in some parts of the province that it is feasible to maintain our frontier guards with comparative efficiency, and in consonance with the feelings of the local population.

71. It is not to be wondered at that the Burmans should, compared with the Indians, find police work unattractive; but it is very necessary to watch whether their willingness to join the department is lessened from year to year, and the figures given in the margin show that the service is, if judged by the proportion of voluntary resignations, becoming gradually more attractive. In 1867 twenty-five per cent. of the police voluntarily resigned the service, while in the past year the proportion was only fourteen per cent. There is therefore no reason to think that there is a maladministration of the department which tends to make it unattractive; it may rather be concluded that a service naturally unpalatable to a people like the Burmese, is gradually becoming more popular.

72. The proportion of departmental dismissals for misconduct was also considerably less, the number of men so dismissed in 1871 having been 421, or 6.8 per cent. of the force, whilst in the year of report the number was 382, or 6 per cent. In the number of men punished by the magistracy, there was an increase in the cases under the Police Act from 45 in 1871 to 86 in 1872, but there was a falling off in the number punished for offences under other Acts, from 132 to 86, so that on the whole there was a decrease. The desertions were 72 against 51, the increase having taken place in the Shwè-gyeen District, from whence a new frontier guard of 32 men, chiefly Shans, deserted in a body with their arms and crossed the frontier.

	Total strength.	Resignations.
1867...	5,593	1,410
1868...	5,438	1,309
1869...	5,288	1,138
1870...	5,932	962
1871...	6,174	998
1872...	6,356	911

73. It is satisfactory to find that the indigenous population are so largely employed in the force, and that during the year they have even still more replaced the alien members. The proportions are 45 Europeans, 21 Eurasians, 814 Mahomedans, 613 Hindoos, and 4,863 Buddhists. There will always remain some duties in towns and in guarding jails where aliens may be rightly and unobjectionably employed; but on true district criminal work there should be indigenous police only, and this result is at present almost completely obtained. In the Salween District the local Karen population now furnishes the police, and it is still more satisfactory to know that they have proved most efficient and serviceable, as already noticed in reviewing the incidence of violent crime.

74. Last year a small number of men (32) received rewards for individual good service, but the numbers have been more than doubled during 1872. Still they are but scant, and the proportion might be increased. In very few provinces in India are there so many opportunities for exceptional services, and Magistrates and Superintendents have been particularly desired to encourage good service, by themselves bestowing rewards on suitable occasions, and by bringing to notice all exceptional instances which call for the approval of the administration.

75. In regard to the schools which should be maintained for the instruction of the police, better results are desirable. In some districts, from their compactness and from the work being light, the schools are satisfactorily kept up, but in others, the instruction is precarious. If there be objections to bringing in the men from out-stations to head-quarters, there cannot be the same objection to sending out a good instructor from head-quarters to visit the district stations. In respect to ordinary education, the Burmese are naturally well advanced. Out of a total force of 6,334 men, it seems that 3,893 can read and write: very few of the alien police have these acquirements, and still fewer of the Karens and Khyins. It is probable, therefore, that of the 4,205 Burmese who are in the police, three-fourths at least can read and write. The schools are not so much required to give the elements of education to an illiterate body, but they are most useful in being the means of instructing the men in their police duties. As a rule the Burman police are intelligent and well informed, but they require to have

Large proportion of indigenous police satisfactory.

System of rewards for good service.

Use of schools.

their technical knowledge systematically taught to them by competent instructors.

76. The necessity for substantial and commodious police stations is very great in a province where the distances are so great from out-stations to district or sub-divisional head-quarters; with increased security in the police buildings there is the less excuse for personal restraint being placed on the prisoners. The existing state of police stations throughout the districts was lately reported on, and it was only in the Prome and Henzada Districts where they were found exceptionally backward. Arrangements have been made to allot an increased share of the grant for buildings to these districts. It is very necessary that in the populous portions through which the trunk road runs from Rangoon to Prome, the police accommodation should be rapidly improved.

Necessity for substantial police stations being rapidly constructed in the Prome and Henzada Districts.

Criminal Justice.

COURTS EXERCISING JURISDICTION IN THE TOWN OF RANGOON.

77. The criminal work of the Recorder's Court was the same during each of the years of comparison. In 1872 there were 39 sessions' trials, and in 1871 the trials numbered 38. The appeals from Lower Courts were 14 in 1872 and 16 in 1871. Of 55 persons brought to trial before the Recorder, 35 persons were convicted.

78. The returns of the Town Magistrate of Rangoon show that in 1871 the number of non-bailable and bailable offences reported during the year was 2,585, as compared with 3,500 in 1870, and in 1872 the number has risen to 3,610. This apparently violent oscillation of crime is due to the increase and decrease of petty misdemeanours as will be seen by the following statement:—

Number of offences reported.

	Non-bailable.	Bailable.	Total.
1870	... 711	2,789	3,500
1871	... 409	2,176	2,585
1872	... 522	3,088	3,610

79. Non-bailable offences have increased by 113 cases and bailable offences by 912 cases. In the former class of offences the increase is in cases of theft and possession of stolen property; in the latter, the increase is mainly in insult and assault cases from 803 to 1,288, and breaches of Lock Hospital, of Cantonment, and of Municipal Rules, from 254 to 487. The very large number of cases of assault and insult which are not persevered with by the complainant are deserving of notice. The returns show, that of 1,992 persons charged with those offences, only 281 were convicted, a great many cases being compromised out of court. In very many instances complainants, no doubt, are brought under these sections on the very slightest grounds, not with a view to punish the offenders for the offence complained of, but through fear of a criminal charge to compel or induce payments of debts without the expense of having recourse to civil courts. These reasons only show more clearly the necessity of Magistrates exercising

a wiser discretion before the issue of process in complying with the requirements of Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The fees which have lately become leviable for the service of criminal processes will doubtless have some effect; but something more than that is needed, when it is seen, as in the returns for the Town of Rangoon, that 1,700 persons were needlessly summoned to attend the court of the Assistant Magistrate as defendants on the two charges of assault and insult.

COURTS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER.

80. In regard to the criminal work of the courts subordinate to the Judicial Commissioner, the total number of non-bailable offences reported during the year decreased from 9,170 to 8,121, or 11 per cent., and the bailable offences slightly increased from 15,022 to 15,928. The decrease, therefore, is very material in the most heinous class of offences. Unfortunately, while the number of offences reported are given separately as "non-bailable" and "bailable," the persons arrested and convicted for these offences are clubbed together, and only the general result is stated in the returns, and the proportion convicted is given as 52 per cent. This would not be a favorable proportion in regard to non-bailable offences, and it is apparent that the low average is due to the number of acquittals in the bailable or petty offences. From the police returns it may be seen that, as regards "cognizable offences,—" and they include a more numerous class of offences than those styled non-bailable,—the proportion of persons convicted to those put on their trial was 77 per cent., and from the judicial returns it is evident that the disposal of bailable offences is far from favorable. Thus, of 15,928 bailable offences, no less than 7,254 consisted of assault and insult. As concerned in these offences, 11,292 persons were brought to trial, and of these only 3,315, or 29 per cent., were convicted. This altogether vitiates a general average taken on the total offences which have come before the courts.

81. The decrease of bailable offences in the Court of the Magistrate of the Town of Moulmein, is attributed to summons being refused to some extent in trumpery and petty cases of assault. It has been already remarked that from the Court

of the Assistant Magistrate of Rangoon 1,700 persons were fruitlessly summoned for these two offences, and in the other Courts of the province 7,977 were summoned to the Courts for the same offences, with the same infructuous result. Allowing two witnesses for each case, it may be estimated that 29,000 processes issued from the court in regard to cases of "assault" and "insult," which never came to trial at all, or ended adversely to the complainant. Some proportion of these cases may have been right and proper subjects for magisterial disposal, but doubtless a more careful enquiry before the issue of summons would have saved a great deal of annoyance to a large number of people.

82. The number of persons brought to trial for all classes of offences was 37,651. Of these 24,440 were tried by Subordinate Magistrates; 10,088 by Full Power Magistrates, and 3,123 by Magistrates of Districts. As to the punishments inflicted, 309 were sentenced to simple imprisonment; 4,991 to rigorous imprisonment; and 14,747 to fine: 361 were awarded whipping, and 871 were required to give security to keep the peace, or for good behaviour.

83. It may be remarked that while 2,300 persons were sentenced to imprisonment by the subordinate magistracy, four times that number were sentenced to fine. There is no doubt that the distance of many of the out-stations from the divisional or district jail makes a fine a more suitable punishment than a sentence of imprisonment for a short period; but to the Burman mind a fine would intuitively recommend itself as ordinarily the better punishment where the alternative of fine or imprisonment is allowed. Under their own Criminal Code almost every crime can be condoned by payment. It is so very largely under the Indian Penal Code; but in practice the Burmese Courts use the punishment of fine even in heinous offences, whereas in English Courts imprisonment is traditionally associated with certain crimes. It is not uncommon, in the case of offences punishable with fine only, to impose a heavy fine beyond the means of the offender with the view, it is apprehended, that the offender should undergo the period of imprisonment which the law allows the Magistrate to impose, not as an alternative punishment for the offence, but as a punishment for the non-payment of the fine.

Number of persons brought to trial.

Large portion of persons sentenced by the subordinate magistracy to fines instead of to imprisonment.

84. This defeats its object, and is a mistaken view of the intention of the law. That the fines inflicted in this province are high is substantiated by a comparison with the sums which are imposed in the courts of other administrations. Thus, in British Burma the average amount of fine imposed on persons so punished amounted to Ra. 20, while in the Punjab it was Ra. 9; the Central Provinces Ra. 6-7; and in Oudh Ra. 6. The proportion realized was in British Burma 58 per cent.; in the Punjab 58 per cent.; in Oudh 60 per cent.; and in the Central Provinces 70 per cent. Although, therefore, there may have been some ultra heavy fines imposed, to secure the imprisonment of the offender, the proportion which the total amount realized bears to the total amount levied by the courts, is not so far behind the proportion realized in other provinces as to support the conclusion that the system of levying inordinate fines, beyond the capacity of the offender, is common in the courts of this province. Out of the sums imposed as fines in the criminal courts a very small proportion (only 6 per cent.) was awarded as compensation to complainants. In the province of Oudh the proportion awarded was 20 per cent., and in the Punjab 15 per cent.

85. In regard to the appeals from the Subordinate Magistrates, it would appear that out of over 9,000 persons convicted by them, 312, or not 4 per cent., appealed. This is a very small proportion, due partly to the punishments inflicted in these courts being light; but it is to be hoped also, to the justice of the original sentence being acquiesced in by those on whom it was inflicted. In regard to the appeals from convictions by Magistrates to Courts of Session the number has increased from 299 to 464.

86. The proportion modified or reversed to the number appealed has slightly fallen from 32 to 30 per cent., but that is still high. The districts in which appeals against the orders of Magistrates have mainly increased are the following:—In the Rangoon District the appeals increased from 26 in 1871 to 76 in 1872, while the proportion reversed or modified fell from 54 to 43 per cent. In the Sandoway District the appeals increased from 12 to 44, and whereas in 1871 all the appeals were rejected,

Proportion of the fines imposed which have been realized compares not unfavorably with other administrations, although the fines are on an average higher than those in the courts of other provinces.

Small number of appeals from the Subordinate Magistrates.

Proportion of appeals in which the sentences were modified or reversed has slightly fallen, though it is still high.

in 1872 52 per cent. of the appeals were successful in obtaining modifications or reversals of the sentences appealed against. In Akyab town the appeals increased from 45 to 103, while the proportion in which modifications or reversals was obtained increased from 15 to 26 per cent. In Moulmein town the appeals increased from 31 to 65, and the proportion in which modifications or reversals was obtained fell from 45 to 34 per cent. It may be here remarked that in the Town of Rangoon there was only 17 appeals from the Magistrates' Courts, and of them only three cases, or 17 per cent. of those appealed, were reversed; this reflects credit on the Magistrate of the town.

87. In the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, the sentences passed in 113 cases came up on appeal, or were called for, and of these 108 were confirmed, while of 38 capital sentences referred to his court, 30 received confirmation, and four persons capitally sentenced were acquitted.

The Judicial Commissioner has no doubt done much to control and regulate the courts subordinate to him, and he has exercised this superintendence with great tact and care during the past year.

88. Though from a judicial point of view no very great result is shown in the way of an increase of business in the highest court of appeal from the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner, yet there is no doubt the Judicial Commissioner has been able to do much to control and regulate the courts subordinate to him, and to ensure greater accuracy and regularity in the performance of their work,—and this is, after all, a most important result. It is not desirable to encourage people to appeal when they are satisfied that substantial justice has been done them on the mere chance that they may get the sentenced reversed; and therefore the scarcity of appeals is not to be regretted, as the people now know that they have the means of appealing if they choose. It is in the general superintendence of the courts by the chief Judicial Officer of the province that the people will chiefly benefit.

Prisons.

89. The prisons in British Burma are two central jails, one at Rangoon the other at Moulmein, which are places of transportation for convicts imprisoned for less periods than life; one divisional jail at Akyab; six second class district jails—Bassein, Thayetmyo, Toungoo, Tavoy, Kyouk-phyoo and Sandoway; and five district lock-ups—Henzada, Myanoung, Prome, Shwè-gyee and Mergui. The jail at Tavoy was completed during the year. A new jail was projected for the Henzada District, but its construction has now been indefinitely postponed, as it has been determined to expend the money available in enlarging the Rangoon Central Jail, and it is doubtful whether a large jail will be required at Henzada after the formation of the proposed new district with its head-quarters at Pantanan, which will relieve the Hanzada District of its large southern township of Donabyo.

90. The whole of these prisons, excepting those at Kyouk-phyoo, Tavoy and Mergui, were visited during the year, and the instructions given by the Inspector-General appear to have been carried out with more attention than heretofore, with one or two exceptions. The state of the several prisons was on the whole satisfactory, Moulmein being the worse conducted, owing to the lax manner in which the late Superintendent performed his duties. The Rangoon jail showed a great improvement; that at Akyab was kept in excellent order; that at Bassein improved in every respect; and those at Thayetmyo and Toungoo were supervised in a creditable manner.

91. The total number of prisoners who remained in the whole of the jails and lock-ups on the 31st December 1871 was 4,345, 4,290 being males and 55 females, whilst 7,182 males and 306 females were incarcerated during the year under review, making an aggregate of 11,833,—the total in the previous year having been 10,977, and the increase 856, or 7.79 per cent. The daily average number of convicted prisoners in 1872 was 4,384 males and 50 females, a total of 4,434, against 4,418 in 1871—an increase of 21, or 0.47 per cent. only, all of whom were males.

How disposed of.
follows:—

92. The total prison population of the last two years was disposed of as follows:—

	1871.	1872.	In-crease.	De-crease.
Released on appeal ...	99	124	25	...
Ditto on expiry of sentence ...	5,797	6,374	577	...
Ditto on payment of fine ...	454	456	2	...
Ditto on account of extreme sickness ...	6	6	...	...
Ditto on account of good conduct as prison-warders ...	80	72	...	8
Transported beyond sea ...	23	53	30	...
Escaped ...	26	35	9	...
Executed ...	30	25	...	5
Died ...	117	134	17	...
Total ...	6,632	7,279	660	13
Remaining on last day of the year	4,345	4,554	209	...
Grand Total ...	10,977	11,833	869	13
Net increase ...	...	...	856	...

93. The proportion of female prisoners is very small, the number in 1871 having been 289, or 2·65 per cent. of the jail population, and in 1872, 361, or 3·05 per cent. In India the percentage is about 5·5. The number of prisoners released on payment of fine showed no diminution. A much larger number of convicts were sentenced to transportation for life: they were all males, natives of Burma, and were transported to Madras. There was a decrease of 5 in the number executed.

94. There was a slight falling-off in the number of prisoners transferred in the year of report as compared with the previous year, the numbers being 1,173, or 9·91 per cent., and 1,240, or 11·29 per cent. respectively. The bulk of the transfers was, as in former years, from the Myanoung and Hensada lock-ups to Rangoon, and from the Prome lock-up to Thayetwyo and Rangoon. The numbers transferred from these lock-ups were in 1871, 996, and in 1872, 899, so that there has been

a small decrease, entirely in the number from Hensada, which was probably owing to vigorous action on the part of the police during the previous year.

95. 184 Europeans were confined in the jails of Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab, and Bassein during the year, against 160 in 1871, the increase being due to a greater number of sailors having been committed under the Merchant Shipping Act. The construction of a small jail on improved principles at Rangoon for the confinement of European prisoners is under consideration, and the Chief Commissioner is awaiting the receipt of a detailed project from the Inspector-General.

96. The religion of the convicts was as follows:—

Christians ...	244, or 2·06 per cent.
Mahomedans ...	623, or 5·27 "
Hindoos ...	538, or 4·54 "
Buddhists ...	9,985, or 84·39 "
Others, mostly Karens ...	443, or 3·74 "
Total ...	11,833, or 100·00 per cent.

97. There was again an increase in the number of prisoners under 16, but there was only one prisoner under the age of 12 years, so that to carry out the provisions of Chapter 5, Act XXVI of 1870, it scarcely appears necessary to establish a separate juvenile reformatory. The Inspector-General seems to be of opinion that all young prisoners under 15 years should be segregated. There were 49 males and 3 female prisoners under this age, the majority of whom received sentences for periods of from one to nine months.

Ages of prisoners.	And the ages as follows:—
Under 16 years ...	94, or 0·79 per cent.
16 to 40 " ...	9,130, or 77·16 "
40 to 60 " ...	2,513, or 21·24 "
Above 60 " ...	96, or 0·81 "
Total ...	11,833, or 100·00 per cent.

Occupation of male convicts prior to imprisonment.

98. The following statement shows the occupation of the male convicts prior to imprisonment :—

Agriculturists ...	...	5,190, or 45.24 per cent.
Laborers ...	...	4,830, or 42.10 "
Shop-keepers and traders ...	...	545, or 4.75 "
Domestic servants ...	...	150, or 1.31 "
Government do. ...	...	200, or 1.74 "
Professionals ...	...	41, or 0.36 "
Artizans ...	...	120, or 1.04 "
Of independent property ...	...	4, or 0.04 "
No occupations... ..	...	392, or 3.42 "

Total ... 11,472, or 100.00 per cent.

99. In 1871 the percentage of agriculturists and laborers was $84\frac{1}{2}$, against $87\frac{1}{3}$ in the year of report, whilst the artizans decreased from 1.30 to 1.04 per cent.

100. The lightness of the crimes for which the major portion of the prisoners were committed, noticed in the report for 1871, continued in the year under review, 7,551, or 63.81 per cent. having been sentenced for terms of imprisonment not exceeding one year, and 1,896, or 16.02 per cent., for above one and not exceeding three years.

101. 1,192 males and 54 females, or 10.53 per cent. of the jail population, were sentenced to simple imprisonment, which is about the same proportion as that so sentenced in 1870, and nearly 3 per cent. less than in 1871. The percentage of prisoners confined in the principal jails sentenced to this kind of imprisonment in the past two years is as follows :—

	1871.	1872.
Rangoon ...	13.75	3.78
Moulmein ...	18.24	16.36
Akyab ...	6.03	4.07
Bassein ...	7.77	2.61
Thayetmyo ...	5.98	26.68
Henzada ...	35.97	2.90
Prome ...	3.22	25.14

102. There is a remarkable falling-off in the number under simple imprisonment in Rangoon and Henzada, and a large increase in Thayetmyo and Prome.

103. Of the number sentenced to rigorous imprisonment (10,587) 9,262 are entered as having performed hard labor; but in most jails it can only be said that it was intended that this number should have performed hard labor; as there was not a sufficient supply of such labor available, the majority were employed at medium and light labor. Considerable progress has been made during the year in the provision of really punitive labor, and it is hoped that in the course of time a full supply will be available.

104. There was a very large increase in the number of persons re-convicted; the percentage in the year under review having been 18.50, against 12.07 in 1871 and 12.60 in 1870.

These figures are much in excess of the re-committals in the Bengal Presidency during 1871, but only about one-half of the percentage in England and Wales in 1869-70. The largest proportion of re-convictions to population were at the petty jail of Tavoy, where the discipline was very lax, and where there was no labor in 1871, and where bad characters appeared to prefer a convict life to one of freedom. The percentages were also high at Bassein, Henzada, Kyouk-phyoo, and Mergui.

105. The number of prisoners who escaped in the year was 35, but this includes 13 convicts who attempted to escape during the outbreak in the Moulmein Central Prison on the 9th August 1872, of whom 2 were shot dead while resisting the jail guard, and the remaining 11 were re-captured close to the jail. This outbreak was entirely owing to mismanagement on the part of the Superintendent and the arbitrary conduct of the Jailor. Deducting these 13, the number of actual escapes is reduced to 22, the smallest number on record, against an average in the previous eight years of 65 per annum. Almost the whole of the escapes in 1872 were the result of disobedience of orders or culpable neglect of jail rules. Out of the 22 who escaped, 4 were re-captured, leaving a balance of 18, of whom the unexpired portion of sentence of eight was under 1 year, of eight above 1 and under 3 years, and of two above 3 and under 7 years.

106. Fifteen per cent. of the jail population committed and were punished for offences against prison discipline during the year. This is much

in excess of the number in 1870 and 1871, when the percentages were 7.75 and 8.49 respectively. The increase is attributed to renewed efforts to increase the amount of labor both intra and extramural: offences of this class are in a great measure due to the uselessness and corruption of the free warders, who as a class in this province, are most untrustworthy. The greatest increment was at Moulmein, Bassein, Thayetmyo and Prome, and was principally for idleness at work.

107. From a careful test of the education of each prisoner admitted to jail, it appears that out of the total number of 7,488, only 1,610, or 21.50 per cent., could read and write well; 2,313, or 30.90 per cent., could read and write a little; and 3,560, or 47.60 per cent., could neither read nor write. The proportion of those who could read and write was, therefore, 52.40 per cent., or slightly less than the proportion in 1871, viz., 53.49 per cent. The education of those who could read and write a little was very defective, and consisted in their being barely able to sign their own names, and to read very slowly. The extent of the education of the criminal classes is, however, no real test of that of the people at large. The men who take to thieving, cattle-lifting, &c., are generally the idle members of the community who have not availed themselves of the educational advantage offered them by the schools which exist in every large village in the province.

108. At the close of 1871, 36 civil prisoners remained in jail, and 560 were received during the year, making the total population 596, of whom 555 were released, leaving 41 at the close of 1872. The daily average number was 75, against 57 in the previous year. Of the total population 526, or 88.25 per cent. were males, and 70, or 11.25 per cent. females. The largest proportion of debtors were confined in the jails of Rangoon and Moulmein; no separate prisons exist at these places as yet for civil prisoners, but their provision is under consideration.

109. The total population of under-trial prisoners was 4,214, of whom 2,315, or 54.93 per cent., were convicted and sentenced; and the average daily number was 185, against 204 in 1871. It is to be regretted that there was an increase as compared with 1871 rather than a decrease in the mortality amongst this class of

prisoners, the percentages having been 9.18 and 8.33 respectively.

110. The ticket-of-leave prisoners were mustered and inspected monthly; 628 remained at large at the close of the year. There was an increase in the death-rate from 5.06 to 5.50 per cent.

111. Although one new ward, capable of containing 100 prisoners, was built, and two more of the same size were commenced in the Rangoon jail, there was still overcrowding to the extent of 164 males; at Thayetmyo, also, there were 107 confined in excess of the number for which accommodation is provided; and at Hensada 32, Myanoung 15, Prome 10, and Shwè-gyèn 44, making a total excess of 372. On the other hand there were average numbers below capacity of 810 in the Moulmein jail, 148 in Akyab, 103 in Bassein, and 228 in Toungoo; but the excess accommodation in these jails could not be made use of in consequence of the great expense and inconvenience of transferring convicts from other prisons. A new jail has been erected at Tavoy, and steps are being taken to re-construct the jails at Kyouk-phyoo and Sandoway, which are now far too large for the requirements of those districts, and are in a very dilapidated condition.

112. The percentage of sick to the daily average number confined was 3.49, against 3.37 in 1871, 3.79 in 1870, and 4.15 in 1869; whilst the deaths were 134, or to the daily average number 3.02 per cent., and to the total prison population 1.13 per cent. In 1869 the percentage of deaths to the daily average number was 5.28; in 1870, 4.60; and in 1871, 2.65. The health of the prisoners, therefore, although not so good as in 1871, compares favorably with 1870 and 1869. Twenty prisoners died from cholera—19 at Akyab and 1 at Sandoway. Deducting this number from the total, the death-rate is reduced to 2.57 of the daily average strength, or 0.08 per cent. less than in 1871, when no cholera prevailed. There were no deaths from small-pox, although there were 30 admissions into hospital, against 25 in 1871; there were only 8 deaths from diseases of the lungs, &c., amongst the convicts throughout the province. Ulcers were still prevalent in the Rangoon jail, caused it is said by the friction of the irons; 3 prisoners died from gangrenous sores. A very large proportion of the prisoners discharged during the year had gained

in weight during their confinement, which tends to prove that the feeding and general sanitary condition of the prisoners were well attended to.

113. The Bassein jail was the healthiest in the province, and the Akyab jail again the most unhealthy; the death-rate in the former to the daily average strength being 0.76, and in the latter 13.29 per cent. The cause of unhealthiness in the Akyab jail was explained in the report for 1871. A new jail has been estimated for, and a portion of the wall has been built. A sharp epidemic of cholera prevailed for a short time in the year under report. "Diarrhoea and dysentery are endemic in this jail, but these latter diseases may have an additional exciting cause beside the dampness and want of ventilation inside the jail, in the fact of nearly every prisoner admitted being an opium-eater."

114. There was a considerable improvement in the health of the prisoners confined in the Thayetmyo jail, which is attributed to less overcrowding.

115. The total expenditure on account of the maintenance and guarding of the several prisons throughout the province during the year was as follows:—

	Rate per head,			Rate per head,		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Rations ...	10,888	4	2	2	7	0
Fixed establishments ...	4,867	3	5	1	0	8
Police guards ...	4,977	12	0	1	1	2
Extra establishments ...	612	12	2	0	2	9
Hospital charges ...	605	3	5	0	3	2
Clothing ...	1,086	14	4	0	4	11
Contingencies ...	1,660	10	3	0	7	1
Total ...	24,697	19	9	5	4	9

116. As compared with the cost in 1871—viz., £5 2s. 11d.—there is an increase on the aggregate of 1s. 10d. In the expenditure on rations there was a decrease of 1s. 2d. per head, and on fixed establishments 1s. 4d.; but in all other expenditure there was an increase to the extent of 4s. 4d. per head,—due principally to the cost of extra guards for gangs employed in extramural labor; to increased expenditure on clothing, which was necessary, as prisoners had

Health of prisoners in Bassein and Akyab jails.

In Thayetmyo and Rangoon jails.

Cost of maintenance and guarding.

Increase in cost per head as compared with 1871.

hitherto been insufficiently clad, and had been allowed on economical grounds to retain their own dirty clothes to a great extent in Central and District jails; and to certain unavoidable contingent charges. There was a decrease in the cost of rations at ten out of the fourteen prisons, and but a trifling increase at the others; whilst the falling-off in the cost of fixed establishments was owing to the Rangoon Central jail having been superintended by an officer of the Commission, free of charge to the Jail Department, for the first three months of the year, and to the Bassein jail having been supervised in a similar manner throughout the year.

117. The Thayetmyo jail was, as last year, conducted at the lowest cost per head, viz., £4 11s. 5d., and the Mergui lock-up at the highest, £9 7s. 2d.; but the difference was due more to the low daily average number of prisoners at the latter, over whom the fixed establishment had to be divided, than to any actual want of economy. There was a considerable decrease in the rate per head as compared with 1871 at most of the smaller prisons.

118. The average cost of each prisoner in the year of report compares favorably with the cost in 1868-69, but is slightly in excess of 1870-71. There has been a gradual decrease in the expenditure on rations throughout the last five years.

119. The estimated earnings from all sources during 1872 were as follows:—

Value of labor employed on jail duties, viz.—		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Servants ...	...	2,819	12	6			
Buildings, &c. ...	...	663	15	6			
Cleaning rice, making clothing, &c.,	2,020	13	1				
Jail gardens ...	...	852	6	0			
					6,356	7	1
Profits of manufactures ...	...				8,194	9	1
Labor to Municipalities, &c. ...	...				2,575	5	5
Total ...					17,126	1	7

or almost double the estimated earnings in 1871.

120. The number of prisoners employed as "jail servants" was 618, against 520 in the previous year—an increase of 98 only, and the earnings during 1872 were £2,819 12s., whilst £1,462 only were the estimated earnings in 1871. This large increase is due

Cost per prisoner, lowest in Thayetmyo jail; highest in Mergui.

Average cost.

Estimated earnings of prisoners.

Jail servants.

to the fact that the rate of average monthly earnings per head has been raised throughout all the jails from 4s. 9d. to 7s. 7d., or over 50 per cent.

121. The earnings of prisoners employed in repairs to jails were a little more than in 1871, but there was a falling-off in the earnings for cleaning rice, &c., a reduction of about one-third in the number of persons so employed having taken place. A considerable increase in the quantity and value of the vegetables grown in the jail gardens was realized, but there is still room for improvement in some gardens, especially Bassein and Toungoo.

122. Owing to the difficulty of providing good and useful labor inside the jails, extramural labor was performed to a greater extent in 1872 than in any previous year, and owing to a careful selection of the class of prisoners there were comparatively few escapes and no outbreaks. A daily average of 417 prisoners were thus employed, who earned £2,575 4s., against a daily average of 258, who earned £1,320 2s. in 1871. A large portion of the earnings were by a gang employed in excavating the canal in the Town of Rangoon, the earth-work being used for filling up the low ground along the river bank. Considerable sums were also earned in Moulmein, Akyab, and Toungoo.

123. The number of prisoners employed intramurally during the year was slightly in excess of that in 1871, viz., 1,804, against 1,742; but there was a large increase in the value of the work done, as will be seen from the following statement:—

	1871.	£.	s.	d.
Cash profits on manufactures	...	2,563	14	8
Value of printing done and credited by Accountant-General	...	3,805	0	8
Value of articles supplied to public departments, and credited by Accountant-General	...	85	15	3
Broken stone, &c., supplied to Public Works Department	...	698	15	0
Increase in value of outstandings, stock, &c.	...	1,681	11	9
		<u>8,834</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>4</u>

Less—

Cost of raw materials	...	5,481	15	11
Loss at Moulmein and Thayetmyo	...	262	12	1
		<u>5,744</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	...	3,090	7	4

1872.

Cash received on account of manufactures and outstanding bills	...	6,338	11	8
Amount credited by the Accountant-General on account of printing	...	6,971	9	4
Broken stone supplied to Public Works Department	...	905	1	4
		<u>14,215</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

Less—

Cost of raw materials	...	5,948	12	9
Decrease in value of stock, plant, and outstandings	...	1,269	14	2
		<u>7,218</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>
Total	...	6,996	15	5

124. The amount of the bills due to the Manufacturing Department at the close of 1872 was £1,636 12s. less than the sum so due on the 31st December 1871, which shows that satisfactory progress has been made in settling the accounts of the Rangoon Jail Press which had been allowed to fall into confusion prior to the year under report. The value of plant and machinery has been reduced by £184 13s., very little new machinery having been purchased during the year, and 10 per cent. having been taken off for depreciation in the value of the materials of the Rangoon Jail Press. In the value of manufactured articles in store there was an increase of £315 18s., and in the value of raw materials in stock £120 15s.

125. The following statement exhibits the earnings from intramural labor in the principal jails during the last two years:—

Earnings from intramural labor at the principal jails.

PRISONS.	1871.		1872.		Increase.	Increase.
	No. Empd.	£	No. Empd.	£	£	Per cent.
Rangoon ...	921	2,386	892	5,076	2,690	113
Moulmein ...	468	loss	320	322	...	...
Akyab ...	101	265	181	544	279	105
Bassein ...	56	57	104	191	134	232
Thayetmyo ...	169	loss	240	391	...	...
Toungoo ...	3	79	30	93	14	18
Total ...	1,718	2,787	1,767	6,617	...	...

126. The loss at Moulmein in the year 1871 was £233, and at Thayetmyo £30, the former being due to very bad management, and the latter to the fact that a considerable quantity of teel seed was purchased towards the end of the year, the value of which was not shown in the stock account. It is satisfactory to observe that with about the same number of prisoners employed in 1872 as in 1871, the earnings in the former year increased by 137 per cent. over those of the latter.

127. The greatest improvement is shown in the results from the Rangoon jail, where with a less number of convicts employed than in the previous year, the Superintendent, by developing the forms of labor already in existence, realized more than half the cost of the maintenance and guarding of the prison. It is expected that a very much larger result will be shown for the year 1873. At Akyab, too, the amount of profit from manufactures was very satisfactory, and covered over one-third of the cost of maintenance, &c. This is all the more creditable, seeing that the market at Akyab for the articles manufactured is but limited. Manufactures at Bassein can be carried on on a small scale only in consequence of the lack of raw materials, and the absence of a market in the town. The Moulmein jail did not do well in consequence of the want of intelligence and the apathy of the Superintendent, and owing to the high prices paid for raw materials; and although ample funds were placed at the disposal of the Superintendent

of the Thayetmyo jail for the purchase of oil seeds, yet a very small quantity was purchased, and good hard labor at the mills had to be stopped in consequence. The explanation given was, that "teel seed was not procurable," notwithstanding that fortyfold the quantity of oil seeds required by the jail must have been produced in the district. The earnings at Toungoo were principally from cleaning rice, which is a very good form of labor. The earnings at the other prisons were but trifling, and call for no special remarks.

128. It certainly at first sight seems remarkable that in a country where the wages of free labor range from 1s. to 2s. per diem, so little result can be shown as the outturn of prison labor. But the laborer for whom there is a great demand—viz., for agriculturists, mill-hands, and loaders of ships—is exactly of that class for which convict labor cannot be employed. In manufactures, the hand labor of the convicts has no chance against steam manufacture outside, and they are therefore of necessity limited to certain not very remunerative employments, such as cabinet-making, flour-grinding, stone-breaking, oil-pressing, mat and basket-making, and the like. The only way in which a large body of prisoners, such as those for instance, in the Central jail at Rangoon (say 2,400 men), can be fully employed is by the introduction of machinery, and it was with this object that the Government of India was asked to sanction the establishment of a jute-spinning mill in the Rangoon jail, for by this means jute twine could have been supplied in sufficient quantities to keep the whole of the prisoners at all the jails in the province employed in weaving gunny-bags. The Government of India, however, objected to the first outlay of so large an amount of capital, and it remains still to determine some means of providing the convicts with hard and profitable labor. Inquiries have been made regarding the use of cranks, tread-mills, and capstans as a motive power: the Chief Commissioner, has, however, satisfied himself that the experiment has not as yet proved a success in other provinces. No doubt, where there is water to be pumped, or some other simple object to be effected, requiring no very great or steady power, the tread-mill is a good form of labor;

but for weaving, oil-pressing, flour-grinding, or sawing, the power of the tread-mill is altogether inefficacious;—whether it can be improved by any mechanical ingenuity remains to be seen; but it seems very improbable that any amount of engineering skill will make the power of twenty men on a capstan as efficient as a 10-horse power steam engine, which is what seems to be expected of it by some who have written on the subject.

129. There is no doubt a prejudice against the employment of steam labor in jails; but this prejudice arises probably from the want of practical knowledge of the working of a jail. The Chief Commissioner is quite satisfied that no hand labor can ever involve the same amount of penal work to a native convict as working in a steam mill does. It is the necessity of continuous attention to his business, the impossibility of dozing or lagging over his work, the inevitable detection if he is shirking his work, which makes mill work so distasteful to the native convict. The manual labor of breaking stones or working a hand-loom may be greater than that of attending to a set of steam spindles or looms; but the former is carried on in a lounging, idle way, the convicts all talking and laughing, and evading their work, in spite of every precaution; while in a mill the work is, from its nature, continuous and unavoidable, and talking is impossible from the noise; while it is certainly no disadvantage that it more than covers the cost of the jail establishments. The best proof of this is, that in jails where both steam manufacture and hand labor is carried on together, no prisoner ever applies to be transferred from the latter class to the former.

130. As regards the outturn of jail labor, too, as a test of the punishment of the convicts, much misconception appears to exist,—indeed, many seem to think that profitable labor is altogether incompatible with penal labor, and much has been written of the mistake of what is called sacrificing penal labor to profitable labor. It is no uncommon thing now for a Jail Superintendent to pride himself on the small outturn of his jail, and take credit for the fact that he has employed his men in penal labor as distinguished from remunerative labor. To the Chief Commissioner it always seems that this is a mere excuse for an inefficient jail officer. The only real and trustworthy test of the extent to which prisoners have been pun-

Steam labor more punitive than hand labor.

Outturn of jail labor as a test of punishment.

ished is the tangible result of the outturn; and much greater faith is to be placed in the amount of the realized sale proceeds of flour-mills and oil-mills, and carpenters' and blacksmiths' shops, than in declarations made on the report of unreliable jail subordinates of the extent to which the men have been employed in shot drill, useless cranks, and other ingenious devices for resultless labor. As a matter of sentiment it is a subject of perfect indifference to the Indian or Burmese convict whether his labor is attended with results or not.

131. There is still much room for improvement in the manner in which intramural labor is carried on and managed in many of the district jails; but as these jails are generally under the superintendence of the District Officers, who have many other duties to attend to, it can scarcely be expected that they can either devote much time to the supervision of, or to the initiation of new forms of such labor.

132. The cost for maintenance and guarding was £24,697 19s. 9d., or £5 4s. 9d. per head; but from this must be deducted the balance at the credit of the manufacturing account, £6,996 15s. 5d.; the amount realized for convict labor, £2,576 5s. 5d.; and miscellaneous receipts, regarding which no explanation is furnished, £79 18s. 9d., together £9,651 19s. 7d., which divided over the total average daily number of prisoners, gives £2 0s. 11d. per head, so that the net cost for maintenance and guarding was £15,046 0s. 2d., or £3 3s. 10d. per head.

133. In addition to the expenditure under the control of the Inspector-General, the following disbursements on account of the Jail Department were made:—

	£.	s.	d.
Expended on new jail at Tavoy	3,658	11	1
Addition, alterations, and repairs to other jails	2,806	4	11
Inspection charges	1,747	11	8
Total	8,212	7	8

making the total net cost for the year £23,258 7s. 10d., or £4 18s. 9d. per head, against an aggregate net cost of £23,300 15s. 10d., or £4 19s. 2d. per head in 1871.

Total net cost per head.

Civil Justice.

134. The year 1872 has been marked by the introduction of changes in the constitution and character of the courts of the province, as established by the legislation of 1863, of which the principal were—

(1.)—The institution by the Burma Courts Act of 1872 of the Court of the Judicial Commissioner for the performance of the business of the Chief Court, formerly presided over by the Chief Commissioner, and the transfer to it of a great portion of the appellate business which was formerly disposed of in the Courts of the Commissioners of Divisions.

(2.)—The abolition by the same Act of the Court of the Judge's Court at Moulmein, and the substitution for it of the Court of a Judge subordinate to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

(3.)—The institution of a Special Court, constituted by the Recorder of Rangoon and the Judicial Commissioner, whose principal jurisdiction is to hear appeals from the decrees of the Judge of Moulmein.

(4.)—The abolition of the right of special appeal, i.e., of appeal in points of law, and the substitution for it of a reference on points of law, made by the Court itself to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

(5.)—The establishment of a Court of Small Causes at Akyab, with jurisdiction to hear suits valued at a sum not exceeding Ra. 100.

135. Of the effect of these changes it is too early to judge; but it may be briefly noted that the change in the character of the Court at Moulmein has not sensibly affected the amount of litigation, and that only two appeals came before the Special Court during the year,—a fact which appears to indicate that the public has not lost confidence in the decisions of the former Court.

Reason for small number of appeals from Judge of Moulmein.

COURTS EXERCISING JURISDICTION IN THE TOWN OF RANGOON.

136. In the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon the number of civil suits instituted in 1870 numbered 1,238; in 1871 their number was 598, and in 1872 the number has been 449. The

Decrease in the number of suits instituted in the Recorder's Court.

value of the suits in 1872 was £67,988, against £59,548 in the previous year. The great decrease in the number of cases instituted in 1871, as compared with the previous year, was considered by the Recorder to be due to the greater commercial prosperity during that year. The same cause was in operation during 1872, and may account for the diminished numbers who had recourse to the Court; but it would appear that there was a decrease of 93 regular suits and 56 miscellaneous suits.

137. The longest period during which any case had been on the file at the close of the year 1872 was 2 years 2 months and 24 days. This suit, involving long and complicated accounts, had been referred to a Commissioner, and stood on the dormant file. Omitting suits on the dormant file, the longest period during which any case had been on the file at the close of 1872 was 5 months and 15 days. At the close of 1871, the corresponding longest period was 1 year 7 months and 27 days. The average duration of contested suits disposed of during the year was 5 months and 14 days. This long average duration was due to the fact that several suits instituted in 1869 and 1870 were finally disposed of in 1872, for the average duration of contested suits instituted and disposed of within the year 1872 was only two months. The average duration of uncontested suits disposed of in 1872 was 2 months and 4 days.

138. The revenue of the Recorder's Court during the year 1872 amounted to £2,766, and the expenditure to £4,274; the particulars of both are given in the following tabular statement:—

		£			£
Amount realized by stamps,	2,506		Recorder's salary	...	2,739
Do. do. talabans,	143		Establishment	...	1,476
Do. do. fines,	18		Contingencies	...	59
Total...	2,766		Total	...	4,274

showing an excess of expenditure over receipts of £1,508. In 1871 the total revenue of the Court was £2,652, and the total expenditure £3,438, showing an excess of expenditure over receipts of £786.

Expenditure in 1871 exceeded receipts by £786.

139. In the Court of Small Causes, Rangoon, the number of regular suits instituted increased from 3,322 to 3,535, and the miscellaneous cases from 2,154 to 2,446. The total number of cases for disposal, including those pending from the previous year, was 6,111, and the number disposed of in 1872 was 5,914, as compared with 5,550 cases during 1871. The value of the suits, however, remained almost stationary, being £27,381 in 1872 and £27,317 in 1871.

140. The average duration of suits in the Court of Small Causes, Rangoon, during the past year was 11 days. The receipts of the Court amounted to £2,888, while the expenditure was only £1,617, thus showing an excess of receipts over disbursements of £1,271.

COURTS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER.

141. The following statement shows the number of suits instituted and disposed of in the several classes of courts during the past two years:—

CLASS OF COURTS.	Instituted.		Disposed of.		PENDING AT CLOSE OF YEAR.			
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	Above 4 months.		Total pending.	
					1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
Extra Assistant Commissioners, 2nd class ..	11,400	10,592	11,506	10,673	..	5	120	103
Ditto ditto 2nd and 1st class, and Assistant Commissioners.	7,290	7,307	7,230	7,308	..	7	84	90
Deputy Commissioners ..	53	61	53	53	..	..	3	11
Court of Recorder and Judge's Court, Moulmein.	400	457	398	393	3	10	45	49
Small Cause Court, Moulmein ..	2,826	2,919	2,806	2,874	..	..	198	173
Total ..	22,068	21,236	21,900	20,999	3	23	463	435
Increase ..	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	..
Decrease ..	..	832	..	1,091	..	..	..	97

142. From the above it will be seen that the total number of suits instituted during the year under review was 21,236, or 832 less than the number instituted during 1871. The decrease is certainly no matter of regret, unless there is any reason to suspect that the people are dissatisfied with the courts. This, however, the

small proportion of appeals shows not to be the case. It is very difficult to know what may be considered a normal amount of litigation for any given population, and it is not very certain how far varying conditions of society, such as a general possession of means or a general state of poverty, go to swell or diminish the amount of litigation.

143. The value of suits was as follows:—

NUMBER OF SUITS DISPOSED OF VALUED AT NOT EXCEEDING RUPEES	Above 1,00,000	Total value of suits.					
		4,00,000 0 10	6,00,000 0 0	85,100 0 0	2,17,540 14 0	1,81,687 10 2	10,46,405 13 0
	
10,000	..	..	..	..	..	5	
5,000	1	176	5	67	26	800	
1,000	1,288	1,146	14	88	201	2,758	
100	6,707	2,911	88	103	1,174	9,210	
20	2,503	2,145	8	48	669	6,402	
5	1,445	990	1	3	177	2,616	
CLASS OF COURTS.		TOTAL ..					
Extra Assistant Commissioners, 2nd class ..		..			
Ditto ditto 2nd and 1st class, and Assistant Commissioners.		..					
Deputy Commissioners		..					
Court of Recorder and Judge's Court, Moulmein.		..					
Small Cause Courts, Moulmein and Akyab ..		..			

144. These figures show that the total value of the subject-matter of litigation throughout the province was a little less than £165,000—about £20,000 less than the value in 1871. More than half the

litigation was on account of money due on contract, and about one-twentieth only was connected with immovable property. Out of 20,719 suits disposed of by the courts, 17,658 were suits valued at sums not exceeding £10, and nearly one-half the total number of suits were valued at sums not exceeding £2. Twenty-seven per cent. of the cases brought on the files were disposed of without passing a decree, and the proportion of suits decided after contest in court was 40 per cent. Of these 70 per cent. were decided in favor of the plaintiff. This may be considered satisfactory, as indicating that in the large majority of cases the aid of the courts was not sought without good reason.

145. The annexed table shows the total number of decrees passed by the several courts, the number of applications for execution, and the extent to which the applications were satisfied:—

Number of decrees passed during the year.	Number of applications for execution, including those pending from last year.	Decrees completely executed.	Decrees partially executed.	Struck off.	PENDING AT CLOSE OF THE YEAR.	
					For more than four months.	Total pending.
14,872	5,326	2,987	1,035	1,062	1	170

There were thus 14,872 decrees passed by the courts, and only 5,326 applications for execution. This may be held to show that the defeated party submits to the decision and satisfies the decree without the necessity for any coercive process. Then, again, the large proportion (56 per cent.) of applications, which resulted in the complete satisfaction of the decrees, shows very favorably when compared with the averages in other provinces.

146. Processes of execution were issued as follows:—

Delivery of possession.	Specific performance.	Imprisonment of person.	MOVABLE PROPERTY.		IMMOVABLE PROPERTY.		Orders under Section 248, Act VIII of 1859.
			Attachment.	Sale.	Attachment.	Sale.	
276	14	704	1,660	710	885	373	14

Although the total number of persons returned under the head of "imprisonment of persons" seems large, only a small proportion of the persons for whose imprisonment warrants issued were actually thrown into prison.

147. A ready recourse to the law courts is sometimes said to be a sign of the advancement of the people, while on the other hand it is sometimes held to betoken a discontented and ill-adjusted condition of the population. However that may be, it is interesting to see how British Burma stands when compared with other provinces in the proportion which civil litigation holds to the population. In British Burma the number of civil suits instituted equals one suit to 130 of the population; in the Punjab the proportion is one suit to 95 of the population; in the Central Provinces, one to 105; in Oudh one to 327.

148. It appears that of 10,421 appealable decrees which were passed during the year, 1,195, or 11 per cent., appeals were preferred, which shows that the people are contented generally to accept the decisions of the Lower Courts, and this is the more satisfactory when it is considered that of these 10,421 appealable decrees, 9,405 were passed by the Extra Assistant Commissioners, who are all natives of the country.

SPECIAL COURT.

149. As regards the Special Court created by the Burma Courts Act, 1872, only two appeals were presented from the Judge of the Town of Moulmein, and of these only one was heard during the year. No criminal appeal or reference from the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon was brought before the Special Court in 1872.

Registration.

150. There is no separate establishment for this Department in British Burma. The Registration Act (VIII of 1871) came into force in July of that year; an Inspector-General of Registration was appointed as a temporary measure, and 13 Registrars' and 19 Sub-Registrars' offices opened. It was found, however, after a few months trial, that the registration work was little more than nominal, and that consequently the receipts were too small to bear the expense of an Inspector-General and his Establishment; as it was the year 1871 closed with a deficit balance under this head of £176.

151. The work of inspection was then entrusted to the several Commissioners within their respective divisions, and the work has continued so slight that no necessity has as yet arisen for a separate department being formed. No mention has been made of registration in the Administration Reports of the province hitherto, and no separate reports have been submitted to the Government of India. The experience acquired has been so slight and so few documents have been registered that an annual report has not hitherto been thought necessary; for this reason no statements for the financial year are available. The receipts and disbursements are so small that although there is now a steady credit balance on the working of the Department, this has not yet been sufficient to wipe off the deficit occasioned by the temporary entertainment of an Inspector-General. There is still a debit balance of £121 outstanding as stated below:—

Balance outstanding	...	...	£ 176
Receipts in 1872-73	...	...	„ 700
			—
Disbursements in 1872-73	...	...	524
			645
			—
Debit balance	...	...	121
			—

In 1872 there were 2,300 documents registered, representing property to the value of £247,875; there were 35 registration offices which gives a nominal average of 66.25 documents to each office, but as a matter of fact threefourths of the documents were registered in four offices.

Municipal Administration.

152. Municipal taxes are levied in all the more important towns in the province; there is, however, no Municipal Act in force, consequently these municipalities, if they may be so called, are administered entirely by the Chief Commissioner and the District Officers. A Municipal Bill for British Burma is at present under the consideration of the Legislative Council of the Government of India, and it is to be hoped that it will shortly become law.

153. There are forty-five towns in the province, in which either a Municipal Fund or a Town Fund has been established. The following statement shows the population of these towns:—

8 towns with a population above 10,000				
11 ditto	ditto	ditto	5,000, but under 10,000	
10 ditto	ditto	ditto	3,000, ditto	5,000
16 ditto	ditto	ditto	1,000, ditto	3,000

The total annual receipts of the Municipal and Town Funds during 1872-73, amounted to £58,000. Of this sum it may be said that one-third is the product of Municipal taxes proper, i.e., taxes on the area of land covered by buildings as in the larger towns, or on houses, according to the number of posts (practically a tax on area also), as in the smaller and less advanced towns. Another third of the total municipal receipts is derived from the rents of the stalls in the Municipal bazars and markets, and the remaining third is the produce of miscellaneous receipts, from the sale of licenses of kinds, such as those for the wholesale and retail vend of imported liquor; for hack carriages and carts, passenger boats, slaughter-houses and the like.

154. These Municipal and Town Funds were instituted immediately after the occupation of Pegu—that is from 1853 to 1856, but a night-watch tax had been paid in the Town of Moulmein since 1846. The funds have been administered by the Officers of Government, for the benefit of the town in which they have been raised, and they have all along been kept separate from the Imperial revenue. Thus, the Govern-

ment has in almost all the towns which pay Municipal tax, conducted large, airy, well drained and well ordered markets, which are really a comfort and advantage to the people. The rents derived from the stall-keepers far more than pay the necessary establishments, and are a legitimate sum of revenue to the municipality; indeed, this head of receipt is an indirect voluntary tax, practically resembling an octroi duty without any of its evils;—and in such towns as possess the source of municipal revenue, direct taxation is the less required.

Military.

155. THE military force by which the province of British Burma was garrisoned during the year 1872-73, consisted of four batteries of Artillery, two regiments of European Infantry, one company of Sappers and Miners, and four and a half regiments of Native Infantry. The average strength of the troops was 2,148 Europeans, 2,802 Natives, thus making a total force of 4,950 men of all arms.

156. The troops required for the penal settlement of Port Blair and for the Nicobars are drawn from the regiments stationed in British Burma for the time being; thus the European regiment stationed in Rangoon has to furnish a detachment of 112 rank and file, for the protection of Port Blair, while the Native regiment at Moulmein has to detail three companies of 100 men each, for the same purpose. There are, therefore, only some 4,500 men available for the protection of the province.

157. The force at each of the frontier stations of Toungoo and Thayetmyo consists of one battery of Artillery, a wing of a European regiment, and a Native regiment, so that there are not more than 1,100 men of all ranks at each of these places; the force at Toungoo has to supply a small detachment of 100 men for the protection of the town of Shwè-gyeen. During the year of report, a wing of a Native regiment was stationed at Akyab, but owing to the penurious manner in which the men lived they became very sickly, and as their services were no longer absolutely necessary at that town, they were removed to Moulmein, where the headquarters of the regiment were stationed. The whole of the troops employed in this province are furnished by the Madras Presidency, and are under the control of the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army.

Average strength of the military force.

Troops for the Andamans are drawn from the force in British Burma.

Strength of the force at the frontier stations.

Withdrawal of the detachment from Akyab.

Marine.

158. The statements below given show the number of vessels with their tonnage which entered and cleared at the principal ports of the province during the last two years; a large proportion of these vessels were under the Italian flag:—

ENTERED.

Ports.	1871-72.		1872-73.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Akyab ...	256	129,051	368	196,131	112	67,070	...	...
Rangoon ...	620	339,810	771	466,876	151	127,266	...	...
Bassein ...	66	41,811	97	55,884	31	14,073	...	...
Moulmein.	531	165,462	515	174,225	...	8,763	16	...
Total ...	1,473	675,944	1,751	893,116	294	217,172	16	...

CLEARED.

Ports.	1871-72.		1872-73.		Increase.			
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.		
Akyab	263	130,303	321	181,355	59	51,152
Rangoon	732	339,106	867	451,851	135	112,746
Bassein	67	41,376	98	57,088	31	15,712
Moulmein	589	164,510	573	160,295	4	15,735
Total ...	1,630	675,194	1,859	870,589	229	195,395		

159. In 1872-73 a number of steamers were employed convey rice and other produce to Europe via the Suez Canal, and the clearances were as follows:—

Akyab ...	...	...	24	of 23,022 tons.
Rangoon ...	...	...	33	of 32,445 "
Bassein ...	...	...	6	of 4,836 "

160. The high price of coal has for the present somewhat restricted this traffic.

161. The steamer traffic on the Irrawaddy still further increased in the year under review—the six steamers of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Co. two of the India General Steam Navigation Co. and three belonging to the King of Burma having made 82 trips upwards and 80 downwards, against 66 and 57 respectively, in 1871-72; but the boat traffic decreased to a very large extent, as will be seen from the following statement:—

YEARS.	Exports.		Imports.		Total.		
	No. of boats.	Tonnage.	No. of boats.	Tonnage.	No. of boats.	Tonnage.	
1871-72 ...	...	9,398	90,595	10,044	104,066	19,442	194,651
1872-73 ...	...	6,211	65,170	6,806	75,143	17,017	140,313
Decrease ...	1,187	25,425	1,238	28,912	2,425	54,338	

The falling off in the boat traffic in 1871-72, as compared with the previous year, was 60,811 tons, whilst in the year under review there has been a further diminution to the extent of 54,338 tons, or a total decrease in two years of 115,149 tons.

162. In addition to the regular lines of steam communication, viz, from Calcutta to Akyab, Kyaukse, and Sandoway; from Calcutta to Akyab, Rangoon and Moulmein, with the monthly continuation to the Straits and to the Southern ports of the Tenasserim Division; and the monthly line of steamers

from England to Rangoon, several lines of steamers commenced to run during the year regularly to the Straits with rice, two of which call at Mergui, Junk Ceylon and other small ports, where a considerable trade has sprung up.

163. The accidents to shipping whilst in Pilots' waters were not so numerous in the year of report as in the previous one, but there were still several casualties, chiefly owing to carelessness. A large ship, the *Great Australia*, was lost on the Baragua Flat, beyond Pilots' limits; fortunately all hands were saved and brought safely to Rangoon. H. M.'s steam transport *Malabar* arrived in Rangoon in December 1872 direct from England with troops, and left on the return voyage in the following month with a relieved regiment on board.

164. The *Nemesis* was the only steamer at the service of the Local Administration during the year. She is, as has been before stated, quite unfit for the general requirements of the province.

165. The Light-houses on the coast of this province, which have been erected from Imperial funds, are, the *Alguada*, on the reef of that name, to the south of the entrance to the Bassein river; the *Cocos*, on Table Island, the most northerly of the Cocos group of Islands in the Bay of Bengal; and the *Krishna*, on a shoal so named at the southern end of the Baragua Flat, situated in the Gulf of Martaban, 70 miles from the mouth of the Rangoon river. The Light-houses, the cost of which has been debited to Port funds, are, one on Double Island, off Amherst, at the mouth of the Moulmein river; one on Savage Island, at the entrance to the harbour of Akyab; and two off the port of Rangoon, one of which is at the mouth of the river of that name, and the other about three miles north-east of the China-Buckeer branch of the river Irrawaddy. These lights, with the exception of the *Alguada* and *Cocos*, where the head light-keepers are Europeans, are looked after entirely by natives, who appear to be very careful about their work, and to keep the apparatus in excellent order. The Light-house Department is supervised by the Master Attendant of Rangoon, who is also Superintendent of Light-houses, and was conducted satisfactorily during the year.

166. The China Buckeer Light has apparently been placed too far from the navigable channel, and experiments are being made with a view to removing the light-house to the outer edge of the sands if practicable.

167. The piles put down for the new light-house on the Oyster Reef were so damaged by the wooden staging left on the works during the south-west monsoon of 1872, that it has been found necessary to remove and replace them: the progress of the work has therefore been much retarded, and a considerable period must necessarily elapse before the light-house can be completed.

168. Complaints have been made from time to time by Masters of vessels of the incorrect survey of the coast of Tenasserim, the charts, it is stated, being unreliable; it seems very desirable that a fresh survey should be made.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Agriculture.

169. Rice is the staple product of the province, and there were during the past year 1,893,199 acres under rice cultivation, against 1,836,021 acres in 1871-72, thus showing an increase in favor of the year under report of 57,178 acres: it appears from the returns that this increase in the area of land under rice cultivation was general throughout the province and was not confined to any particular district.
- Rice.
170. There were 17,136 acres under sessamum cultivation during the year 1872-73, against 25,502 acres in the previous year. Sessamum is chiefly cultivated in the Myanoung and Thayet districts; it is grown generally on the high land, which is unsuited to the cultivation of rice, and the crop is usually very remunerative to the cultivator.
- Sessamum.
171. There is a small increase in the area of land under sugar cultivation, the figures for the two years being 3,466 and 3,179 acres respectively; the cultivation of the sugarcane is carried on chiefly in the gardens around the cultivators' houses. Sugarcane is usually consumed in the raw state, and it is seldom that any sugar is extracted from it, that generally used by the people is a coarse kind of molasses extracted from the palm tree.
- Sugar.
172. The area under cotton cultivation has decreased from 14,120 acres in 1871-72, to 13,122 acres during the past year. Cotton is principally grown in the "Toungyas" or hill clearings, the areas of which are only given approximately as they are not measured. The fibre of the indigenous cotton is short but strong, and it adheres with great tenacity to the seed. There were no experiments made during the year with any foreign cotton.
- Cotton.
173. The area of tobacco cultivation has increased from 12,866 acres to 13,949 acres during the past year; this plant is produced altogether for home consumption, and is grown on sand banks or in the dry beds of streams, and is generally of a very inferior kind. As the people consume this plant in great quantities,
- Tobacco.

it is much to be regretted that they do not cultivate it more extensively. Tobacco is imported into the province in considerable quantities from the eastern ports of India.

"Toungya" or "Jhoom" cultivation is discouraged as much as possible, as it is very wasteful and destructive; but it cannot be altogether prohibited, as it is the only means of support which many of the population possess.

174. Hemp was cultivated over a small area in the Akyab district, but the cultivation has not increased during the year. This valuable fibre might be largely cultivated in this province, but the want of labor alone, no doubt, prevents many from attempting it.

Hemp.

175. The doorian and mangostein are cultivated in the Tenasserim Division, but chiefly in the southern districts of Tavoy and Mergui. It is said that these fruits are only found in the Malacca Peninsula. The mangostein is a delicate flavoured fruit, while the doorian has a very strong flavour and a most foetid smell; the doorian is much liked by the Burmese, who will pay high prices for it, and it is annually sent up to Mandalay in large quantities to the King of Burma.

Doorian and mangostein.

176. The number of cows and bullocks has increased from 529,654 to 546,804, the increase has been general throughout every district; there was some murrain or cattle disease during the year. The importation of cattle from Upper Burma is strictly forbidden; but the order is not always strictly enforced.

Number of cows and bullocks.

177. There is again a small increase in the number of horses and ponies, which is immaterial; the number of sheep and goats have increased from 15,081 to 18,594; as also number of pigs from 85,458 to 94,817.

Horses, ponies, sheep and goats.

178. The returns show the number of carts at 165,539 against 144,036 during the previous year. The number of ploughs during the two years were respectively 241,264 and 252,712.

Carts and ploughs.

179. The number of buffaloes has increased from 551,566 to 569,610, or by 18,044 animals.

Buffaloes.

180. The average rent per acre for rice land varies from 1 shilling to 6 shillings; while the high land, on which other grains can be cultivated, fetches generally from 3 shillings to

Average rent of land per acre.

4 shillings per acre. The average produce of rice per acre is 1,367lbs.; in some districts however, the average yield is 2,500lbs., while in others it is only 900lbs.

181. The price of rice varied during the year from 2s. 6d. per maund of 80lbs., in the Ramree district, to 6s. 3d. in the Prome district. The average price during the year throughout the whole province was about 4s. 3d.

182. The price of indigenous cotton also varied in the several districts of the province very considerably; its average price was about 12s. 3d.

183. Salt has varied in price from 1s. 3d. in Tavoy, to 16s. in Ramree for a maund of 80lbs. The price of tobacco per maund of 80lbs. also varies very considerably, being £18s. 3d. in the Rangoon district, and about 9s. in the Prome district:

184. The average price of a buffalo is £5 17s. and that of a plough bullock is £5 2s. Buffaloes, however, are generally used for ploughing in this province.

185. The price of skilled labor varies from 1s. 3d. per diem to 4s., while unskilled labor commands from 6d. to 1s. a day. But at the principal seaport towns as much as 2s. a day is paid in the shipping season for cooly or unskilled labor.

Weather and Crops.

186. The weather during the year 1872-73 was much the same as it has usually been in this province. The rains were perhaps not quite so heavy as in the previous year, but still they were abundant and seasonable—so much so that the crop of rice was a remarkably good one. The outturn of the harvest was so large that upwards of 720,000 tons of rice were available for export after providing for the requirements of the whole of the population of British Burma.

Forests.

187. The total area sanctioned as State forests at the close of 1871-72 was 134.30 square miles. During this year no addition to this area has been made, although up to the present proposals to the extent of 567.38 square miles have been forwarded by the Forest Department to District Officers, but the latter require time to inspect the localities and to personally approve of their reservation after procuring full information regarding the tracts which it is proposed to reserve.

188. The areas proposed during the past year were—

Salween Division.	{	East Domdamee	...	} 44 square miles	
		West ditto	...		
		Beeling	...		10 ditto.
		Yoonzaleen, south of Sinzway Choung	...		4½ ditto.

The correct area proposed in the Prome Division, chiefly of teak reserves, is 367.38 square miles, and not 384.71, as shown in 1871-72. In addition, catch (*Acacia catechu*) tracts aggregating 84.3 square miles have been proposed for reservation. In the Tharrawaddy Division the proposed fuel reserves, aggregating 7,029 acres, or 10.9 square miles, have been examined and approved of by the District Officer after rectification of boundaries, and their demarcation will be undertaken next season.

189. In the Sittang Division, the Pyoon Choung reserve, aggregating 3,519 acres, or 5.49 square miles, was finally demarcated.

190. The following summary of operations in connection with this work for the past five years may be usefully recorded:—

		Areas surveyed, mapped and proposals under consideration.	Areas sanctioned and finally demarcated.
		Square miles.	Square miles.
Prome—	Teak and other valuable trees	367.38	29.17
	For catch solely	84.30	..
Tharrawaddy—	Teak and other valuable trees	22.80	70.46
	Fuel Reserves	10.90	..
Salween—	Teak and other valuable trees	68.38	20.18
Sittang—	Ditto ditto	..	5.49
Rangoon—	Ditto ditto	4.76	..
	Fresh Reserves	18.09	..
	Total	567.38	124.30

191. Valuation surveys with a view to testing the resources of tracts proposed for reservation were held in the Tharrawaddy, Prome, and Salween Divisions thus:—

	Tharrawaddy.	Prome.	Salween.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Chiefly teak localities	...	5,755.5	500
Tracts containing catch and other valuable woods	216	3,967.4	...

192. Two rest-houses, with a view to facilitating the work of inspection, have been erected in the Tharrawaddy Division, and two more are in course of construction. These will be found of great utility to European officers during the rains. Their cost is moderate—£35 each.

193. In order to determine the full extent of the irregularities discovered at the close of the previous year in the Sittang Division, the systematic examination of the forests in this division was taken in hand. The results show that with the connivance generally of the late divisional officer, Mr. Graham, and his subordinates, the Forest Rules had been most flagrantly violated by the employes of the Burma Company, Limited, the principal permit-holders of this division. A widespread disregard for the Conservancy Rules was engendered thereby, and the results, as far as could be ascertained up to the close of the year, were the illicit girdling and felling of 7,005 trees in forests held by the Burma Company, Limited, and 2,702 trees in those of other permit-holders. The leading employes in three of the principal forests were successfully prosecuted in the District Courts for "mischievous" and "theft,"—one of the headmen and four of his servants, were also prosecuted and convicted of perjury in certain judicial proceedings held by the Assistant Conservator during the previous year; other cases were also instituted, which resulted in the confiscation of altogether 3,750 logs found lying felled or dragged in various forests held by the Burma Company, Limited, in addition to 1,359 logs lapsed to Government by the cancellation of the permits.

194. Girdling operations were carried on in the Rangoon, Tharrawaddy and Prome Divisions, but Girdling operations were entirely suspended in the Sittang Division. The results of the work may be thus noted:—

Rangoon—Upper Zamayee	...	2,000	trees
Tharrawaddy—Toungnyo and Padingben	...	3,000	"
Toung Choung	...	2,002	"
Prome—North Nawing	...	441	"
Middle do.	...	559	"

195. During the year 142 acres were cultivated on the banks of the Magayee river, making the total area 2,024·28 acres. The growth of the trees, particularly in the higher parts, is most promising. In addition to the 142 acres regularly planted, the following areas have been cleared and prepared for planting in 1873-74, viz.—

Rangoon Division.—Magayee plantation	...	213	acres.
Sittang Division.—Pyouon-choung	...	50	"

The total amount expended on this work during the past year has been £2,935. During the last five years 1,767·28 acres have been brought under cultivation, thus giving an average annual extension of 353·45 acres. The total amount expended on operations up to the close of 1872-73 has been £13,832, or at a cost per acre of about £7, inclusive of experimental cultivation.

196. The number of Cinchona trees has increased from 354 to 522, all fairly established. In addition, 1,362 cuttings have been prepared—1,162 from trees at Thantoungyee, and 200 from those at Plumadoc. These were sufficiently advanced to permit of their being planted out in the rains of 1873. 5,062 seedlings of the *Succirubra*, *Calasaya* and *Condamisia* varieties were raised from Darjeeling and Ootacamund seed. Five acres of land in the present plantation were cleared and pitted for their reception in the main plantation. On the Plumadoc Plantation the total number of trees is 240. From 118 of these trees 14 ounces of seed were gathered. Specimens of bark from these trees, as well as the two old trees at Bogalay, were forwarded to the Government Quinologist, Madras, and some to the Vienna Exhibition of 1873. A sum of £204 was expended on both these plantations in 1872-73. The result of five years' work has been the successful planting of 522 trees at Thantoungyee and 240 at Plumadoc; and over 5,000 seedlings and cuttings ready for planting out in the rains of

1873. The total cost of the experiment, inclusive of the salary of the Assistant receiving instruction, has been £768.

197. The following is the outturn of timber in British territory:—

	Logs.	Tons.
Brought to depôts by Government contractors from the Rangoon and Tharrawaddy Divisions	9,342	10,018·7
From the sea shore, drift and miscellaneous sources	4,078	3,954·8
Worked out by permit-holders, inclusive of 4,790 logs, or 4,406 tons, from the Attaran, worked under 30 years' leases	28,785	25,725·0
Total	42,205	39,698·0

These figures exhibit a decrease of 12,428 tons on the outturn of 1871-72, and are explained so far as the forests worked by Government are concerned, by the reduction in the number of girdled trees under the revised working plan, and, in the case of other forests, by the severe mortality amongst elephants owned by permit-holders, which compelled them to suspend work in some of the principal tracts of the Sittang Division. In the Eastern Prome Division short rainfall caused a small outturn, and in the Western Prome, a complete change was made in the working establishment, which resulted also in decreasing the outturn of timber.

198. In addition to the above, 314 logs, aggregating 263 tons, of thitkadoc (*Cedrela toona*) and thitka (*Pentace burmanica*) were extracted from the forests in the Salween Division.

199. A severe epidemic breaking out amongst the elephants of the department caused 20 casualties, thus materially reducing the live stock of the department. Satisfactory recoveries were made from contractors for value of elephants supplied under the loan system: the large sum of £681 was realized as interest under this system.

200. Importation of teak timber by the Salween river exhibits a decrease of 20,693 tons compared with the previous year. The decrease is attributable to scarcity of rainfall and early closing of the monsoon, large quantities of timber being ready for floating.

The importation by the three rivers open to traffic was as follows:—

		Logs	Tons.
Salween	...	60,650	60,650
Irrawaddy	...	5,942	4,397
Sittang	...	12,980	12,980
Total	...	79,572	78,027

201. The annual importation for the past five years may be thus exhibited:—

	1868-69.		1869-70.		1870-71.		1871-72.		1872-73.	
	Logs.	Tons.	Logs.	Tons.	Logs.	Tons.	Logs.	Tons.	Logs.	Tons.
By Salween ..	62,623	57,615	44,262	40,721	73,169	67,315	88,417	61,849	60,650	60,650
.. Sittang ..	11,337	7,661	5,621	5,621	11,355	10,223	15,347	15,262	12,980	12,980
.. Irrawaddy ..	29,633	11,607	1,160	5,815	17,390	4,987	8,645	1,814	5,942	4,397

202. The cash receipts of the Forest Department in 1872-73 amounted to £82,757, obtained under the following heads:—

Revenue.	Kadoe.	Forests in British Burma.	Total.
I. Sale of timber at Depôts ...	£	£	£
II. Do. removed by purchasers ...	...	36,044	...
III. Duty on foreign timber ...	...	19,119	...
IV. Permit fees ...	21,315	...	...
VII. Sale of confiscated drift and waif timber ...	...	1,247	...
VIII. Fines and forfeitures ...	...	2,338	...
IX. Miscellaneous receipts ...	...	168	...
	...	2,526	...
Total ...	21,315	61,442	82,757

203. Against the above the following expenditure has to be noted:—

Forests in British Burma	£	32,094
Kadoe, being cost of collection of duty on foreign timber	...	1,526
Total	...	33,620

204. The result is a net surplus in favor of the Forest Department of—

Surplus.		£
Forests in British Burma	...	29,248
Kadoe	...	19,789
Total	...	49,137

The estimated surplus was £35,500; the actuals have exceeded that figure by Rs. 13,637.

205. The following is the statement of the receipts and expenditure of the department from 1868-69 to 1872-73, or for five years:—

	Timber extracted from forests in British Burma.	Foreign timber.	Total.
	£	£	£
Receipts ...	1868-69 ... 60,291	21,400	81,791
	1869-70 ... 84,633	12,855	97,488
	1870-71 ... 66,817	14,996	81,813
	1871-72 ... 60,773	16,467	77,240
	1872-73 ... 61,449	21,315	82,764
Expenditure...	1868-69 ... 40,077	2,236	42,313
	1869-70 ... 39,755	1,782	41,537
	1870-71 ... 38,532	1,472	40,004
	1871-72 ... 35,889	1,957	37,846
	1872-73 ... 32,094	1,526	33,620

206. The above figures show a cash surplus for the past five years as follows:—

1868-69	...	£	39,478
1869-70	...	56,240	
1870-71	...	41,808	
1871-72	...	39,394	
1872-73	...	49,187	

It will be observed that the surplus of the current year compares favorably with that of past years.

207. In addition to this cash surplus, the following sums have to be credited in order

Assets of the year.

to show the actual financial condition of the Forest Department :—

	£
Value of timber sold by public auction ...	132
Permit revenue due on timber worked out, Salween Division ...	1,818
Difference of value of stock 1872-73 as compared with 1871-72 ...	479
Total Assets ...	2,429

The actual surplus of the year will therefore be £51,536.

208. The amount expended on 13,418 logs and two sleepers was £23,932, or at a cost of £1 15s. 8d. per log, or £1 12s. 9d. per ton; the figures, by way of comparison for the past five years may be thus noted :—

Years.	No. of logs.	Sleepers.	Total	Paid to Contractors.	Cost per log.	Cost per ton.
1868-69 ...	24,654	3,298	27,952	£ 21,138	£ s. d. 1 5 7½	£ s. d. 1 10 0
1869-70 ...	16,949	6,429	23,378	28,652	1 4 6	1 15 6½
1870-71 ...	23,418	2,712	26,130	32,802	1 5 0	1 8 7½
1871-72 ...	21,406	929	22,334	30,938	1 7 8½	1 8 10
1872-73 ...	13,418	2	13,420	23,932	1 15 8	1 12 9

209. 15,563 logs and 1,000 sleepers were sold during the year. The amount realized was £33,511. The following tabular statement for five years will exhibit the fluctuating prices of the market for that period :—

Years.	Logs.	Sleepers.	Total	Amount realized.	Average per log.	Average per ton.
1868-69 ...	11,098	2,522	13,620	£ 28,033	£ s. d. 2 13 7½	£ s. d. 2 15 1½
1869-70 ...	20,453	7,566	28,019	56,907	2 0 7	2 18 2½
1870-71 ...	14,057	160	14,217	32,757	2 7 6	2 4 8½
1871-72 ...	15,584	409	16,093	37,383	2 6 8	2 5 9
1872-73 ...	15,563	1,000	16,563	33,511	2 0 6	2 1 2½

The average market price of first-class teak timber throughout the year was about £5 per ton.

210. An interesting feature in the timber trade this year is the export of 607 tons of padouk (*Pterocarpus dalbergioides*) and pyimmah (*Lagerstrœmia regina*), exclusive of the thitka and thitkadœ (263 tons), worked by Government agency.

211. The outturn from forests worked by permit timber. perm t-holders was—

Prome, East and West ...	...	7,065 logs.
Rangoon ...	...	346 "
Sittang ...	...	10,192 "
Salween ...	...	6,352 "
Total ...		23,955 "

212. The following has been the outturn during the past five years. for the past five years :—

	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Total.
Prome, East ...	3,560	2,662	3,525	2,591	1,789	14,120
Do, West ...	7,060	8,125	8,151	7,251	5,283	26,870
Rangoon Division ...	1,131	223	395	497	346	2,692
Sittang do. ...	11,861	11,488	18,728	17,013	10,192	69,282
Salween do. ...	18,171	9,519	15,583	6,518	6,352	66,143
Total ...	41,783	32,017	46,380	33,870	23,955	178,006

Profits of permit system for five years.

213. The profits of this system of working the forests during the past five years have been as follows :—

	Per log.	Per ton.
	s. d.	s. d.
1868-69 ...	11 1½	16 8
1869-70 ...	12 10½	17 4½
1870-71 ...	8 4½	11 3
1871-72 ...	11 6	12 7½
1872-73 ...	10 10½	12 1½

It will be observed that the profits are not to be compared with the Government agency system adopted in the Tharwaddy and Rangoon Divisions.

214. Two permits lapsed during the year, viz., the Mudday Forest, Prome Division, and Thoungyeen, Salween Division, and were again leased for another year.

215. Towards the close of the official year a shipment of 370 tons of first-class teak timber was prepared to meet the requirements of the Public Works Department of Cape Colony.

Timber for Cape of Good Hope Government.

Public Works Department, British Burma.

the rains of 1872.

216. To the Public Works Department of the province 1,877 tons of teak and 21 logs of iron-wood were supplied during the rains of 1872.

217. Attention has been paid to the extraction of the following varieties of wood, with a view to their regular introduction into the market in future years:—

On the working out of woods of other kinds.

<i>Pinus massoniana</i>	...	40 logs in course of extraction.
Thimwin (<i>Pongana globra</i>), identical with the rose-wood of Southern India	}	Sample sent to cabinet-makers at Calcutta and Madras for trial.
Kalamet (<i>Cordia species</i>) remarkable for fragrance			... }	In course of extraction.
Thitkadoc (<i>Cedrela toona</i>)	...	} 263 tons supplied by the Department and sent to England by Moulmein merchants.
Thitka (<i>Pentace burmanica</i>)	... }	

218. During the year free grants of teak timber for charitable purposes were made to the extent of 303 logs and nine pieces.

The total number of logs and pieces granted during the past five years has been—

	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Total.
Logs	1,479	1,379	1,683	100	303	4,944
Pieces	...	...	...	...	9	9

219. During the year a considerable quantity of teak seed, amounting altogether to 8,400 lb., was despatched at the request of the local officers to Port Blair, Calcutta Cooch Behar, Arakan and Chittagong, for experimental cultivation in those provinces.

Teak seed.

Mines and Quarries.

220. The only mines in the province are those worked for tin in the southern portion of the Tenasserim Division. This mineral exists over a large extent of country in the Mergui and Tavoy Districts, and is obtained by removing and washing the pebble and boulder deposits of the river beds. It is a bi-oxide of the metal in the condition of black sand, and is the cassiterite of mineralogists; as its chemical name implies, it consists when free from all other minerals or earthly impurities, of one atomic weight of metallic tin, and two of oxygen.

Locality of the principal tin mines.

221. Samples of the tin-stone once washed produce about 70 per cent. of metal, and twice washed 75 per cent. It is therefore very pure, and the metal produced is of excellent quality, and almost free from alloy. Hitherto these deposits have been worked by Chinese and natives of the country in a very rough and unscientific manner, and the tin-stone is smelted in a most primitive way, so that the produce realized is only 68 per cent. of metal. The attention of European capitalists is now being given to these mines, and arrangements have been made to lease out certain tracts.

222. Coal exists on the banks of the Tenasserim river and in other parts of the province; but it has never been worked to any extent.

223. Lead has been found in Toungoo and on Maingay's Island in the Mergui Archipelago, but nothing has been done towards utilizing it;

a superficial exploration was made during the year 1871-72. This mineral exists, too, in the Shwè-gyeen district, where gold, antimony ore, and iron-stone is also found. The quantity of the precious metal is, however, very small, and the searchers for it are badly remunerated.

224. Limestone exists in several parts of the province, and quarries are worked pretty extensively in Thayetmyo and Bassein; the stone might be excavated profitably in Sandoway if a demand existed.

Limestone quarries.

Manufacture.

225. The most important mills in the country are those employed in the sea-port towns for the cleaning of rice and for the sawing of timber. There are now 38 steam rice mills in the province, against only 3 five years ago, and the number seems likely to still further increase with the enormous demand which now exists for cargo rice for shipment to Europe and the Straits and China. The majority of the timber mills are at Moulmein, but there are several in Rangoon also.

226. Weaving is carried on throughout the province, silk and cotton goods being manufactured in large quantities, chiefly for home use, in small hand looms. A loom usually forms part of a Burman's household furniture, and it is worked by the female members of the family. The articles generally woven are waistcloths for men, petticoats for women, and cotton quilts for use as coverlets. The cloths are rough but strong, and some of the silk goods are of considerable value.

227. A coarse description of salt is made on the sea-coast, which is used chiefly in the preparation of *gnapee*, a favourite article of food amongst the Burmese. This manufacture has fallen off to a considerable extent of late years however, owing to the introduction of European salt, which is sold at a much less price than that of local manufacture.

228. The gold and silversmiths of Burma are very clever in the particular kind of work which they turn out. Cups and bowls are the chief articles made, and for originality and boldness of design they are unequalled.

229. Lacquered-ware, which consists of fine cane and bamboo work covered with colored lacquer, on which fanciful and sometimes elegant designs are traced, is manufactured to a considerable extent in the Prome and Thayet Districts for domestic purposes.

230. Carving and gilding are so carried on in the chief towns, mainly however in the decoration of religious buildings.

231. A rough description of silk, which is altogether worked up in the province, is prepared in the hilly tracts of Prome and Thayetmya. It is a branch of industry, however, repugnant to the feelings of a Buddhist, as, according to the method followed in Burma to obtain the silk-thread, the worm has to be killed, hence the trade is confined to only one class of people. Umbrellas of oiled paper, after the Chinese fashion, are also manufactured extensively.

232. In the Prome District, the substance called *cutch* is manufactured in large quantities for exportation to Europe. *Cutch* is an extract of the *Acacia catechu* or *Mimosa catechu*, and is used for dyeing purposes. It is prepared in the following manner:—As soon as the trees have been felled, the whole of the exterior white wood is carefully removed, and the interior coloured portion cut into fragments. These are placed in iron cauldrons, or large earthen pots, and water added in sufficient quantity to cover them. Heat is then applied and maintained until the decoction is about half evaporated, when the pieces of wood are removed, and the boiling is continued until the substance attains a sufficient consistency. It is then spread out on leaves in a wooden frame, where it is completely dried by exposure to the air, and afterwards cut into pieces for the market.

Trade.

233. During the year the value of the trade of this province not only increased to the extent of about 2½ millions sterling in comparison with that of the year immediately preceding, but was far in excess of that of any previous year.

Value of the trade of the province increased 2½ millions sterling.

This is a very remarkable increase and shows generally that the commercial condition of the province is all that can be desired. The particular branches of trade which have developed most, are the export of rice and the import of salt and there is every reason

The branches of trade which have developed most, are the import of salt and the export of rice.

to hope that this development will continue.

234. The gross value of the commerce by sea and land was £13,218,841, against £10,777,705 in 1871-72; the maritime trade being of the value of £10,695,676, against £8,457,721—an increase of £2,237,955; and the inland trade £2,523,165 and £2,319,984 respectively—an increase of £203,181.

Gross value of commerce by sea and land.

235. The value of merchandize exported by sea increased by £1,293,471 the principal improvement having been in catch, hides, rice, timber and miscellaneous articles: and the value of goods imported by sea by £552,856, every article showing an increase, with the exception of hardware, tobacco, wines, and beer. Of the gross sea-borne merchandize, the trade of Arakan aggregated £1,178,334, or 13·42 per cent., that of Pegu, £6,161,372, or 70·14 per cent., and that of Tenasserim £1,444,824, or 16·44 per cent. In 1871-72 the maritime trade in merchandize of the respective divisions was £881,322, or 12·0 per cent.; £4,815,066, or 69·40 per cent., and £1,241,815, or 17·90 per cent.

Increase in the value of sea-borne merchandize.

236. In the sea-borne exports of treasure there was a decided decrease (£205,620,) the amount sent away, viz., £251,160, being less than the exports of any year during the previous decade; but the imports of specie by sea increased by £597,247, thus showing that the enormous demand which existed for the produce of the province necessitated the employment of the major portion of the realizations on account of goods imported as well as the large amount of treasure

Decrease in exports of sea-borne treasure, but increase in imports of specie by sea.

brought into the country. Of the treasure imported £443,590 were taken by Arakan, £328,787 by Tenasserim, and £887,608 by Pegu; and of that exported Arakan contributed £72,537, Pegu £136,302, and Tenasserim £42,320. These exports were no doubt the return to India of supplies drawn down by the Branch Banks to meet all possible requirements for the rice trade, and returned at the close of the season.

Increase in export of treasure accounted for.

237. In the exports of merchandize to Upper Burma and the Shan States, there was an increase of £75,088 notwithstanding that a heavy falling off took place in the shipments of gnapée and rice. Cotton twist and yarn, piece-goods, salt, raw-silk and miscellaneous goods, each showed a considerable increment. In the value of goods imported, however, there was a decrease of £18,002, the principal diminution having occurred in the value of raw-cotton, jaggery and molasses, metal-ware, petroleum, jade stones and sesamum oil. As stated in the reports of previous years, much of the merchandize shown under the inland trade is also included in the sea-borne trade, for with the exception of rice and gnapée, British Burma produces but few products which can be exported to Upper Burma; and of the goods imported from the latter country a large proportion is shipped to Indian and Foreign ports.

Increase of merchandize exported to Upper Burma.

238. The value of the transactions in treasure with the countries beyond the frontier increased to a large extent, the exports amounting to £115,578 and the imports to £295,162, the increase on the aggregate over the preceding year being £146,095.

Increase in treasure exported to Upper Burma.

239. The gross value of the sea-borne trade during the year 1872-73, was £10,695,676, whilst in 1871-72 the aggregate was £8,457,721. The increase has therefore been nearly 2½ millions sterling, of which about five-sixths was merchandize, and the other sixth treasure.

Value of sea-borne trade in 1872-73.

Increase nearly 2½ millions.

The total value, as in previous years, was pretty equally divided between exports and imports, the former being £45,978 less than the latter, but omitting the treasure under both heads, the value of merchandize exported was £1,362,847 in excess of the value of that imported, or more than double the difference in each of the two previous years.

240. The aggregate value of exports was £5,324,849, of which merchandize amounted to £5,073,689 and treasure to £251,160. In 1871-72 the total was £4,236,997—merchandize being £3,780,217, and specie £456,780. Merchandize therefore increased by £1,293,478, or 34.20 per cent., whilst treasure decreased by £205,620, or 45 per cent.

241. The export trade of the Arakan Division amounted to £824,784, £752,247 being the value of merchandize—an increase of £248,199 as compared with 1871-72; and £72,537 the amount of specie—a decrease of £2,627.

Of Pegu. From Pegu the trade under this head was of the value of £3,552,791, of which merchandize amounted to £3,416,488 and specie to £136,302, the increase on the former in comparison with the previous year being £904,651, and the decrease in the latter £214,957.

Of Tenasserim. From the Tenasserim Division the exports were of the value of £947,273, merchandize being £904,953 and treasure £42,320. In merchandize the increase over 1871-72 was £140,621, and in treasure £11,964.

242. The following statement shows the export trade of each port during the year under report, and the year immediately preceding, with the respective increase or decrease:—

Comparative statement of exports of each port during 1871-72 & 1872-73.

Name of Port.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Akyab ...	546,017	801,227	255,210	...
Kyook-phyoo ...	33,197	22,558	...	10,639
Rangoon ...	2,648,414	3,270,428	622,014	...
Itamein ...	214,682	282,263	67,681	...
Moulmein ...	720,744	849,465	128,721	...
Tavoy ...	39,069	54,554	15,485	...
Merqui ...	34,874	43,254	8,380	...
Total ...	4,236,997	5,324,849	1,087,491	9,639

243. The decrease in the trade of Kyook-phyoo was due entirely to a falling off in the value of Government treasure exported.

244. The export to the Home or Indian ports increased in both quantity and value in 1872-73 as compared with 1871-72. The value in the latter year was £556,335, and in the former £759,819, and the increment was in the following articles:—

Cotton	... Mds.	12,093	£	20,897
Cutch	... "	19,270	"	23,840
Hides	... No.	17,333	"	5,807
Ivory	... Mds.	77	"	2,297
Petroleum	... "	26,584	"	16,413
Stic-lac	... "	4,295	"	13,063
Timber	... Tons	19,065	"	100,270
Miscellaneous	... "	...	"	46,978

but there was a falling off in rice, tons 3,154, £20,207, and in precious stones £6,075. The treasure decreased to the extent of £154,536.

245. To Foreign ports the increase was also considerable, the value of merchandize in the year of report having been £3,832,539, and in the previous year £2,795,119, the amount of increase being £1,037,420, which was made up as follows:—

Cutch	... Mds.	171,637	£	68,094
Hides	... No.	78,366	"	16,220
Rice	... Tons.	235,136	"	888,059
Timber	... "	9,360	"	76,082
Miscellaneous	... "	...	"	19,226

there having been a decrease in cotton, maunds 12,619, and £41,763, and in jade stones over £75,000.

246. In the inter-provincial export trade the improvement on the aggregate was £1,103 only, but the merchandize increased to the extent of £52,567, whilst specie decreased by £51,464. The whole of the increase was in miscellaneous goods.

247. The following are some of the principal articles of export, with an explanation of the increase or decrease in the trade of each:—

248. The trade in cotton showed but a slight improvement in quantity on the previous twelve months, and a noticeable falling off in value, the figures for the last two years being as follows:—

Quantity of cotton exported has slightly increased, but value decreased considerably.

1871-72	...	Mds.	182,192	£	309,753
1872-73	...	"	182,820	"	289,270
Increase	...	"	628	Decrease	20,483

249. The exports from Arakan decreased, but the produce of the Division was certainly not less than that of the previous year, and it is therefore presumed that the local requirements must have been greater. Into Pegu the imports from Upper Burma were about one-third more than in 1871-72, yet there was a small decrease in the sea-borne exports. This can only be explained by the local demand having been large. The quality of the staple was not on the whole good, and was not so suitable for the European market as in previous years, but considerable shipments were made to the Straits and China. As the inland trade routes open out, much of the cotton now exported by sea will find its way to China overland,—indeed considerable quantities have already been sent in this manner.

Increase in exports from Tenasserim.

From the Tenasserim Division the export showed a comparatively large increase. The shipments to India were 24,357 maunds, against 12,264 in 1871-72, and to the Provincial ports 2,413 maunds, against 1,259. The falling off was therefore in the trade with Foreign ports, the exports to which were in 1871-72, 168,669 maunds, and in 1872-73, 156,050 maunds.

250. The quantity of catch exported during the year of report was greatly in excess of that shipped in the preceding year, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Large increase in the quantity of catch exported.

1871-72	...	Maunds.	425,055	£	230,757
1872-73	...	"	230,416	"	116,023
Increase	...	"	194,639	"	114,734

and also considerably more than the shipments in any previous year. Almost the whole of the exports were made

from Rangoon, the other ports contributing about 9,500 maunds only, and by far the largest proportion was shipped to Europe, where the article appears to have been in great demand. The imports from Upper Burma were 153,622 maunds, or 56,092 maunds only in excess of the imports in 1871-72, so that the manufacture in British Burma must be conducted on a large and increasing scale.

251. The shipments of petroleum were 77,989 maunds of the value of £32,587 in 1872-73, and 70,993 maunds, of the value of £20,704 in 1871-72, the increase thus being 6,996 maunds and £11,878, which shows that much higher prices prevailed, due no doubt to the falling off in the imports from Upper Burma to the extent of about one-fifth. This trade is carried on almost exclusively from Rangoon, and the bulk of the exports in the year of report were to Chittagong, which with other Indian ports took 58,778 maunds; whilst 6,344 maunds only were sent to Europe, &c., and 12,767 maunds to provincial ports. This shows a large increase in the Indian trade, but a heavy falling off in the Foreign and Provincial

252. A European firm has lately established a distillery for the preparation of kerosine oil from the petroleum and for the manufacture of candles, of which there is a large consumption in Burma, candles to the value of £20,431 having been imported during the year. They are chiefly used for burning as offerings at shrines and pagodas.

Export of rice during 1872-73.

253. The export of rice during the year under review was to the—

United Kingdom	...	Tons	547,065
Foreign Europe	...	"	27,438
Straits Settlements	...	"	85,472
Other Foreign ports	...	"	38,852
Indian ports	...	"	20,080
Provincial ports	...	"	1,443
Total	...		720,350

254. The demand for Europe was unprecedented, and shipments at Rangoon were made throughout the year, instead of being confined to some six or eight months as heretofore. The shipments to the Straits were also on the same extensive scale which existed in 1871-72.

255. The following statement shows the quantity of rice shipped during each year from 1862-63 to 1871-72, with the average annual export for the ten years, and the exports during the year under report :—

Years.	Arakan.	Rangoon.	Bassain.	Tenasserim.	Total British Burma.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1862-63 ...	115,175	108,913	38,639	21,501	284,228
1863-64 ...	152,688	170,077	39,366	16,113	378,244
1864-65 ...	121,077	259,270	64,225	25,046	469,618
1865-66 ...	120,472	202,125	62,649	40,951	426,197
1866-67 ...	81,391	107,858	26,690	32,162	248,101
1867-68 ...	97,876	163,142	37,160	27,735	325,913
1868-69 ...	111,192	244,510	60,649	29,853	446,109
1869-70 ...	69,185	181,964	51,063	27,429	329,641
1870-71 ...	133,571	220,101	44,291	42,038	440,001
1871-72 ...	105,894	265,613	55,274	60,381	487,162
Average per annum... 1872-73 ...	110,852 173,252	192,357 415,028	47,991 74,927	32,321 57,143	383,521 720,350

256. The rice trade has increased it will be seen enormously during the year, having amounted to 720,350 tons. The exports of rice for 1871-72, which was the largest year of export; previous to this was 487,162 tons. The average of the last ten years from 1862-63 to 1872-73, was 383,521 tons, and the increase of the year was therefore 88 per cent. on the average. As, however, the financial year commences in the middle of the rice season, it is always better to take the export of the calendar year; accordingly a table is annexed which gives the figures.

Great increase in the export of rice.

Rice exports for the last eleven calendar years.

Year	Tons.
1862 ...	277,963
1863 ...	318,749
1864 ...	394,145
1865 ...	380,009
1866 ...	346,877
1867 ...	460,653
1868 ...	344,185
1869 ...	388,829
1870 ...	384,152
1871 ...	470,893
1872 ...	700,784
1873 up to 1st October ...	551,559

257. There is every reason to anticipate the maintenance of this export: the rice of Siam and Bangkok does not compete with that of Burma, and with the present scarcity of ships at low rates of freight it seems impossible that it should do so. The amount of land under rice cultivation is largely increasing, and vast tracts have lately been reclaimed from waste by the Government embankments on the Irrawaddy; the population is increasing rapidly, and the demand for rice for export is of steady growth.

Rice of Siam and Bangkok does not compete with that of British Burma.

Increase in the area of land under rice cultivation.

258. The consumption of rice appears to be extending rapidly on the Continent and in America, and so long as Burma can manage to supply at a profit rice at rates not much above those now existing, there seems little real ground to apprehend any falling off in the demand. As tending to show that the increased export is only to meet an increased demand, it may be mentioned that while the imports into the United Kingdom up to the end of August 1873, were 38,469 tons in excess of those during the same period of the previous year, the deliveries were also 34,376 tons in excess. Taking the stocks and cargo afloat the available rice in stock was 50,572 tons only in excess of last year. Consumption in the eight months increased at the rate of 14 per cent., and supply at the rate of 19 per cent.; any abnormal demand, such as short crops on the Continent, would rapidly equalize these rates.

Consumption of rice on the Continent and in America appears to be extending rapidly.

259. The present failure of crops on the Continent will at all events keep up the prices in Europe for the growing crop to a fairly remunerative rate, and if only ships are forthcoming there is every prospect of 1873-74 showing as large an export of rice as the year which closed on the 31st March last. No doubt the scarcity of sailing ships of moderate size is one of the great difficulties which the trade has to contend with; fortunately Italy has for the present been partly able to supply our wants, ninety Italian Ships having entered the port of Rangoon between the 1st January and 1st of October of the current year; Canal steamers are also very largely used, in the year 1872, 100,000 tons of rice having been sent home by this route, though for several reasons sailing vessels are preferred by many engaged in this trade.

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260. The value of the rice exported was very close upon three millions sterling, and when it is recollected that the whole population of the province is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions, and of these only the inhabitants of certain districts are engaged in the production of rice for export, it will at once be apparent how very much the prosperity of the country depends upon the rice trade. It is impossible to resist the observation that if the trade has increased, as it has done, with so little expenditure on the improvement of the country, it is easy to imagine what might not have been its progress under a larger expenditure. It is difficult in the face of the figures contained in this report, to understand how there can be a moment's hesitation as to the construction of a railway through the province, the estimate of the cost of which is only three-quarters of a million. There surely can be no longer any doubt that the trade of the province is so large and so elastic as to warrant the experiment.

Prosperity of the country mainly depends on the rice trade.

Construction of the proposed railway warranted by the elasticity of the trade.

261. New rice mills are being built year by year. Two additional mills were set to work at Akyab during the year, and the construction of another commenced; a second mill was started in Bassein, and it is contemplated to erect a third; whilst six mills are being put up in Rangoon.

262. The shipments from Akyab, from whence almost all the grain exported in the Arakan Division is shipped, were the largest since 1855-56, when 195,151 tons were sent away, but at that time small quantities only were being exported from Rangoon and Bassein. The average shipments per annum from this port for the 18 years previous to 1872-73, were to dutiable ports, 107,497 tons, and to non-dutiable ports, 6,883 tons, whilst the quantity exported in the year of review was 163,391 tons and 9,648 tons respectively; 136,998 tons having been cleared for the United Kingdom; 24,871 tons for Foreign Europe; 724 tons for the Straits; 798 tons for other Foreign ports; 9,645 tons for India and 3 tons for a Provincial port.

Erection of new rice mills.

Shipments of rice from Akyab during 1872-73 were the largest since 1855-56.

263. The crops in the Akyab District in 1871 and 1872 were very good, and the quality of the grain excellent. "Necransie" (Nga-chin-thee) is the grain generally grown throughout

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this district, but there is a good deal of an inferior grain called "Laroong" also cultivated. At the opening of the official year, the quotation for good "Necransie" cargo rice free on board was 4s. 9d. per cwt., but shortly after on supplies increasing, the price receded to 4s. 7½d., and subsequently reached 4s. 4½d. per cwt., which is said to have been the lowest rate known for years. During the remainder of 1872 but little change in price took place, although shipments were extensively made up to August, and were continued on a small scale throughout the following months. The price of the new "Necransie" rice at the commencement of the season of 1873 was 4s. 4½d. per cwt. free on board, and this rate continued till the close of the official year, owing to a combination among the European merchants; soon after, however, in consequence of considerable demands for the Madras Coast, Ceylon and the Straits by native vessels, some of the merchants were under the necessity, in order to meet their engagements, of breaking through the arrangement which had been entered into, and prices increased by from 30 to 50 per cent., and even more in particular instances.

Prices

264. Attempts have been made during the year, in communication with the leading firms at Akyab, to induce the people of Akyab to plant a better kind of rice, the "Ngatsain" of Pegu, which has hitherto fetched a higher price in the market. The people seemed gladly to avail themselves of the offer of seed for such lands as seemed adapted to its growth; in the meantime the Necransie of the current year bears a higher value relative to Ngatsain than it has hitherto done.

Improvement in quality of the grain.

265. Of the large export from Rangoon, the quantity shipped for the United Kingdom was 320,247 tons; for the Straits Settlements, 55,404 tons; for other Foreign ports, 31,467 tons; for India 7,349 tons; and for Provincial ports 561 tons. The shipments to Europe were nearly double those in the preceding year, and to the Straits about the same; but there was a decrease in the exports to India. The exports to Europe and the Straits continued on an extensive scale throughout the south-west monsoon, and although there were large supplies available in the interior, yet prices fluctuated much in the early part of the official year, and were as high at one time as 6s. 4½d. free on board for five parts milled husked

Very large increase in the quantity of the rice exported from Rangoon in 1872-73.

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“Ngatsain,” which is the principal grain shipped to Europe. As the year progressed, rates gradually receded, however, and ranged between 5s. 5d. and 5s. 9d. per cwt., the season closing at the end of November with the low quotation of 5s. 2d.

The new season's market opened at 5s. 4½ per cwt., and there was but little variation up to the end of the official year, for although the quantities brought into Rangoon were large, the balance between supply and demand was well sustained.

266. The shipments to Europe from Bassein were 72,769 tons; to the Straits, 493 tons; and to Indian ports, 1,665 tons. The price appears to have been about 5s. 2d. per cwt. free on board, from the commencement of the official year to the close of 1872, and the new season opened with rates equal to 5s. 1d. per cwt., which continued with but a slight reduction at the end of the financial year.

267. The crop of 1871 in the Pegu Division was a magnificent one, and that of 1872, although not so large was yet very good, and was brought early to market. The quantity exported to Upper Burma in the year of report was 30,468 tons less than in the preceding twelve months, and far below the shipments in previous years. All therefore tended to render available for export seawards an unprecedentedly large quantity of grain.

268. Tenasserim is the only division in which there was a decrease in the export of grain as contrasted with the previous year, the exports during 1871-72 having been 60,601 tons; and in 1872-73, 57,143 tons, but this is very much above the average of past years. The shipments from this division are chiefly made to the Straits and Chinese ports, to which 35,438 tons were sent in the latter year, whilst 19,618 tons only were exported to Europe, and 2,087 tons to India and the Provincial ports. The falling off in the export from Moulmein was 4,539 tons, which is due no doubt mainly to want of ships. The Moulmein rice has a far more favorable position in the Home markets than it has hitherto borne. From Mergui, too, there was a slight decrease, but from Tavoy there was a considerable increase, a brisk trade having been carried on with Penang and the Siamese port of Tonka.

Export of rice from Bassein.

Cause why a large quantity of grain was available for export seawards.

Decrease in the quantity of rice exported from the Tenasserim Division.

269. The trade in timber, which is the staple next in importance to rice, increased considerably, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Marked improvement in the timber trade.	...	Tons.	...	£	...
1871-72	...	87,545	...	551,210	...
1872-73	...	115,643	...	725,114	...
Increase	...	28,098	...	173,904	...

The greatest improvement was of course in the Tenasserim Division, the tonnage for the two years being 57,207 and 79,146 respectively, but there was also a satisfactory increase of 6,058 tons from Pegu. Teak forms by far the largest portion of the exports under this head, a few hundred tons only of Thingan and Iron-wood being shipped. The exports to India were 61,416 tons, against 42,340 in 1871-72; to the United Kingdom 46,007 tons, against 35,387 tons; to Foreign Europe 1,494 tons, against 62 tons; to the Straits Settlements 216 tons, against 611 tons, and to all other Foreign ports 4,182 tons, against 6,480 tons; whilst the inter-provincial trade was 2,328 tons, against 2,666 tons. The enhanced price of iron has no doubt had a beneficial effect on the timber trade, although the requirements for railways in India must still be very large, and are likely to continue. The declared value of the exports from Moulmein was about £6 6s. per ton, against £6 8s. in 1871-72, and of those from Rangoon £6 and £7 respectively.

Prices.

According to the price currents, however, the prices free on board in the latter port ranged from £7 to £9 10s. per ton during the year, the lower rate prevailing in July, and the higher rate in December. There would have been a larger export had it not been that the supply of water in the rivers last year was insufficient to float all the timber which had been felled.

270. No doubt the revised arrangements for the government of the Salween Tracts will have a very beneficial effect on the supplies of timber to Moulmein. The shipments from that port were increased by nearly 22,000 tons, but much of this increase was due to old stocks which had not been shipped owing to the unremunerative rates ruling in Europe; the present rates leave a good margin for profit, and if only the rains are sufficiently heavy to bring down all the timber of this year, together with much which it was found impossible to move last year, there should be a considerable export again

“Ngatsain,” which is the principal grain shipped to Europe. As the year progressed, rates gradually receded, however, and ranged between 5s. 5d. and 5s. 9d. per cwt., the season closing at the end of November with the low quotation of 5s. 2d.

The new season's market opened at 5s. 4½ per cwt., and there was but little variation up to the end of the official year, for although the quantities brought into Rangoon were large, the balance between supply and demand was well sustained.

266. The shipments to Europe from Bassein were 72,769 tons; to the Straits, 493 tons; and to Indian ports, 1,665 tons. The price appears to have been about 5s. 2d. per cwt. free on board, from the commencement of the official year to the close of 1872, and the new season opened with rates equal to 5s. 1d. per cwt., which continued with but a slight reduction at the end of the financial year.

267. The crop of 1871 in the Pegu Division was a magnificent one, and that of 1872, although not so large was yet very good, and was brought early to market. The quantity exported to Upper Burma in the year of report was 30,468 tons less than in the preceding twelve months, and far below the shipments in previous years. All therefore tended to render available for export seawards an unprecedentedly large quantity of grain.

268. Tenasserim is the only division in which there was a decrease in the export of grain as contrasted with the previous year, the exports during 1871-72 having been 60,601 tons; and in 1872-73, 57,143 tons, but this is very much above the average of past years. The shipments from this division are chiefly made to the Straits and Chinese ports, to which 35,438 tons were sent in the latter year, whilst 19,618 tons only were exported to Europe, and 2,087 tons to India and the Provincial ports. The falling off in the export from Moulmein was 4,539 tons, which is due no doubt mainly to want of ships. The Moulmein rice has a far more favorable position in the Home markets than it has hitherto borne. From Mergui, too, there was a slight decrease, but from Tavoy there was a considerable increase, a brisk trade having been carried on with Penang and the Siamese port of Tonka.

Export of rice from Bassein.

Cause why a large quantity of grain was available for export seawards.

Decrease in the quantity of rice exported from the Tenasserim Division.

269. The trade in timber, which is the staple next in importance to rice, increased considerably, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Marked improvement in the timber trade.	...	Tons.	...	£	...
1871-72	...	87,545	...	551,210	...
1872-73	...	115,643	...	725,114	...
Increase	...	28,098	...	173,904	...

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According to the price currents, however, the prices free on board in the latter port ranged from £7 to £9 10s. per ton during the year, the lower rate prevailing in July, and the higher rate in December. There would have been a larger export had it not been that the supply of water in the rivers last year was insufficient to float all the timber which had been felled.

270. No doubt the revised arrangements for the government of the Salween Tracts will have a very beneficial effect on the supplies of timber to Moulmein. The shipments from that port were increased by nearly 22,000 tons, but much of this increase was due to old stocks which had not been shipped owing to the unremunerative rates ruling in Europe; the present rates leave a good margin for profit, and if only the rains are sufficiently heavy to bring down all the timber of this year, together with much which it was found impossible to move last year, there should be a considerable export again

Improved government of the Salween Tracts will benefit Moulmein.

for the coming year. The timber traders are now able to go into the distant forests of Karennee and Siam without the fear of robbers and marauders which so long checked their operations.

271. The import trade of the province showed a very satisfactory increase in the year under review, the value of merchandize having been enhanced by £552,856, and of treasure by £597,247, together £1,150,103. In 1871-72 the gross trade under this head was of the value of £4,220,723, of which merchandize was £3,157,986, and treasure £1,062,737, whilst in the year under report the aggregate amounted to £5,370,827; £3,710,842 being the value of merchandize, and £1,659,985 specie. The imports into each division showed an increase, but by far the largest proportion was taken by Pegu.

272. The value of the import trade of Arakan in 1872-73 was £869,676, against £766,204 in the previous year, the increase being £103,472, to which merchandize contributed £48,813 and specie £54,659. The imports into Pegu were of the value of £3,632,491 in the year of report, and £2,738,878 in 1871-72. The increase in merchandize was £441,654, and in treasure £451,959, together £893,613. The import trade of Tenasserim amounted to £868,659 in the year under review, and to £715,640, in the preceding year—an increment of £153,019, merchandize having improved to the extent of £62,389, and treasure having increased by £90,630.

Comparative statements of the sea-borne import trade of the several ports during 1871-72 and 1872-73.

Name of Port.	1871-72.	1872-73.	Increase.	Decrease.
Akyah	£ 763,764	£ 869,227	£ 105,463	£ ...
Kyook-phyoo	2,440	449	...	1,991
Rangoon	2,716,805	3,664,884	848,079	...
Bassein	22,073	67,608	45,534	...
Moulmein	643,948	790,904	146,956	...
Tavoy	41,857	48,343	6,487	...
Mergui	29,836	29,412	...	424
Total	4,220,723	5,370,827	1,152,519	2,415

273. The trade of the several ports was as follows:—

The decrease at both Kyook-phyoo and Mergui was owing to a falling off in the amount of treasure imported by private parties.

274. The value of imports from India increased considerably in the year of report in both merchandize and treasure, the total having been £2,932,245, against £2,122,923 in the preceding year. Merchandize was of the value of £1,531,998 and £1,322,072 respectively, and treasure amounted to £1,400,946 and £800,850. There was an improved trade in every article with the exception of tobacco, hardware, wines and beer.

275. The imports from Foreign ports also increased, merchandize having improved to the extent of £285,860, and treasure being more by £39,946, the aggregate increment being £325,806. In 1871-72 the total trade was £1,445,013, merchandize being £1,407,261 and treasure £47,752 and in 1872-73, £1,780,820, of which merchandize was £1,693,120 and treasure £87,699. The only imports from Foreign ports which showed a decrease were woollen piece-goods, wines and beer, and the falling off in these articles was comparatively trifling; under all other heads there were large increases.

276. The import trade between the provincial ports increased but slightly, the total value in the year of report having been £657,061, and in the previous year £742,787, but the trade in merchandize showed an improvement to the extent of £37,070 chiefly in gunny-bags, piece-goods, liquors and miscellaneous; whilst the treasure fell off by £42,795.

277. The following are the details of the most important articles of import:—

278. An improvement took place in both the quantity and value of betelnut during the year under review, as compared with the previous year, the imports having been 186,778 maunds, valued at £131,199, and 179,473 maunds, valued at £110,063 respectively—an increase of 7,305 maunds and £21,136. The largest portion was imported from Bengal, as the produce of that country is preferred to the nuts grown in the Straits. The increment in the quantity exported to the country beyond the frontier was slightly in excess of the enhanced sea-borne imports, but there was a decrease in value, owing to a large

quantity of inferior qualities having been sent through Toungoo to the Shan Straits.

279. The trade in cotton twist and yarn increased to the extent of nearly 13 per cent. in quantity, and over 11½ per cent. in value in comparison with 1871-72, when there was a slight falling off in quantity as compared with the imports of 1870-71.

Considerable increase in the imports during the past year.

The following figures show that the trade varies year by year, and that the imports in the year of report were considerably in excess of those of preceding years:—

1867-68	... lbs.	3,293,412	£ 387,590
1868-69	... "	3,411,790	" 375,557
1869-70	... "	2,938,096	" 309,348
1870-71	... "	3,545,943	" 364,911
1871-72	... "	3,493,091	" 366,165
1872-73	... "	3,946,105	" 408,777

The quantity taken by Arakan in the latter year was 181,642 lb of the value of £30,586; by Pegu 3,446,580 lb of the value of £340,836; and by Tenasserim 317,883 lb of the value of £27,355. In the year preceding the imports into Arakan were 227,095 lb, £38,887; into Pegu 2,237,905 lb, £291,781; and into Tenasserim 328,091 lb, £35,497. There was therefore a decrease both in quantity and value in Arakan, owing to the markets having been overstocked in 1871-72, and a decrease in quantity but an increase in value in Tenasserim, whilst in Pegu there was a large increase in both quantity and value, which went chiefly to Upper Burma and the Shan States, the trade in these articles with those countries having improved to the extent of 414,014 lb and £51,321. An increase took place in the imports from Indian ports, 978,324 lb against 910,052 lb, but the chief portion of the imports were received direct from the United Kingdom into Rangoon, the entries in that port having been 2,768,417 lb out of a total from Foreign ports into the province of 2,778,697 lb. The inter-provincial trade amounted to 189,084 lb, the bulk of which was imported into Tenasserim, most probably from Rangoon. Almost the whole of the requirements of Arakan under this head are supplied from Calcutta.

Imports from India. From Europe. Provincial ports. Indian twist. Indian twist seems popular in Burma, and a great deal is used for the manufacture of strong cloth for the Shans, which is more enduring than the English goods.

280. The large increase in the shipments of rice caused a corresponding increase in the demand for gunny-bags, and in the year of report the enormous number of 8,412,286, of the value of £270,589 was imported. Of this quantity the requirements of Arakan were 1,801,772; of Pegu 6,013,582; and of Tenasserim 596,932. The chief supply was from Calcutta, where the cloth is manufactured on an extensive scale. It seems extraordinary that a country in which jute actually grows wild, even in the large sea-port towns wherever a vacant and neglected space is to be found, should be left dependent on a foreign country for its supply of this article to the value of £270,000 a year.

281. The markets for piece-goods during 1872-73 appear to have been on the whole satisfactory, and an extensive business was done both locally and with Mandalay, to which place there was a marked increase in exports. In the imports of cotton goods, there was a slight increment in the number of pieces, but in both silk and woollen goods the falling off was large, especially in the latter, which showed an abnormal increase in the number of pieces imported in 1871-72. The values, however, increased to the following extent:—

Cotton-goods	... ..	£ 57,984, or 8·61 per cent.
Silk do.	... ..	" 53,755, or 15·56 "
Woollen do.	... ..	" 31,069, or 35·15 "

282. The following statement shows the trade in manufactured cotton goods in the several divisions of the province, during the year under report and the year preceding:—

DIVISION.	1871-72.		1872-73.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Pieces.	Value.	Pieces.	Value.	Pieces.	Value.	Pieces.	Val.
Arakan ...	211,534	£ 95,542	188,384	£ 91,664	...	...	23,150	3,877
Pegu ...	1,532,924	482,734	1,591,714	542,577	58,790	59,842	...	...
Tenasserim ...	273,837	95,148	275,283	97,167	1,446	2,016	...	...
Total ...	2,018,295	673,424	2,055,381	731,408	Net Increase. 37,086 37,964		...	...

The decrease in Arakan was due to the market having been over-stocked by the large importations in 1871-72; the increase in Pegu is accounted for by the enhanced demand for Upper Burma; whilst that in Tenasserim was probably owing to the improved state of the local markets generally. The trade in cotton-goods in the first named division is almost entirely with Calcutta, and in the last named with the Provincial ports, but the bulk of the imports into Pegu were direct from Europe, chiefly by the monthly line of steamers from England.

Increase in the value of silk-goods imported, but decrease in number of pieces.

283. The imports of *silk* goods in the past two years were as follows:—

	Pieces.	£
1871-72 ...	718,592	345,422
1872-73 ...	591,886	399,177
Decrease ...	126,706	Increase ... 53,755

The increase in value being no doubt due to a better class of goods having been brought into the country in the latter year. During that year the supplies to Arakan were 11,895 pieces, of the value of £26,037; to Pegu, 475,738 pieces, of the value of £315,036; and to Tenasserim 104,253 pieces, of the value of £58,104; and the receipts from India were 289,065 pieces, valued at £177,590; from Foreign ports 200,031 pieces, valued at £161,130; whilst the inter-provincial transaction were 102,790 pieces, valued at £60,457.

284. In the year of report 35,698 pieces of *woollen* goods were imported and entered at a value of £119,440, and in the previous year 179,178 pieces were brought into the country, the value of which was stated to be £88,372. The decrease in the number of pieces occurred almost entirely in the imports from the United Kingdom into Rangoon, and it is supposed that the pieces and rolls contained a greater number of yards each than those imported in 1871-72. At any rate the number given for 1872-73 agrees more closely with the quantities imported in years previous to 1871-72, than the large number

of pieces entered in the latter year, as will be seen from the following figures:—

1866-67	...	...	31,248 pieces
1867-68	...	...	45,352 "
1868-69	...	...	47,846 "
1869-70	...	...	34,562 "
1870-71	...	...	42,241 "

The import into Arakan fell off to a small extent, whilst those into Tenasserim increased considerably, and the trade of Pegu improved by £27,140. The value of the imports from India was £69,218, from Foreign ports (chiefly the United Kingdom), £40,281, and from the Provincial ports £9,940.

285. *Salt* again increased to a large extent, the imports marked increase in 1870-71 having been 261,919 cwt., in the import of Salt. 1871-72, 338,686 cwt., and in 1872-73, 613,220 cwt. The bulk of the imports from Europe were as usual into Rangoon, but about 3,000 tons were received at Bassein and a trial cargo of 510 tons at Moulmein. The requirements of Tenasserim as well as of Arakan, into which division no European salt has yet been imported, are still met by local manufacture, considerable facilities existing along the extensive sea-board for the making of salt at cheap rates. The exports from Pegu to Upper

Exports to Upper Burma and China nearly double those of the previous year.

Burma in the year of report, were nearly double those in the previous year, and large quantities were taken into Western China *via* Bhamo; on the whole the development

of the salt trade between England and China by this route is one of most interesting features of the year's report. The salt of Liverpool is fast displacing the salt of the salt-mines of Upper Burma, and is being carried up from Rangoon to Bhamo as fast as it can be conveyed. To show that the trade in salt

Large quantities of salt are now conveyed from Rangoon to Bhamo.

during the year under review was not a mere spasmodic and uncertain movement, it may be mentioned that since the close of the year, *viz.*, between the 1st of April and

the 1st of September, the Steamer Companies have carried up-country in their steamers no less than 7,050 tons, whilst two years ago there was no trade whatever in salt. The greater portion of this salt finds its way into China and the Shan States from Bhamo. It is a trade which is of very great importance to Burma, as it gives some freight, though not a valuable one at present, to the ships coming here for rice, which up till now have nearly all come in ballast. If,

however, as there seems every reason to anticipate, the overthrow of the Pantbays and the pacification of the country between Bhamo and Talifoo leads to active trade by this route, the supply of salt to the neighbouring provinces of China will become a very important branch of trade. It will also have the effect of compelling the Chinese who come for salt to bring articles of Chinese manufacture for sale at Bhamo and Mandalay.

286. The trade in spirituous liquors in the year under review showed a large increase, as compared with that of the previous year, the imports having been 108,719 gallons, valued at £69,544, and 65,862 gallons, valued at £44,956 respectively; whilst *wines, beer, &c.*, decreased in quantity 111,760 gallons, and in value £760. The chief increase in spirits was from Foreign (Europe) ports, and the decrease in beer, &c., from the Indian ports. The imports into Arakan in 1872-73 were 7,065 gallons of spirituous liquors, and 14,551 gallons of wines, beer, &c.—a marked increase on the imports of the previous year, owing to a large consignment from Germany; into Pegu 74,353 gallons, and 198,346 gallons respectively, the former being much in excess, and the latter far below the imports of 1871-72, the largest proportion having been received from Foreign (Europe) ports; and into Tenasserim 27,301 gallons and 30,260 gallons respectively,—an exceedingly large increase under each head, owing to the cessation for a time of the local manufacture of liquor, and to a large number of licenses for the vend of Foreign liquors having been granted, which induced large importations of spirits from the Straits. The importation of spirits is so far a good thing that we can ensure every gallon which is consumed paying full rate of duty, which cannot be said of all the spirits manufactured in the country.

287. The value of the trade with Upper Burma and the Shan States *via* Allanmyo and Toungoo, increased to a considerable extent on the aggregate during the year of report as compared with that of the previous year. The exports through Allanmyo were £1,276,715, against £1,148,513, notwithstanding that there was a decrease in gnappee, dried fish, &c., of £54,541 and in rice of £160,252

Increase in the quantity of spirituous liquors, wines, beer, &c., imported.

Arakan.

Pegu.

Tenasserim.

Inland trade.

Increase in trade by the Irrawaddy.

The imports by the Irrawaddy were £1,066,708 against £1,010,587, the increase having been entirely in treasure. Through Toungoo the exports were of the value of £55,377 in 1872-73, and £66,638 in the previous year, the chief falling off having taken place in betelnut and gnappee; and the imports were of the value of £124,364 and £94,246 respectively, the increase being in catch, ponies, timber, and miscellaneous articles.

288. With the view of securing greater accuracy in the returns of trade on the Irrawaddy the Custom House was, on the 1st of June 1872, removed from Thayetmyo to Allanmyo, the latter place being some miles nearer to the Burmese frontier. From Allanmyo a considerable local trade with Upper Burma is carried on, which heretofore escaped registration.

289. It would appear from the report of the Deputy Commissioner of Toungoo that great restrictions are placed on the trade of the Toungoo frontier by the petty officials of the King of Burma. The export of cattle is prohibited, and the duties charged on merchandize crossing the frontier are so heavy, that in some cases goods from Upper Burma are taken to Toungoo *via* Rangoon and the Sittoung river in preference to being imported direct. The subject will be fully enquired into by the Political Agent, but the frontier officials are very much beyond the control of the King and his Ministers.

290. Under the fourth article of the treaty entered into between the British and Burmese Governments in 1862, goods imported into Rangoon can be bonded and exported to Upper Burma on the payment of a duty of one per cent. only. But little advantage appears to have been taken of this arrangement until 1868-69, since which time the exports have increased considerably year by year, as will be seen from the following statement:—

Increase in the value of exports to Upper Burma under the Treaty of 1862.

DESCRIPTION.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.
	Value.	Value.	Value.	Value.	Value.
Cotton piece-goods ...	£ 24,459	£ 44,549	£ 85,640	£ 111,966	£ 132,439
Silk ditto ...	6,133	9,025	25,660	45,238	53,239
Woollen ditto ...	475	7,941	10,311	13,664	10,110
Raw-silk ...	5,769	19,744	31,945	25,694	39,186
Cotton twist and yarn ...	5,280	49,281	98,224	106,923	141,479
Spirits ...	406	1,400	1,657	1,396	606
Wines ...	32	21	292	151	272
Salt, Europe ...	63	...	...	11,728	27,700
Metals, exclusive of Machinery ...	432	1,413	2,908	4,318	...
Sundries ...	63	6,784	11,918	9,020	26,986
Total ...	43,112	140,158	268,556	332,098	432,046

Public Works.

291. A comparative view of the differences between grants and expenditure is presented in the following detailed statements :—

IMPERIAL (ORDINARY).

SERVICE HEADS.	Original budget grants.	Modified grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCES.	
				Unspent balance of grant.	Excess.
<i>Military.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Original Works ...	21,000	27,819	24,225	3,594	...
Repairs ...	9,000	9,500	9,685	...	185
Total ...	30,000	37,319	33,910	3,408	...
<i>Other Services.</i>					
Civil Buildings { Original Works	710	1,170	1,176	...	6
Repairs ...	290	380	370	10	...
Total ...	1,000	1,550	1,546	3	...
Establishment ...	6,500	6,500	6,465	35	...
Tools and Plant ...	500	500	399	101	...
Profit and Loss ...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	38,000	45,869	42,321	3,548	...
Add to grants for decrease in Stock ...	3,968	3,968	...	3,968	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	41,968	49,837	42,291	7,516	...

IMPERIAL "IRRIGATION."

SERVICE HEADS.	Original budget grants.	Modified grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCES.	
				Unspent balance of grant.	Excess.
B.—Capital—	£	£	£	£	£
Original Works ...	20,630	21,435	21,737	...	302
Establishment ...	4,300	4,300	3,879	421	...
Tools and Plant ...	300	300	270	30	...
Total ...	25,230	26,035	25,886	149	...
C.—Revenue—					
Original Works ...	270	386	2,357	229	...
Repairs ...	2,850	2,200			
Establishment ...	650	650	898	...	248
Tools and Plant ...	...	...	42	...	42
Total ...	3,770	3,236	3,297	...	61
D.—Ordinary Agricultural—					
Original Works ...	...	729	698	31	...
Establishment ...	...	...	125	...	125
Total ...	...	729	823	...	94
Add difference between Miscellaneous Advances and decrease of Stock ...	...	...	12	...	12
GRAND TOTAL ...	29,000	30,000	30,018	...	18

STATE RAILWAY (RANGOON AND PROME).

SERVICE HEADS.	Original budget grants.	Modified grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCES.	
				Unspent balance of grant.	Excess.
Capital.	£	£	£	£	£
Preliminary Works	68	68	...	...
Expenses. Establishment	612	612	...	...
Total	680	680	...	...

PROVINCIAL.

SERVICE HEADS.	Original budget grants.	Modified grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCES.	
				Unspent balance of grant.	Excess.
Civil Buildings.	£	£	£	£	£
Original Works ...	15,000	14,210	13,456	754	...
Repairs ...	4,100	4,800	3,284	916	...
Total ...	19,100	19,010	17,740	1,070	...
Communications.	£	£	£	£	£
Original Works ...	42,000	55,300	64,606	...	1,306
Repairs ...	11,500	13,800	13,948	...	148
Total ...	53,500	69,100	78,554	...	1,543
Miscellaneous Public Improvements.	£	£	£	£	£
Original Works ...	8,400	16,400	17,267	...	867
Repairs ...	800	800	123	668	...
Total ...	9,200	17,200	17,390	...	169
Establishment ...	20,200	20,200	20,323	...	123
Tools and Plant ...	7,500	7,500	5,006	3,564	...
Total ...	112,500	133,010	129,631	3,379	...
Add decrease in value of Stock ...	749	749	...	749	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	113,249	133,759	129,631	4,128	...

LOCAL.

SERVICE HEADS.	Original budget grants.	Modified grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCES.	
				Unspent balance of grant.	Excess.
Military.	£	£	£	£	£
Original Works ...	...	45	47	245	...
Repairs ...	350	650	405	245	...
Total ...	350	695	452	243	...
OTHER SERVICES.					
Civil Buildings.					
Original Works ...	...	90	80	5	...
Communications.					
Original Works ...	4,000	2,550	235	2,320	...
Miscellaneous Public Improvements.					
Original Works ...	37,390	41,100	39,064	2,104	...
Repairs ...	8,800	8,740	2,544	1,808	...
Total ...	44,925	47,590	41,729	5,825	...
Establishment ...	8,200	7,800	5,694	2,306	...
Tools and Plant ...	4,000	4,000	211	2,789	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	57,685	60,138	48,075	12,063	...

292. The results given in the foregoing tables may be thus summarized :—

SERVICE HEADS.	Original budget grants	Modified grants.	Outlay.	DIFFERENCES.	
				More than grant.	Less than grant.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imperial ...	67,000	80,518	73,020	...	7,498
Provincial ...	112,500	133,759	129,631	...	4,128
Local ...	57,565	60,138	48,075	...	12,063
Total ...	237,065	274,415	250,726	...	23,689

But if the reductions in values of stock, viz., Imperial £3,968 and Provincial £749, be eliminated, the aggregate short outlay amounts to £18,972, of which however £6,700 provided for meeting expenditure in England, unavoidably lapsed, owing to some unaccountable delay in the building of a steam dredger and barges indented for as long ago as 1871.

293. The original grant of £38,000 was eventually increased by the close of the year to £45,869, against Imperial outlay, "Ordinary." which there was an expenditure, after deducting for decrease in stock, of £38,353.

The unspent balance or short outlay therefore amounted to £7,516, of which nearly the whole, or £7,376 was due to the head "Military." This is mainly owing to notice of the large extra grant that was made not having been received until within three months of the close of the official year, and to the great diminution of stock which simultaneously took place. Unless timely notices given of diminution of stock, there is no chance of its money value being utilized by additional expenditure on works.

294. The Irrigation Budget has been most creditably worked up to. The modified grant was Imperial outlay, "Irrigation." £30,000 and the expenditure with certain adjustments £30,018. The difference between grants and expenditure being, as was also the case last year, infinitesimally small.

295. The original grant of £112,500 was increased before the close of the year to Provincial outlay. £133,010, and the expenditure, after allow-

ing for decrease of stock, amounted to £1,28,881, showing a short outlay of £4,128. This, however, is easily explained, £3,200 being due to provision for expenditure in England on a steam dredger and barges, which there was just reason for expecting would be incurred, and £750 to diminution of value of stock which could not be foreseen. The balance only amounts to a little over one-eighth per cent. of the total grant, and it would be hardly possible to work any closer to a budget.

296. As regards the Local Budget, the short coming is £4,600. There is much difficulty in Local outlay. closely approximating expenditure to appropriations made from so many independent sources, and which are in most cases inalienable from the purposes for which they are originally granted. Much of the short outlay is also undoubtedly due to the Executive Engineer of the Rangoon Town Division having had more work to do than he could possibly manage with the establishment at his command

297. As regards the Pagoda defences at Rangoon, the Military works, Pagoda defences, Rangoon. parapets and embrasures on the faces of all the bastions have been completed, with the exception of a little coping; those on the flanks cannot be finished until the sunken chambers for mitrailleurs or small guns are constructed. In the south-west bastion two such chambers with a connecting approach and a sunken expense magazine have been completed; in the south-east bastion one chamber, two approaches, and an expense magazine; and in the redan connecting approach an expense magazine. The other chambers, magazines, and approaches required are in progress. A good deal of earth-work was done on the east glacis and in the earthen ramparts at the north-west angle, but much remains to be carried out before the profiles can be said to be in proper order.

The quantities of work executed were—

Earth-work	...	...	1,100,000 c. ft.
Brick-work and rubble masonry	...	...	80,000 c. ft.
Concrete	...	...	10,000 c. ft.

Outlay during the year £4,189, and up to date £36,748. Pagoda defences might have been further advanced towards completion, but for the necessity of submitting a revised estimate, for which sections are being taken. The work should be properly finished off before the rains of 1874.

298. Two of the old barracks have been cleared away, the New barracks for excavation for lowering and extending the European Infantry. plateau for the site of the new barracks has been proceeded with, and eight lakhs of cubic feet of earth-work taken out. Expenditure during the year £1,112. The work has been almost entirely done by the soldiers of H. M.'s 67th Regiment.

299. This work was commenced, but very little done beyond the cartage of materials to the site. New barrack for one Garrison Company of Artillery with subsidiary buildings. Outlay £594.

300. A new Ordnance Magazine was completed, with the exception of the lightning conductors, which are not yet fixed. Expenditure up to date £4,050. New Ordnance Magazine.

301. For the regiment of Native Infantry at Moulmein four new cook-houses were constructed and improvements to the latrines and general drainage of the lines carried out at a cost of £728. At Akyab, temporary barracks and out-offices for three companies of Native Infantry were constructed for £535. This detachment has since been withdrawn. The extension and improvement of the rifle range at Rangoon has been completed, and the roofs of the hospitals at the same station and at Moulmein have been re-shingled at a cost of £450. Rangoon, Moulmein and Akyab. Native Infantry.

302. The three tanks remaining unfinished last year were completed at a small outlay. The east tank in the soldiers' gardens, south of the Great Pagoda, has been deepened at a cost of £224, and an expenditure of £304 was incurred on the excavation of a new tank close to the Commissariat godowns, which is about two-thirds completed. Rangoon water-supply.

303. New quarters have been constructed for a Commissariat Conductor near Godwin's Wharf, costing £443, and the roof of the Commissariat godown at Moulmein was re-shingled at an expense of £230. Rangoon and Moulmein Commissariat.

304. Six encamping grounds on the road between Rangoon and Toungoo, noted in last year's report, are practically completed at an outlay of £934, the expenditure for the year being £331. Encamping grounds.

305. An outlay of about £1,400 was incurred during the year in carrying out minor improvements for the various corps and departments at Rangoon and Moulmein. Petty Works.

306. The large sum of about £5,200, as estimated in the budget, was expended on special and annual repairs at Rangoon and Moulmein, of which £200 was devoted to fortifications, £3,400 spent on military buildings, £1,200 on Cantonment roads, and £400 on the Commissariat or Godwin's Wharf. Repairs.

307. The work on the escarp wall was only commenced about two months before the close of the year, but satisfactory progress was made; the wall on two faces of the redoubt having been run up to a height of about 7 feet. The outlay including value of materials at site, amounted to £3,900. The works will be completed by an early date next year and mounted with proper guns. Thayetmyo Redoubt.

308. The subsidiary buildings for the hospital were completed at a total cost of £1,027, the outlay for the year being £518; they are in thorough keeping with the magnificent building to which they are attached. European Artillery.

309. Brick drains were constructed round the barracks of the left wing, and the intermediate spaces laid with gravel at a cost of £265. Native Infantry.

310. A large tank capable of containing three million gallons of water, to be supplied from the inundation of the Irrawaddy river, was commenced towards the close of the year. The cost of supply will be about a rupee per thousand gallons. Water-supply.

311. Minor additions and improvements to accommodation were carried out, costing about £580. Petty Works.

312. All the military buildings and station roads were kept in efficient repair at an expense of a little under £1,600. Repairs.

313. A new canteen for a wing of a regiment was two-thirds completed at a cost of £581, and the married quarters were ceiled with Eng wood planking, no teak being procurable. The partitions in these quarters were not raised as

intended in consequence of an objection by the Medical Officer in charge, so that the outlay only amounted to £285.

314. A fine new hospital with out-offices for a full regiment was practically completed for the sum of £2,700. Two new rifle ranges for the European and Native Infantry have been finished, costing in all £1,642, of which £1,543 was spent during the year.

315. The large godown near the river bank was re-roofed at an outlay of a little over £710, and will now last for many years.

316. A large number of minor additions and improvements to the accommodation for troops and military departments have been carried out at an aggregate cost of over £1,700.

317. The maintenance and special repair of station roads cost about £600, and of military buildings £2,137.

318. Two new Telegraph offices with out-buildings were constructed—one at Toungoo and the other at Shwè-gyeen—at a total cost of £1,113, of which all but £100 was expended during the year. On minor works of improvement and annual maintenance, the outlay amounted to £467.

319. Two very important portions of the Irrawaddy embankments have been completed this year, by one of which the spill water of the Nawoon river, that formerly inundated the whole of the low-lying ground in the interior to the westward of Henzada, has been excluded; continuations of these to the southward have been commenced, and progressed fairly, by the time work was put a stop to by the rains. The extent of new land absolutely reclaimed during the last two working seasons cannot be less than 200 square miles. There is every reason to believe that a large increase of cultivation will spring up within the reclaimed tract, and that in a few years the whole of it will be taken up; in some favourable situations even now every acre has been appropriated. The same remarks apply almost equally to the land protected by the older embankment from Myanoung downwards. Accurate returns, however, of the land brought under cultivation and liable to assessment of revenue, can only be fully made out when the operations of the survey now in progress, have been completed.

320. The provision of iron sluices for the finished sections of this work is nearly complete, some delay having been caused by the tardy manner in which the contractors in Rangoon carried out the order for the manufacture of the iron-work. The expenditure up to date on three estimates amounting to £2,248, has been £1,960, of which about £980 has been spent during the year.

Three 2nd class Inspection bungalows with out-offices have been constructed in the Leymyethna and Zaloon sections at a cost of £1,671, £200 of which was expended during the previous year. The earth-work of the Leymyethna and Zaloon sections, which was put in hand the previous year, is practically almost completed, although some expenditure may still be required in making up and dressing banks, if any undue settlement should take place. The Leymyethna section is 25 miles in length, and skirts the left bank of the Nawoon branch of the Irrawaddy. The Zaloon section, 14 miles in length, runs along the right bank of the main river. The total expenditure has been on the former £21,420, and on the latter £11,054; the outlay for the year being respectively about £5,800 and £6,000. Two new sections of embankment in prolongation of the above to the southward, were commenced, viz., from Zaloon to Donabyo on the main river, 24½ miles in length, called the Donabyo section; and the other from Leymyethna to Ngathaingyoung, 25 miles long, called the Ngathaingyoung section. The work was put in hand late in the year, so that the outlay on the Donabyo section only amounted to £1,048, and on the Ngathaingyoung section to £4,254.

321. At Kyouk-phyoo nearly two miles of earth-work were finished off and a four-barrelled sluice culvert in progress. About a mile and a quarter in length of the Pouktoong embankment has been thrown up, and a three-vented tunnel sluice commenced. Iron sluice gates and most of the other materials required, such as stone, lime, bricks, sheet piling, &c., have been prepared and placed at sites of sluices. A small sum of £47 was expended on repairs.

322. Minor works of extension and improvements cost £269, and the maintenance and repairs of about 110 miles of finished embankments £2,040, exclusive of charges for

establishment and tools and plant. The works are all in good order.

323. Under the head "Survey of the Irrawaddy delta," which is quite a misnomer so far as the nature of the work in hand is concerned, a numerous series of observations on the velocities and discharge of the Irrawaddy river have been taken in continuation of the observations made during the previous year, but only a preliminary report of the results has been received. These operations involved an outlay of £317.

324. In the Thayetmyo District where the rainfall is scanty, three bunds have been constructed across creeks, with proper escape channels attached, for the purpose of storing water for irrigation at a cost of £380. The result cannot be known until after the close of the rains this year.

325. The plans and estimates for the Rangoon and Prome Railway were carefully revised and submitted to Government before the close of the year. The whole of the line, with the exception of 43 miles, was re-levelled and deviations made from the original trace with a view to economy in cost of construction and maintenance. The estimated cost has been reduced from £5,600 to less than £4,500 per mile. It is to be regretted that the commencement of this most important work should be so long postponed. Much useful work might have been done ere this, in the preparation and seasoning of sleepers, throwing up banks, and collection of materials, had the great importance of the project been fully realized. When the mere fact of the trade of British Burma having risen in value during 1872-73 over that of 1871-72 by no less a sum than two and a half millions sterling is noted, it is surely not too bold a statement to make that valuable time is being unnecessarily lost in providing proper facilities for its operations and future development.

326. Work was not commenced on the new courts for Judicial Commissioner, Recorder, &c., at Rangoon, as the site had not yet been fully determined. Four new court-houses for Extra Assistant Commissioners at Pantanau, Ngazootaw, Shoay-loung, and Yaygyee in the Bassein District were put in hand and nearly completed at a cost of

Velocities and discharge of the Irrawaddy river.

Thayetmyo embankments.

Rangoon and Prome State Railway.

Provincial Civil buildings, Court-houses, and Public offices.

£900. A treasury guard-house at Bassein is in progress, and about two-thirds finished. A new circuit-house has been commenced at Thayetmyo, the old one having been destroyed by the fall of a large tamarind tree. A court house for the Extra Assistant Commissioner at Kyoukkyee in the Shwègyeen District was half finished. It is satisfactory to be able to state that the new block of the public offices at Akyab was entirely completed at a total outlay of £13,068, of which £928 was expended during the year. It is only now, after more than 45 years' occupation by the British, that the public courts and departments at this station have been provided with decent accommodation; the thatched sheds hitherto in use having been not only dangerous on account of the risk of fire, but also an eyesore and a disgrace to the Administration when placed in comparison with the buildings in which for many years past, merchants and traders have conducted their business.

327. The extension and improvement of prison accommodation is gradually being proceeded with as funds are available for the purpose. The four new wards in the Rangoon Central Jail noted in last report, were not completed, the whole outlay for the year having been only £455. A little over £500 was spent in the construction of a new workshed. The new jail at Tavoy was completed as originally estimated, at an outlay of £4,398, of which more than £2,500 was spent during the year. It is feared that the work has not been satisfactorily executed, but the station is so far away from the possibility of frequent inspection that there is a difficulty in controlling the work efficiently. Some additional buildings and sheds will have to be provided before this jail can be said to be in complete working order. The new enclosure wall for the jail at Akyab was commenced, but progressed slowly from the employment of convict labor, only about £600 having been expended during the year. At Moulmein, work was begun on the construction of six worksheds (to replace old ones reported unsafe), Police platform, and a strong gate; expenditure incurred £434. At Thayetmyo, a teak building for Jailer's quarters was erected over the entrance gateway of the jail, giving a very commanding view of the interior, at a cost of £525; nothing was done about the new female ward, as the Inspector-General of Prisons considered other work to be of more importance. For the

Jails.

new jail at Henzada, bricks were manufactured at an outlay of £300, but no work was commenced. The idea of constructing a new jail at Henzada has now been abandoned, as it would be very difficult to provide either hard or useful labor at that station for any but a small number of prisoners, and it is preferable, therefore, to provide additional accommodation in the Central Jail at Rangoon, where there are better means of doing so, and where large establishments already have to be kept up. The allotments made during the current year for the Henzada jail have been utilized for this purpose.

328. The General Hospital at Rangoon was entirely completed and handed over for occupation.

Medical

These fine buildings have cost in all nearly £9,800 (7 per cent. below estimate), of which £2,000 represent the outlay of the year under review. They have been of immense benefit to the public and the shipping frequenting the port, and the institution is a credit to the town.

329. A good work has been done in the provision of school accommodation by the completion of the

Educational

school-house for 300 scholars at Akyab, costing £1,846. Nothing was done on the new school buildings at Moulmein for want of an approved design and estimate.

330. A large receiving shed for the Customs Department at the Iron Wharf was nearly completed, and quarters for a Preventive Officer at

General

Monkey Point were put in hand. The outlay on these two works amounted to £438. An additional block of cells in the criminal ward of the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum has been constructed at a cost of £770. In the premises of Government house, a new range of stabling was completed, coach-houses in progress, a new well with pumping apparatus finished, and wire fencing put up. Expenditure about £400.

331. Other minor additions and improvements were carried out in the province generally, at a cost of about £1,800.

Petty works

332. The expenditure on both annual and special repairs to all Civil buildings amounted to nearly £3,900, of which £325 was spent by District Officers.

Repairs.

District Officers.

333. Earth-work and metalling 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sections,

105 miles, of the Rangoon and Prome road; the raising of the embankments throughout to a proper height, above maximum flood level, and grading of surface to fit it for railway formation, have been pushed on satisfactorily; 5,400,000 cubic feet of earth-work were thrown up and dressed, the remainder of the ballast required for metalling has been prepared and stacked at the road side. About 400,000 cubic feet of ballast had to be removed from off the surface of the road to the berms before the embankments could be raised. A set of out-offices were constructed at Myoung-taga (40th mile.) The expenditure on this portion of the estimates amounted to £5,846.

334. Good progress has been made during the year, the following bridges having been constructed:—

Bridging 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sections.

2	3-feet culverts in brick-work.
9	6-feet timber bridges on piles.
76	10-feet do. do.
11	15-feet do. do.
24	20-feet do. do.
15	30-feet do. do.
2	(one span of 30 feet two of 20 feet).
1	(two spans of 30 feet).
1	(two spans of 18 feet).
2	(three spans of 10 feet).
1	(two spans of 10 feet).

Total 144 bridges and culverts with an aggregate waterway of 2,231 running feet.

335. The total number constructed in these sections up to the close of the year was as follows:—

Number of bridges constructed.

25	3-feet culverts in laterite and brick-work.
10	6-feet timber bridges on piles.
133	10-feet do. do.
19	15-feet do. do.
37	20-feet do. do.
19	30-feet do. do.
8	40-feet do. do.
1	(five spans of 40 feet, and two of 20 feet.)
1	(one span of 40 feet, two of 20 feet.)
2	(one span of 30 feet, two of 20 feet.)

255 Carried forward.

255	Brought over.
1	(two spans of 30 feet)
1	(three spans of 20 feet)
1	(two spans of 18 feet)
2	(three spans of 10 feet)
1	(two spans of 10 feet)

Grand total 261 bridges and culverts with an aggregate waterway of 4,076 running feet.

336. In addition to the above, a good deal of piling has been driven and framing constructed for other bridges which are in progress. Including the outlay on the completion of bridges and culverts of the small portion of the 4th section which lies within the Prome executive division, the total expenditure on the bridging in these three sections during the year amounted to £23,435, of which about £6,000 was disbursed in settlement of outstanding due to the Forest Department for the previous year.

337. A commencement was made on raising a portion of this road between Pongday and Engmah, a distance of 7 or 8 miles to the proper height above maximum flood levels, and putting in additional culverts for flood discharge. A little over £200 was spent on the culverts.

338. On the realignment of 13½ miles of the Prome and Meaday road it was decided to be advisable to have the whole length metalled instead of only the seven miles originally proposed, as the surface soil was sandy and heavy. The metal for all but about two miles was collected, and five miles of it laid down and consolidated; the work on the remaining eight miles has been deferred till the rainy season. Expenditure during the year amounted to £1,030. A heavy cutting through the hills in the 33rd and 34th miles of this Section, to form an easy gradient down to the crossing of the Boolay river, was nearly completed at an outlay of a little more than £800. A good deal of sandstone and shale was met with which required blasting, and somewhat delayed the progress of the work. Several portions of this Section were raised well above the maximum flood level, and additional culverts are being provided to carry off storm water. The renewal of metal cannot be carried out until well on in the rainy season. A sum of £934 was expended out of an estimate of £1,660.

339. The bridge over the Boolay river, the largest tributary of the Irrawaddy between Rangoon and Thayetmyo, was commenced in November, and approached completion at the close of the year. It consists of 4 spans of 60 feet from centre to centre of piers, and 10 spans of 22 feet; the length of bridge from end to end of the abutments being about 500 feet. The piers and abutments are formed of magnificent iron-wood piles driven 25 feet below the bed of the river into very firm soil; the large queen post trusses are the only portions of the framing which are made of teak; the whole of the rest of the structure, including bracing, framing, roadway girders, joists, planking, corbels, &c., being of a wood called *Thea*, which is the same as the Indian sâl (*Shorea robusta*). Very fine specimens of this timber were brought down from the neighbouring forests for the construction of this bridge. The outlay during the year was not quite £1,900, and only about £200 more will be required to complete it. In the long embankment roadway forming the southern approach to this bridge, it was considered advisable to leave a flood opening for which a timber bridge on piles with five spans of 20 feet each was provided, costing £275. A large bridge over the Naweng river, a very important affluent of the Irrawaddy just above Prome, was also put in hand, and about four-fifths completed, the outlay being £873. It consists of three spans of 60 feet and three of 22 feet, and in construction is similar to the Boolay bridge, excepting that all the superstructure, framing, &c., are of teak and not of *Thea*; this will make it somewhat more expensive per foot run of its length, which from out to out of abutments is about 270 feet. The two large bridges over the Naweng and Boolay rivers between Prome and Meaday, have filled up the only gaps remaining on this portion of the line, and cart traffic is thus rendered possible at all seasons of the year as far as Allanyo near the frontier—a very rising mart for up-country traffic.

340. A good sized bridge similar in construction to that over the Naweng, has been constructed across the Kantha Creek, consisting of two spans of 60 feet and two of 12 feet. Outlay to close of the year £662, for which the work is completed, with the exception of some roadway planking.

341. This line has been superficially cleared of jungle for 21 miles, and 3½ miles of stumping and rooting-out completed; it is expected that with temporary bridging and metalling the cost will not much exceed £300 per mile. The outlay during the year has been under £200.

342. An expenditure of £1,126 has been erroneously debited against this original work, on account of raising sides and various improvements which should have been charged to special repairs and other sanctioned estimates.

343. The bridge over the Pegu river, constructed entirely of teak wood, has been completed at a total cost of nearly £3,700. It consists of a double roadway (10 feet) supported on queen post trusses in four spans of 50 feet and two spans of 40 feet. Two additional bridges of teak timber on piles with an aggregate waterway of 120 running feet have been put in on this section; the cost amounted to £686.

344. The earth-work and temporary bridging of this Section have been completed, with some temporary bungalows, at a total outlay of £12,810, the expenditure for the year being nearly £7,000. The estimated cost has been exceeded by about 13 per cent., owing to the flood levels having been much under estimated, and from various deficiencies in the original calculations of cost.

345. The survey of the whole line has been completed. It will be necessary, however, to deviate for about 12 miles from the original alignment in one part, where the ground for this distance is heavily inundated. The progress during the year has been satisfactory, considering that the Executive Engineer could hardly have commenced work before December. 78 miles of the line have been cleared of jungle to a width of 30 feet; 7 miles of earth-work completed, and 10 more in hand; more than 3,000 running feet of substantial temporary bridging constructed, and two permanent inspection bungalows well advanced, besides temporary accommodation of the same nature.

346. The permanent bridging on the Moulmein and Yeh road has been finished at an outlay of £6,670, of which about £2,400 was expended during the year. The whole of this

line now as far as Quanlah, 39 miles, with branch of 14 miles to Amherst, is permanently bridged and metalled.

347. The short stretch of road from Moulmein to Hline Boay is still unfinished, as the metal could not be laid down in the dry weather. Expenditure during the year was only a little over £600, and the work, as noted also in previous reports, has progressed very unsatisfactorily from first to last. Two iron bridges on masonry abutments for flood discharge have been constructed on the road in Moulmein which leads to the Hline Boay road, at a cost of £400.

348. The large timber bridge over the Tsawa Creek near Tavoy, for which the materials were collected last year, has been satisfactorily completed at a cost of nearly £1,000, a little over £400 having been spent during the current year.

349. First Section to Myo Ghaut, 10½ miles. 4½ miles of this road were completed two or three years ago; the remaining 6 miles up to the ferry at the Myo river were put in hand only shortly before the close of the year, as the work was not originally included in the budget, and the outlay was consequently trifling, viz., about £275.

350. The metalling of the crest of the Anoukpet section of the Henzada embankment was completed, but no further extension of surfacing and metalling for road traffic was undertaken.

351. Petty works of improvement to all the roads under charge of this Department only cost £600, during the year.

352. The length of the roads maintained by Public Works officers during the year was about 400 miles, and the outlay, inclusive of cost of special repairs and collection of road-metal, amounted to nearly £13,450. 85 miles of hill-road between Toungoo and Padoung were kept in passable order by the Telegraph Department, at an outlay of about £200. Nearly £300 were expended on repairs to the banks and bed of the Pyen Choung canal between the Pegu and Sittang rivers.

353. A survey was put in hand during the past year for a still-water locked canal between the Pegu and Sittang rivers, and if this project should prove to be feasible at a moderate cost, as there seems every reason to anti-

cipate, a permanent and very important improvement to the water communication with our North-Eastern Frontier will be effected. With such a rapidly rising trade as this province possesses, too much can hardly be done towards the improvement of facilities for transport of goods.

354. In the annual report for last year allusion was made to the damage done to the iron-piled sub-structure of the Oyster reef light-house during the south-west monsoon of 1872. In consequence of it having been found necessary that the boilers of the *S. S. Ava* should undergo extensive repairs, that vessel was not able to start from Rangoon before the 13th January, and it was the 4th February before the Contractor's Engineer left Akyab for the Reef, operations being commenced the next day. The state in which the piles were found was most discouraging; they were all leaning over at various angles approaching 30° to the north-east, and the bracings and couplings were so much wrenched as to be quite useless for the season's work. Before attempting to draw the piles, it was necessary to heave them into an upright position, and this was found to be not only a difficult but a very tedious process, which was not completed before the working season came to a close.

355. The expenditure from the Cantonment Fund in the improvement and maintenance of roads supervised by this department amounted to £453.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements, — Local.
Military Rangoon.

356. Quarters for the servants of the Prome dispensary were constructed at a cost of £85. The outlay on district roads was very trifling, viz., £234.

357. A bungalow for the accommodation of travellers arriving from Calcutta and other places was about half completed at a cost of £483. The outlay on streets, drains, &c., was under £200, all work having been stopped as the Municipal Fund could not meet the appropriations originally made.

358. A considerable sum has been spent on the construction of markets in several towns of the Pegu Division, the returns from which will furnish a permanent and considerable income for carrying out much needed improvements in streets and drainage.

Local Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

359. The new bazaar at Leymyethna was completed, costing £1,058, of which over £300 was spent during the year; about £1,000 was expended on the large bazaar at Pantanau, on which the total outlay now amounts to nearly £3,150,—two-thirds of the estimated accommodation has been constructed, the remainder must be deferred until further funds are available. The new bazaar in the Talaingkyoung quarter of the town was well advanced, £1,400 having been spent on it during the year, which raises the total outlay to nearly £2,200. The earth-work and bridging of the prolongation of the Strand road were completed at a total cost of about £900; expenditure during the year £550. Several bridges were constructed in the town, streets metalled and maintained in order, and minor improvements effected, at an outlay of nearly £1,000.

360. The outlay during the year on the fine bazaar in the town of Henzada was about £3,650, and it is now virtually completed, so far as present requirements are concerned, at a cost of £7,250.

361. Some petty repairs to port buildings at Moulmein were carried out at a cost of £27.

362. A little over £2,450 was spent on the large additional bazaar in the town of Prome, raising the cost at the end of the year to £6,636; it will be completed in two or three months. Two police guard-houses have been completed, and a third commenced; expenditure about £500. The slaughter sheds at Prome and Shwè-doung were finished, and cost £477, the outlay during the year being trifling.

363. On the improvement to the canal and raising town blocks west of Godwin's Road £1,700 was spent, and the work is about one-third finished. The outlay on side drains and culverts was under £800, no more money being available for the purpose. A corrugated iron godown on the river bank at end of China Street, was completed at a cost of £730; two similar godowns at the Latter Street wharf were more than half finished for £900. Metalling Shafraz street, at the back of the Public Offices and Custom-house, and some roads leading to the river side, cost £575. A sum of £452 was paid to the Bombay Burma Company as costs in a law suit awarded in their favour. The construction of a

municipal bazaar in the Puzoondoung quarter was put in hand, and the building nearly half finished at an outlay of about £650. The cost of maintenance of streets, drains, culverts, and municipal buildings, and of petty works of improvement, amounted to £2,050. The iron work for the new Soolay Pagoda jetty, and for the improvement to Latter Street jetty, was received during the year, and good progress made in screwing down the piles; the brick-walls of the Soolay Pagoda godowns on the modified design have been built up to wall-plate level, and wood-work for the roof prepared. The expenditure up to date has been £27,295, of which £17,540 was spent during the year. On minor works of improvement and repairs to port jetties and buildings the outlay has been nearly £200. An expenditure of £50 was incurred in petty works and repairs to the Pegu bazaar.

364. In the town of Thayetmyo about £140 was spent on small municipal works. In the rising town of Allanmyo a good deal was done in the way of improvement; the new bazaar was completed according to present requirements at a cost of £4,360, of which £1,260 was spent during the year. In forming streets and roads with drainage culverts, there was an outlay of £630 which, with the expenditure of the former year, completes all but the metalling. A slaughter shed was nearly finished for £205.

365. The north-east and north-west wings of the bazaar were re-roofed and floored at a cost of a little over £1,900. The whole bazaar is now in first rate order.

Statement showing the percentage of charge for establishment during the past three years.

366. The percentage of charge for establishment for the past and two preceding years, is shown in the following table:—

SERVICES.	1870-71.		1871-72.		1872-73.	
	On works and repairs.	Of total outlay.	On works and repairs.	Of total outlay.	On works and repairs.	Of total outlay.
Imperial Ordinary ..	29.7	22.3	22.6	18.4	18.23	15.28
Do. Irrigation ..	29.7	22.3	22.6	18.4	19.80	16.24
Provincial ..	29.7	22.3	22.0	18.0	19.20	15.98
Local ..	29.7	22.3	18.4	15.5	(17.21 5.75)	11.82

It is satisfactory to be able to note such a progressive decrease in the percentage charge on works and of the cost of establishments during the past three years, as it may be fairly inferred that occupation for the members of the department has been properly distributed in proportion to the grants allotted for expenditure. The percentage on irrigation account generally is higher than that for Imperial ordinary, because 38.1 per cent. has been charged against revenue for maintenance of embankments. There are two rates for local, the lower being on account of expenditure in England; this of course very much reduces the percentage on the whole outlay.

Telegraph.

367. The Electric Telegraph Department in this province is divided into two divisions, which are respectively called the Arakan Division and the British Burma Division.

368. In all previous Administration Reports the remarks on the Telegraph Department have entirely related to the British Burma Division; but this year a report having been received from the Superintendent of the Arakan Division, it is possible to make a few remarks regarding the working of the line in that part of the province during the year under review.

369. No new lines have been constructed in the Arakan Division, but the existing sections have been all carefully repaired and kept in good order.

Arakan Division.

370. The receipts realized on account of messages of all kinds despatched from the several stations in this division during the year under review amounted to £3,106, against £2,630 in 1871-72. The disbursements on account of the department in 1872-73 were £4,230. These figures show that the cost of maintaining the lines and offices in the Arakan Division was £1,124 in excess of the receipts. With the exception of Akyab, none of the stations in this division pay their expenses.

371. The total duration of interruptions in 1872-73 was 801 hours, or 33 days 9 hours, against interruptions aggregating 665 hours, or 27 days 17 hours during the previous year. It seems unsatisfactory that the line should have been so much interrupted during the year under review, but it should be borne in mind that the wire in this division passes through wild, uninhabited, and difficult country, and is therefore more liable to interruptions than the lines in the other division.

The reading classes are said to have been kept up throughout the year and show satisfactory results.

372. As regards the British Burma Division, the new line between Rangoon and Prome was completed in the first week in May, and brought into use at once, the old line from Rangoon to Henzada being at the same time discontinued. The line has been substantially constructed, and works very satisfactorily. Much of the country through which it runs is

British Burma Division
Rangoon to Prome.

covered with dense jungle, and during the dry weather, when this is on fire in all directions, or during the prevalence of high winds, it is to be feared that interruptions will frequently occur from trees falling across the wire.

373. The construction of an uninsulated line to Elephant Point was commenced during the year, and about three-fourths of it completed; as, however, it was desirable that the line should be open as soon as possible, a temporary wire was erected over the remaining portion, and the office opened on the 2nd April.

374. In October last the Officiating Superintendent of the British Burma Division was deputed to Mandalay to make arrangements, through the Political Agent, with the Government of Upper Burma, for connecting the British and Upper Burma telegraph lines. After a little negotiation that Government consented to adopt the International Telegraph Convention, by which messages can be transmitted under the same conditions as messages to and from Great Britain and Continental Europe. Only two stations, Mandalay and Mingyan, are open for foreign messages at present; but if there is sufficient inducement, no doubt all other telegraph stations in Upper Burma will also be opened.

375. The connecting of the lines in British Burma with those of Upper Burma was completed early in March. It has been eventually decided that the charge for a single message from any station in British Burma to any station in Upper Burma will be six shillings, half being credited to each Government.

376. A new cable was laid across the Irrawaddy at Prome during the year, to replace that hitherto in use, which was becoming very defective.

Cable at Prome.

Rangoon and Pegu.

377. The old line between Rangoon and Pegu was dismantled early in the year.

378. The line from Prome to Thayetmyo was re-constructed this year. The work consisted of an entirely new line from Prome to the junction of the new and old roads, about 20 miles, and the re-distribution of the old posts supplemented by new ones where necessary, thence into Thayetmyo. The work has not been satisfactorily performed: inferior posts have been accepted from the contractor, and the alignment is very defective, and will have to be improved in many places.

379. The old line from Rangoon to Henzada has been dismantled. Some of the wire has been used on the Elephant Point line, the remainder is at Henzada, where it will be of use for the proposed line to Bassein.

380. The country between Henzada and Bassein was examined and information collected for framing an estimate for the proposed line. The construction of this line has so far progressed that it is now possible to send messages from Rangoon to Bassein.

381. *Rangoon.*—This office has been greatly improved during the year by the entire separation of the signallers' quarters from the Superintendent's and signal offices, the erection of a separate staircase to the latter, and of a battery-room.

382. *Prome.*—The new building was occupied in May last immediately after its completion. It gives sufficient accommodation for the present establishment, and is a vast improvement on the shed in which the office was located previously.

383. *Henzada and Myanoung.*—These offices were built when the main line to India was carried up the west bank of the Irrawaddy, and the establishments to be provided for were necessarily larger. At Myanoung the Post Office is in the same building; the Telegraph Master being the Post aster as well.

384. There were 35,304 private and service messages despatched from the various stations in this division during the past year, against 33,573 despatched in 1871-72. The revenue realized during the two years was £8,065 and £9,614 respectively. It will be thus seen that the revenue of the past year has increased over that of the previous one by 19·2 per cent., but that the number of messages has only increased 5·1 per cent. The increase in revenue is nearly double the increase shown in 1871-72 over the previous year, whereas the increase in the number of messages is not half that during the same period. The expenditure in this division was £5,890, against receipts amounting to £9,614—a far more satisfactory state of things than has ever been the case previously.

385. The progress of work on the line between Rangoon and Prome has been at times so great that the erection of a second wire cannot long be delayed without leading to serious inconvenience; should the connection with Upper Burma result in much work, it will probably be necessary to make earlier arrangements for this than appear to be called for at present. On some days the number of foreign and news messages received and sent, which take precedence of all others, delay the local and Indian messages for hours. This is especially the case when the line to Calcutta has been interrupted for a day or two. A second wire would secure the rapid transmission of at least all local messages, give more satisfaction to the public, and probably result in a considerable increase of work. The cost of this would not be very great, as only wire, insulators, and contact-preventers are required to the posts and brackets now up.

386. The total duration of both total and partial interruptions differs but slightly from that of 1871-72, the former having been 58 days 15 hours, while the latter was 58 days 21 hours. The interruptions on the same sections for the same periods vary considerably. For instance, while the section Rangoon to Shwè-gyeen was interrupted 9 days 17 hours in 1871-72, the interruptions lasted 15 days 16 hours in 1872-73; Shwè-gyeen to Moulmein 8 days 1 hour in 1871-72, and 1 day 18 hours in 1872-73. This is accounted for on the Rangoon-Shwè-gyeen section by the removal of the line to the road-side, where there is a great deal of tree jungle, while the old line across the grass and paddy plains was generally free from this, and, where tree jungle existed, the jungle cutting of the last 15 years had resulted in the removal of most of the old decayed trees in the vicinity of the line. In addition to this, along the road to Pegu the barms have not been cleared, as on the road to Prome. On the Shwè-gyeen-Moulmein section the line is for two-thirds of its length over grass plains without a tree within miles of it, and interruptions on this portion of it are due to lightning destroying the posts. In 1871-72 nearly four days interruption was caused in this way, while no injury was done this year. In the majority of cases the interruptions are caused by trees falling across the wire, breaking it, or burying it in the earth. The only remedy for this is that proposed years ago, viz., the felling of all trees either side of all lines for distances varying from 75 to 120 feet, according to the height of the jungle; but this is out

of the question, as it would not only cost an enormous sum, but would lead to the destruction of large quantities of valuable timber.

387. The reading classes were interrupted during the latter part of the year, in consequence of the examinations and the establishment being below the required strength from various reasons. They will, it is hoped, shortly be resumed, as more time can be devoted to them during the rains, when out-door work is slack.

388. The instruction of soldiers in signalling is continued at *Toungoo*. Three men have qualified during the year. As the men do not appear to have any prospect of employment in the Department, they merely attend the class as an excuse for being exempt from some military duty.

389. *Shwe-gyeen and Toungoo*.—New buildings have been erected at these places into which the offices have been moved; they are small and compact, and are well suited to the purpose.

390. *Thayetmyo*.—This office is now in the most inconvenient situation that could have been selected, and is in a very rickety building; it has therefore been determined to remove it. Endeavours were made to rent a suitable house, but as this could not be done, a building is about to be erected by the Public Works Department. A very good site in the vicinity of the public offices has been secured.

391. *Allanmyo*.—As this office is for the present merely experimental, a temporary building has been erected for it. The plan and estimates for a frontier office have been prepared, but no funds are yet available for its construction; the office has therefore been accommodated in a temporary building.

392. *Elephant Point*.—The office is located in a suitable house which has been rented specially for the purpose.

393. The tariff on inland messages in force prior to January 1869 was a system of charging by distance for groups of 20 and half groups of 10 words. In January 1869 this was altered to a charge of two shillings for 10 words, irrespective of distance. This was maintained till about May 1870, when the method of counting the words was altered in favor of the public by allowing three words in the address to count as one. In January 1872 the tariff now in force was introduced—six words between any two places in

India or in Burma are charged two shillings, but between any place in British Burma and India the charge is increased 50 per cent. This tariff results in handicapping messages to or from Burma very heavily, as may be seen from the following tabular statement, in which the former charge, allowing the address to count as two words, and the present charge, is compared, the percentage of increase being shown:—

Number of words, including two in address	Former tariff.		PRESENT TARIFF.			Percentage of increase for messages in India or Burma.	Percentage of increase for messages between India and Burma.				
			For messages in India or in Burma.		For messages between India and Burma.						
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d		
10	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	6	0	100	200
20	0	4	0	0	6	0	0	8	0	50	125
30	0	6	0	0	10	0	0	15	0	50	100
40	0	8	0	0	14	0	1	1	0	75	125
50	0	10	0	0	16	0	1	4	0	60	140
60	0	12	0	1	0	0	1	10	0	50	150
70	0	14	0	1	4	0	1	16	0	71	167
80	0	16	0	1	6	0	1	19	0	50	167
90	0	18	0	1	10	0	2	5	0	50	180
100	1	0	0	1	14	0	2	11	0	70	166
										68.8	153.7
							Average ...			68.8	153.3

From this it will be seen that for messages confined to India or to Burma the increase has been 68.8 per cent., while for those from Burma to India, or vice versa, the increase is 153.3 per cent.

Post Office.

394. The mail between Calcutta and this province is carried by the steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company under contract with Government. There is a weekly line of steamers between Calcutta and Moulmein, calling at Rangoon, and every alternate week at Akyab; the steamers of this line once every four weeks run on from Moulmein to the Straits Settlements; there is a fortnightly steamer between Calcutta and Akyab, calling in at Chittagong, and running on to Kyouk-phoo throughout the year, and to Sandoway from November to May; a steamer also plys once a month between Moulmein and the southern ports of Tavoy and Mergui.

395. A steamer runs between Rangoon and Madras once every four weeks, chiefly for the convenience of the Military Department, as the province is garrisoned by Madras troops.

396. The steamers of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, under contract with the Local Administration, run weekly from Rangoon to Mandalay, calling at the intermediate stations of Henzada, Myanoung, Prome, and Thayetmyo, and once in four weeks to Bhamo. The postal communication in the interior of the province is principally carried on by boats, and only a few land dāk lines have yet been established.

397. The following statement shows the number of letters, parcels, book and newspapers received at, and despatched from, the several Post Offices in the province during the years 1871-72 and 1872-73 :—

DIVISION.	RECEIVED.				DESPATCHED.				REMARKS.
	1871-72.		1872-73.		1871-72.		1872-73.		
	Number of letters of every description.	Number of parcels, books & newspapers.	Number of letters of every description.	Number of parcels, books & newspapers.	Number of letters of every description.	Number of parcels, books, & newspapers.	Number of letters of every description.	Number of parcels, books, & newspapers.	
Pago ..	205,794	141,908	225,104	145,120	405,024	24,569	229,515	105,252	
Tenasserim ..	100,027	24,402	147,223	52,092	25,422	9,225	140,747	14,796	
Arakan ..	62,420	27,903	71,470	20,120	22,272	22,222	24,205	22,025	
Mandalay and Bhamo ..	2,120	4,585	10,776	6,001	6,214	140	2,140	260	
Fort Blair and Muncowry	12,544	5,515	20,216	7,520	21,200	671	22,944	1,520	
Total ..	585,053	214,458	640,790	240,823	622,494	126,227	602,724	185,720	

Total number of covers received during	1871-72	..	585,053	
Do. do. do.	1872-73	..	640,790	
			61,737	61,737
Total number of covers despatched during	1871-72	..	127,227	
Do. do. do.	1872-73	..	214,458	
			97,231	97,231
			61,504	61,504
Total number of covers that passed through the Post Offices in British Burma (including those received for delivery and posted for despatch)	1871-72	..	1,527,372	
Do. do. do.	1872-73	..	1,760,290	
			232,918	232,918
			162,727	162,727

402. From these figures it will be observed that during the past eleven years there has been a total net surplus of £5,245,400, so that this province has contributed during that period an annual average sum of nearly £476,900 for Military expenditure, for Post Office and Electric Telegraph charges, and for a share of the cost of the Central Government. The contribution from the revenues of British Burma on account of these charges in 1862-63 was £445,003. During the year under report it amounted to £716,892, thus showing an increase of 62·07 per cent. during that period.

(a)—Imperial Revenue and Finance.

RECEIPTS.

403. The realizations from "land revenue," "capitation tax," "land assessment in lieu of capitation tax," "fisheries," "sale proceeds of waste lands" &c., aggregated £656,073 in 1872-73, against £646,416 in the year preceding; thus showing an increase of £9,657. A more favorable contrast would have been shown had it not been that the receipts for this year 1871-72, were abnormally raised in consequence of a considerable amount of revenue, which properly belonged to the year 1870-71, having been collected in that year.

404. The following figures give the collections and assessments under this head during the last five years:—

Years.	Collections.	Demand.
1868-69	£ 568,539	£ 596,491
1869-70	.. „ 638,957	.. „ 609,051
1870-71	.. „ 597,620	.. „ 633,621
1871-72	.. „ 646,416	.. „ 654,654
1872-73	.. „ 656,073	.. „ 679,182

405. The details of the land revenue demand for the years 1871-72 and 1872-73 are given in the following comparative statement:—

DETAILS.	Demand for		Increase in 1872-73		Decrease in	
	1871-72.	1872-73.	over 1871-72.	Per-centage.	1872-73 over 1871-72.	Per-centage.
1. Land Tax	£ 844,523	£ 857,473	£ 12,950	3·75	..	..
2. Capitation Tax	226,954	234,569	7,615	3·35	..	..
3. House Tax and Land Assessment in lieu of Capitation Tax in Towns	14,302	14,916	614	4·28	..	..
4. Fisheries, Sea and Inland	66,875	72,224	5,349	4·86	..	..
Total ..	654,654	679,182	24,528	..	..	..

The above figures show that the demand on account of land tax increased to the extent of 3·75 per cent.; the assessment in 1871-72 having been £344,523, and in the year of report £357,473.

406. The demand on account of the *capitation tax*—which is a poll-tax on the male population of the province of ages between 18 and 50, with the exception of immigrants for the first five years of their residence, religious teachers, schoolmasters, Government servants, and those unable to obtain their own livelihood, levied at the rate of 10s. per head for married men and 5s. for bachelors, on 575,097 persons in the year of report—was £234,569, against £226,954, assessed on 556,035 persons in the preceding year, the increase in the number of persons being 19,062, or 3·45 per cent., and in the revenue £7,615, or 3·35 per cent.

407. The assessments on account of the *special land tax* levied in lieu of the capitation tax in the principal towns at the rate of 13s. 6½d. per 100 square feet of and covered by buildings, and 6s. per acre on land not built upon, were 14,916, the increase over the previous year being 612, or 4·28 per cent.

408. The tax on sea and inland fisheries aggregated £72,224 in the year under review, against £68,875 in that preceding—an increase of £3,349, or 4·86 per cent., of which £111 was the increment in Arakan, £2,202 in Pegu, and £1,036 in Tenasserim, the latter division showing the largest comparative improvement. The increase in Arakan was due to greater attention having been paid to the subject, in consequence of orders issued in the course of the year.

The fisheries in that division differ very much from those in other parts of the province: there are no lake or tank fisheries, but the revenue is derived from a tax on nets only. In the Rangoon District the pond and lake fisheries realized £4,484 in excess of the receipts in the previous year, notwithstanding that 16 fisheries and turtle-banks were not leased, owing to persons being unwilling to take them except at very low prices; but there was a falling-off in the sea fishery tax of upwards of £700, which is attributed to the low prices realized in 1871-72 for gnapée and salt-fish. The tax on sea fisheries in the Bassein District also decreased,—partly due to the fluctuations incident to this kind of fisheries, and partly to the dengue fever, with which a large number of fishermen were affected during the year. A decrease of £838 occurred in Henzada, owing to the border fishery having been included in the Bassein District collections this year, and to other re-arrangements; in Prome an increase of £313 was realized from enhanced prices for pond fisheries; and in Thayetmyo there was a falling off of £105 in the rent of a fishery dependent on the Irrawaddy. In Tenasserim the increase was equal to 12·67 per cent., and was due chiefly to the old system of renting the fisheries annually having been put a stop to during the year, and the new system of leasing all inland fisheries for a term of five years by public auction to the highest bidders above an upset price being introduced.

409. The new system of letting the inland fisheries appears to have worked well during the year of report, and resulted in an enhanced revenue in almost every district in which such fisheries exist; while by releasing little fisheries which interfered with the water-supply of the people, the public generally have at the same time been great gainers.

New system of letting fisheries has worked well, and has resulted in an increase in the revenue.

Customs.

six years:—

Years.	Collections.
1867-68	£ 200,208
1868-69	„ 284,963
1869-70	„ 203,388
1870-71	„ 277,265
1871-72	„ 308,380
1872-73	„ 449,880

410. The following figures give the collections of customs dues during the last

The collections in the year under report, as compared with the year preceding, show an increase of £141,500, due chiefly to the increased shipments of rice to Europe and also to the large increase in the import trade. The rice season of 1872-73 was an exceedingly good one, and a great improvement in the rice trade was the result. From the above figures it will be seen that this revenue has more than doubled itself within the last six years.

411. There was a slight increase in the salt revenue.

Salt.

The total amount collected on imported salt and that manufactured locally during 1872-73 as compared with the collections in the previous year, being £13,191 and £11,900 respectively. This increase must be attributed to the large importations of foreign salt, as the excise duty on home-made salt showed a considerable decrease, the assessment having been £4,466, against £5,504 in 1871-72.

412. The receipts under this head show an increase

Excise.

in the year of report, as compared with the year preceding, the amounts realized having been £112,344 and £99,564 respectively. This increase is partly due to the fact that the sale of many of the licenses which are usually granted in March, was deferred until after April 1872, when the new Excise Act X of 1871 came into force in the province. The receipts of the previous year were thus unduly lowered, while those of the year of report were increased. In comparing the receipts of the year under report with those of previous years, it should be borne in mind that only the net proceeds on account of excise opium have been credited, whereas formerly the gross proceeds used to be credited; in other words, the cost price of opium has been deducted from the receipts instead of being shown as expenditure.

413. The gross demand from excise as Imperial revenue dur-

ing 1872-73 was £109,804, which shows the very satisfactory improvement of £1,410, or 1·474 per cent. over the preceding year.

An increase took place in each division,—Arakan £436, Pegu £8,743, and Tenasserim £4,928, the latter being by far the largest comparatively. This increase tends to show that the new system introduced under Act X of 1871 has worked satisfactorily. It is satisfactory to note that this increase of excise revenue has been simultaneous with a very remarkable decrease

in serious crime, which is a strong refutation of the theories on the subject which are prevalent among those who give only a superficial consideration to the real working of the excise system. The new excise system in Burma has simply produced organization and control, where before, under the farming system, everything was left to chance.

414. The net revenue realized from the sale of *opium* was £67,848, of which £29,047 were paid as fees for licenses to vend the drug—a receipt peculiar to the province, all opium licenses elsewhere being free—and £38,801 were the net profits on the sale of opium after deducting the actual cost of the same to the Government. The quantity of the drug issued from the Government treasury during the year of review was 23,490 seers, against 20,699 seers in the previous year—an increase equal to 13.48 per cent. This increment, it is believed, is mainly owing to the decrease in smuggling, and not to enhanced consumption. Under the rules at present in force, the system of binding vendors to take a stated quantity of opium has been abolished, and it now rests with them to determine what amount they will take from the Government. At the same time, in order to prevent the sale of smuggled opium by licensed vendors under the color of their license, a clause is inserted in the license under which the licensee is to account satisfactorily to the Deputy Commissioner, if called upon to do so, should the quantity of opium taken from the Treasury fall considerably short of what may be estimated to be the average sale from the shops. As the vendors now find that they can get the whole of their requirements supplied from the treasury, there is every reason to believe that they hesitate to incur the risk involved in smuggling.

315. The receipts from license fees for the sale of *ganja* amounted to £2,229, or £494 in excess of the amount realized in the previous year. The increase was general throughout the province, and was due to brisk competition for the shops. No licenses for the vend of this pernicious drug have been granted since the close of the year under report, and its importation and sale have been strictly prohibited, since its use is but little known to the people of Burma, and the only sufferers from the cessation of the supply will be a few of the Indian laborers who come to work here during the dry season.

416. The revenue on *country spirits*—which are manufactured in out-stills each capable of containing 10 gallons at a time, and the licenses for the working of which also carry the right to sell such spirits by retail to the extent of one quart to any one person—aggregated £10,495, of which £761 were realized in Arakan, £3,676 in Pegu, and £6,058 in Tenasserim. This is a new source of revenue, introduced under Act X of 1871, with a view to enabling the people to obtain weak country spirits by licit means. It has been very successful, and appears to have led to the almost entire suppression of the large number of illicit stills which formerly existed. A sum of £326 was also realized as license fees for the sale of “*tseinyai*” and “*khoun*g,” the former of which is manufactured from jaggery, &c., and the latter from rice, being in fact the ordinary rice-beer known in India as “*pachewai*.”

417. Spirits distilled in Rangoon and Moulmein after the English method yielded £14,239 in the year of report, against £20,366 in the year preceding,—the decrease being attributable partly to the introduction of licenses for the distillation and sale of country spirits, and partly to the large increase in the number of retail licenses for the vend of imported liquors granted during the year. Under the present rules, a fee of £100 per annum is levied on each distillery, and still-head duty at the rate of 5s. per imperial gallon of spirits of the strength of London proof is collected, instead of a distillery fee of £1,000 per year, as was formerly levied. The result has been that the receipts on the liquors passed out of the distilleries increased to the extent of £3,100; but for the wholesale and retail vend. of such spirits the decrease in license fees was £9,227. During the year there was a considerable increase in the quantity of spirituous liquors imported, 41,857 gallons more having been brought into the province than in the previous year, which of course yielded a corresponding addition to the revenue in the Customs Department.

418. The total collections on account of *tari* licenses were £14,341, against £12,429 in 1871-72, the increase being due to more village licenses having been issued. As this is a comparatively harmless beverage, special facilities have been granted under the revised excise rules for its sale, and low fees for the vend of unfermented toddy have been fixed.

419. During the year of report there was an increase in the revenue as compared with the previous year, due principally to the improvement in commerce. The value of stamps sold during 1872-73 was £42,499, whilst the value sold in the previous year was £41,033.

Stamps.

420. The revenue realized and credited under this head aggregated £18,870 in 1872-73, the amount so credited in 1871-72 having been £17,192. The increase of £1,678 may be attributed to the change in the judicial administration; a greater number of fines, &c., were also inflicted.

Law and Justice.

421. In the aggregate receipts under *Marine*, a considerable increase took place; the amount realized in 1872-73 was £8,030, and in 1871-72, £5,565. The principal item is coast light dues, where a marked improvement took place, consequent upon the greater number of vessels visiting the seaports, owing to the large exports of rice.

Marine.

422. The revenue derived from timber, &c., sold, and from the frontier tax levied at Kadoe, was £82,757 in 1872-73, and £77,240 in 1871-72, showing an increase in the year under report of £5,517. This increase is partly caused by the outstanding from sale of timber by auction of the previous year, and supplies to the Public Works Department being adjusted this year. There is an improvement in the duty on foreign timber, due in a great measure to the tranquil state of the frontier. A considerable decrease has arisen under timber removed by purchasers and permit-fees, owing to the cancellation of permits in the Sittang Division and consequent suspension of operations in some forests.

Forests.

423. From *assessed taxes* a smaller sum was realized in 1872-73 than in 1871-72: the collections in the latter year amounted to £8,865, and in the former to £6,676. The decrease of £2,189 is due to the minimum income liable to assessment under the Income Tax Act having been raised in the year under report, whereby incomes below Rs. 1,000 per annum were exempted.

Assessed taxes.

424. The revenue under this head is derived from the interest on unpaid portions of purchase money of waste lands. The receipts during the year under review were £5 only whilst in 1871-72 they were £74.

Interest.

425. The miscellaneous receipts in the year under report showed an increase as compared with the year preceding, the amounts realized having been £1,643 and £820 respectively. This increase is due to arrears of unclaimed deposits having been written off.

Miscellaneous.
Holds of account appertaining to other Governments.

426. The following heads of account appertain to other Governments:—

	1871-72.	1872-73.	1872-73.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
Postal Department ...	£ 11,311	£ 12,571	£ 360	...
Electric Telegraph do. ...	17,968	21,867	3,899	...
Money-order do. ...	43,949	54,006	10,057	...
Military do. ...	42,636	56,454	13,818	...
Public Works do. ...	174,196	201,506	27,310	...
India and other Governments ...	54,774	47,457	...	7,317
Bills of do. do. ...	32,038	25,165	...	6,873

427. The increase in the *Electric Telegraph* Department is attributable to the increased rate of telegraphic charges between this province and India. In the *Money-order* Department a considerable improvement has taken place, owing chiefly to a larger number of remittances to Madras, which may be accounted for by the good shipping season. Under *Military* Department the increase is due to interdepartmental adjustment of supplies and sales of condemned stores. The increase in the *Public Works* Department is owing to adjustment of expenditure for larger provincial works. Under *India and other Governments* and *Bills* the decrease is due to fewer remittances and bill transactions.

428. The opening *Cash Balances* of the last two years show a decrease in 1872-73 of £52,088 as compared with the previous year, owing to larger expenditure in the province, principally in the *Public Works* Department, for Imperial and Local outlay.

Opening cash balances of the year.

Details.				1871-72.	1872-73.
				£	£
Notes	...	...	...	38,372	28,259
Gold	...	...	...	12	...
Silver	...	...	...	328,049	290,466
Copper	...	...	...	12,697	8,317
Total				379,130	327,042

DISBURSEMENTS.

429. The charges of collection and the amount of refunds under the head of *Land Revenue* aggregated in the year of report £96,434, against £98,082 in the previous year. The Revenue Settlement charges were smaller, owing to the appointment of Senior Settlement Officer being done away with in the year under review, and refunds were lighter.

430. The charges and the amount of refunds under the head of *Excise* in 1872-73 were £1,000, against £1,909 in 1871-72. This decrease is due to the fact that in the latter year the cost price of a small part of the opium supplied in 1870-71, was charged for. The refunds, however, in the year under report were heavier on account of excess duty levied and a small establishment maintained at Government expense for the Rangoon distillery.

431. The cost of establishments employed in the collection of *Income tax*, *Customs duty*, and *Salt duty* in the year of report, was £129, £18,671, and £431 respectively, whilst the cost in the preceding year was £260, £18,576, and £457 respectively. The refunds under these heads aggregated in 1872-73, £5,504, and in 1871-72, £3,370. The increase is owing to the large trade under the heads *Stamps*, *Law and Justice*, and *Miscellaneous*. The refunds during the two years were £3,370 and £3,179 respectively, and the charges on stamps £1,265 and £1,321.

432. In the year under review the expenditure on account of the *Forest Department* amounted to £33,619, or £4,228 less than the disbursements in the previous year. The decrease is principally under timber expenses and forest survey. The former represents a decrease proportionate to the quantity of timber brought out by Government agency, while the latter is due to the work having been stopped in November 1872. An increase, how-

ever, appeared under purchase of stock accounted for by the several deaths of elephants and purchase of others at higher rates.

433. In the year under report, *Interest* on the deposits in the District Savings Banks was paid which amounted to £77, and in the previous year £29. The increase is due to larger deposits.

434. The disbursements on account of *Civil and Political Establishments* amounted in 1872-73 to £44,439, and in 1871-72 to £44,766. Under Political Department there is a decrease of £526, principally due to the charges incurred in 1871-72 being unusually high on account of the visit of the King of Siam and the entertainment of the Pouppa Woondouk, the officer deputed by the King of Ava to convey the *Htee* to Rangoon presented by His Majesty to the great Shwè Dagon Pagod. The cost of the Civil Establishments for the two years are nearly identical.

435. Under the head of *Minor Establishments* are included donations to scientific societies, charges for exploration of coals and other minerals, census charges, &c. The expenditure in the year 1872-73 amounted to £1,542, and in 1871-72, £127. The increase is principally on account of the charges for the taking of the census of the province in 1872, the cost of which was £1,106. There was an increased expenditure for exploration of minerals.

436. The expenditure on *Law and Justice* aggregated in the year of review £60,797, and in the previous year £56,686. The increase of £4,111 is mainly due to the reorganization of the judicial administration of the province, and the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner, which took place in the latter part of 1871-72.

437. In the *Marine* disbursements there was a decrease of £781, occasioned as follows:—The expenses for stores and repairs to the *Nemesis* were lighter, and less coal was required. There were, however, some expenses incurred for the purchase of buoys in the year under report for the Tavoy river.

438. An increase of £1,539 took place in *Superannuations and other Pensions*, owing to an increased number of officials having retired.

439. The payments on account of the *Ecclesiastical Department* showed a decrease of £27, the amount

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439. The payments on account of the *Ecclesiastical Department* showed a decrease of £27, the amount

for the year under review having been £4,064, and for the preceding year £4,093.

440. In the *Medical Establishment* the expenses for the year 1872-73 were £6,824, against £6,644 in 1871-72. The increase is attributed to Medical. Assistant Surgeons having, by length of service, obtained higher rates of pay.

441. In *Miscellaneous* disbursements there was a decrease of £1,169. The decrease was owing to the cost of freight on stores from Europe, which amounted in 1871-72 to £1,098, and which have been charged in 1872-73 to the several departments to which the stores were supplied.

442. The following statement shows the disbursements within the province during the last two years on various accounts other than the Civil Administration:

	1871-72.		1872-73.		Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£		
Postal Department	...	8,849	9,687	838	...	...
Electric Telegraph do.	...	21,180	20,262	...	918	...
Money-order do.	...	6,879	10,765	3,886	...	...
Public Works do.	...	236,870	245,069	8,199	...	...
Military do.	...	279,354	239,442	10,188	...	...
India and other Governments	...	477,363	629,655	152,292	...	...
Bills of do. do.	...	6,983	57,514	50,531	...	...

The increases shown in India and other Governments and in Bills, were due to India having drawn away larger amounts of surplus cash than in 1871-72.

443. The closing *Cash Balances* of the year under review show a decrease of £29,949 as compared with the previous year, owing to heavier withdrawals of surplus cash from the province, and to larger expenditure in the Military and Public Works Departments.

Details.	1871-72.	1872-73.
Notes	...	...
Silver	...	...
Copper	...	...
Total	327,042	297,093

(6)—Revenue and Finance other than Imperial.

PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL FUNDED RECEIPTS.

444. The assignments for the year under report from the Imperial revenues to meet the expenditure of those departments transferred to Provincial Services aggregated £326,300. In the previous year the amount was £283,391. The original allotment for the year 1872-73 was less than that of the previous year by £21,913; but the following additional grants from Imperial revenues were made during the current year, viz.—

For completion of Toungoo road	...	4,000
Special grant, and for surveys of sea-port towns	...	41,000
Rewards for apprehending proclaimed offenders, treated as a provincial charge	...	100

445. The receipts on account of *Jail manufactures*, printing work executed at the jail presses, and for the hire of convict labor, show a considerable increase during the year under report as compared with the year preceding, the amounts realized having been £16,087 and £11,594 respectively. The improvement is chiefly owing to larger outturn of manufactures in the jails, and adjustment of arrears of printing charges.

446. The *Registration* fees realized in 1872-73 £562, and £338 in 1871-72. The Indian Registration Act of 1871 was only in force during a portion of the preceding year.

447. The receipts on account of *Police* show a decrease of £18,745, the realizations having been £20,380 in 1871-72 and in 1872-73 £1,685. The falling-off is in consequence of the contributions from the Local Funds for the cost of the village and municipal police being no longer adjusted as a police receipt, as the expense is now charged to Local Funds. An improvement, however, took place in other receipts on account of realizations for the cost of arms supplied by the police to Burmese foresters.

448. There was an increase in the *Educational* receipts, due to a larger amount having been collected on account of school fees. The realizations were £719 in 1872-73, and £659 in 1871-72.

449. The receipts in the year under report show an increase as compared with the year preceding, the amounts realized being £548

and £293 respectively. This increase is due to greater number of fees received from Lock Hospital patients, and from proceeds of industrial labor at the Lunatic Asylum.

450. There was an increase in the *Printing* receipts. The English edition of the *British Burma Gazette* was transferred from the Rangoon Central Jail Press to the Secretariat Press during the latter portion of 1871-72. The receipts were £1,049 in 1872-73, and £68 in 1871-72.

451. Under the head of *Miscellaneous* receipts are included fees for the construction of masonry graves and monuments, and sundry receipts. The amount realized in the present year was £204, and in the previous year £14.

452. The receipts on account of sale proceeds of buildings and stores, for rents of buildings, amounted in the year 1872-73 to £3,521, and in 1871-72 to £3,669.

453. The revenue derived from *Local Funds* shows an improvement in the year of report as compared with the previous year, the amounts for the two years being £131,400 and £109,079 respectively. The increase is chiefly attributable to the receipts for port dues, owing to the greater number of vessels having visited the ports in the year under review.

PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL FUNDS DISBURSEMENTS.

454. The expenditure on account of the *Jails* throughout the province in the year of review was £30,384, against £26,670 in the previous year. The increase was due to larger purchases of raw material, &c., for manufacturing purposes, to heavier expenses for rations, and to salaries of Superintendents being higher than in 1871-72.

455. The cost of the *Registration Establishment* during 1872-73 was £327, against £699 in the previous year, owing to the abolition of the appointment of Inspector-General, together with his establishment, at the latter end of 1871-72.

456. The expenditure in the *Police Department* showed an increase of £6,347, the disbursements in 1872-73 having been £122,825, and in the previous year £116,478. The increase was owing chiefly to the entertainment of an additional force required for the Salween frontier.

457. The *Educational* charges in 1872-73 amounted to £9,614, and in 1871-72 to £8,349—an increase of £1,265, which is attributed to additional grants-in-aid to schools and increased charges for school-books and maps.

458. In the *Medical Department*, the expenditure for the year under report was £8,720, and for 1871-72, £8,471, being an increase of £249, from the transfer of the Rangoon Lock Hospital from the Military Department; from the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum having been opened for a portion of the year 1871-72. The separate appointment, however, of Sanitary Commissioner, was abolished at the end of 1871-72, and a decrease consequently took place.

459. The expenditure for *Printing* establishments and charges in 1872-73 amounted to £8,159, and in 1871-72 to £5,307, showing an increase of £2,852. This large increase was attributed to the addition to the establishments on account of the printing *in extenso* of the most important proceedings of the Secretariats.

460. Under *Marine*, which includes charges for the maintenance of the light-houses and schooners employed on duties connected therewith, the expenditure in the year 1872-73 was £5,026, and in 1871-72, £4,261. The chief increase was on account of heavy repairs to the schooners *Dauntless* and *Pharos*.

461. The expenses for "Cemeteries," "Office rents, rates and taxes," and "Miscellaneous" in the year of report were £169, £326, and £970 respectively; while in the preceding year they were £122, £346, and £3,075 respectively. There were fewer miscellaneous and unforeseen charges in the year under report.

462. The following grants to *Local Funds* were made during the year 1872-73:—

Contributions to Local Funds.	£.
To the Rangoon Port Fund (Loan)	7,700
Ditto Henzada Municipal Fund	2,740
Ditto Akyab do.	440
Ditto Rangoon Dispensary	100

463. The expenditure for *Roads, Miscellaneous public improvements, Civil buildings, and Petty constructions and repairs* amounted in the year under review to £120,926, and in 1871-72 to £106,241, or an increase in 1872-73 of £24,685.

464. Under this head there were increased payments to the Local Funds dis- extent of £5,025. The expenditure in burmements. 1872-73 was £139,616, and in 1871-72 £134,591. The increase is attributable to improvements in the port of Rangoon in the way of wharves and receiving sheds.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

Details of Census.

465. A census of the province was taken on the 15th August 1872, but, as the examination of its results has not been yet completed, it is impossible to give full details. At page 19 of this report the main results have been given, and below are some detailed facts which have been elucidated as the work of tabulation proceeded. The complete chapter on the subject must be deferred till next report.

466. It had originally been intended to take this census in November 1871, but this was found to be almost impracticable, on account of insufficient warning; and inadvisable, as in November there would have been less likelihood of getting an accurate return than at any other season of the year—this owing to a variety of reasons which were pressed by District Officers as grounds for a postponement. The enumeration was therefore delayed till 15th August 1872, and, with the exception of the Hill Tracts of Northern Arakan and some Karen tracts, the census was begun and completed throughout the province on that night. In the Hill Tracts it was thought inexpedient to risk alarming the tribes by any formal census, and therefore an estimate was accepted.

467. There was very little difficulty about taking this census, and very little expense. The people were used to being counted yearly, and were neither alarmed nor obstructive; and the village revenue and police establishments were accustomed to the work, and required little warning or instruction. They had taken their annual enumeration a few months before, and built their census work on a revised edition of the previous counting. And thus, although the ultimate orders directing the taking of the census and fixing the date for it were delayed until July, no difficulty arose in getting the work done, and in one respect the short notice was of real advantage. There was no long preparation or talk about the coming census: in many parts the enumerators themselves knew nothing about it till two days before they had to take

it ; and so the false rumours, petty extortion, and general uneasiness among the agricultural population which are supposed to be necessary features of an Indian census, were entirely wanting. The results were in every way satisfactory. Taking into consideration the principle upon which the usual population returns are compiled, viz., without regarding floating or travelling population, it was estimated that the census ought to show a general increase of from 4 to 5 per cent. on those returns. The increase shown was 7·2 per cent. ; of this 2·6 per cent. is the average of actual increase from year to year during the last ten ; and the balance, therefore, of 4·6 per cent., as was anticipated, may be assigned to more accurate or complete enumeration.

Increase during ten years. 468. The following are the figures for the last ten years :—

Years.	Population.	Increase on previous year.	Percentage of increase.
1862	... 2,020,634	...	...
1863	... 2,092,041	71,407	3·53
1864	... 2,196,180	104,139	4·97
1865	... 2,273,049	76,869	3·50
1866	... 2,330,453	57,404	2·52
1867	... 2,392,312	61,859	2·65
1868	... 2,395,985	3,673	0·15
1869	... 2,463,484	67,499	2·81
1870	... 2,491,736	28,252	1·14
1871	... 2,562,323	70,587	2·83
1872 census	... 2,747,148	184,825	7·21

469. This, leaving out that portion of the census increase which may be attributed to improved enumeration, shows an average increase of 2·6 per cent. per annum, and of 26·8 per cent. in ten years, which is very nearly equal to the increase in the most happily-circumstanced countries. This increase, although largely due to natural reproduction among a population inhabiting a rich food-supplying country, is also in a measure due to immigration, from which source alone it is computed that some 15,000 souls are annually added to the population.

470. The average population per square mile is 31·02. The rate is highest in Pegu, at 60·88 per square mile, and lowest in Tenasserim, 12·85 per square mile. Again, the district in which it is highest is Myanoung, with 114·84 per square mile, and lowest is the Salween, with 5·62.

471. There are 20 towns of over 5,000 inhabitants, of which the following is a list :—

Rangoon	...	...	...	98,745
Moulmein	...	...	...	46,472
Prome	...	...	...	31,157
Bassein	...	...	...	20,684
Akyab	...	...	...	19,230
Henzada	...	...	...	15,307
Thayetmyo	...	...	...	15,142
Tavoy	...	...	...	14,469
Shwè-doung	...	...	...	12,654
Toungoo	...	...	...	10,732
Mergui	...	...	...	9,737
Allanmyo	...	...	...	9,697
Yandocn	...	...	...	9,680
Kyangheen	...	...	...	8,477
Shwè-gyecn	...	...	...	7,871
Pantanau	...	...	...	5,888
Myanoung	...	...	...	5,641
Poungday	...	...	...	5,630
Laynyethna	...	...	...	5,381
Zaloon	...	...	...	5,105

472. In 1867-68 there were 16 towns of over 5,000 inhabitants. Those which have come above that limit since are—

New towns.	Allanmyo, Pantanau,	Poungday, Zaloon.
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473. Allanmyo has rapidly increased and is increasing, having nearly doubled its population in 5 years. It is the first trading mart on the Irawaddy river within British territory. Pantanau also shows signs of further development, and is much frequented by traders in fish and gnapee for Upper Burma. Poungday is in the centre of one of the richest rice tracts bordering on the Rangoon Prome road, where cultivation is rapidly extending.

474. The results of the census, showing the distribution of the people as to sex, age, and religion, are as follows :—

Tabulated results as to sex, age, and religion.

475. Although the population throughout the province is steadily increasing, it is noticeable that during the last few years Pegu is increasing much more rapidly than Tenasserim, and that the portion of Tenasserim which is increasing most rapidly is that which we most lately acquired. Here as elsewhere population converges to the main lines of traffic—the fertile valleys of the Sittang and Irrawaddy, and especially in the latter valley is to be found the most densely-populated rural tract of British Burma.

476. The town of Moulmein is declining in population. In 1869 the figures were 71,000, in 1872 only 46,000. The temporary decadence of her timber trade, and the diversion of the foreign import trade to Rangoon, naturally affected the population; but there are visible signs of reviving prosperity for Moulmein in the recent establishment of rice mills in the town, and a large extension of cultivation which has recently taken place in the surrounding district of Amherst.

477. The census showed that the proportion of females to males was considerably less than in other countries. This, although worthy of note, is easily accounted for. The obvious explanation being found in the large number of foreigners who come over for one, two, or three years, and do not bring their families. The returns show an average emigration and immigration of from 80,000 to 100,000 annually, of which a considerable proportion are Indians.

478. Nearly all District Officers express surprise at the very small number of persons who profess to read or write. This is shown as 24:37 for males and 1:5 for females. The long-established monastery school system had led them to believe that a very large proportion of the people had received some instruction. Probably this belief was not so far wrong as the census figures would indicate. It is suggested that this portion of the returns are the least accurate, owing to the unwillingness of the people to own to an ability of which they felt a little diffident. It is almost certain that a very much larger proportion of both males and females can read and write a little than these figures show.

479. The total cost of the census, saving that of publishing the Report, was, according to the Accounts Department, £1,107.

Births and Deaths.

480. The registration of births and deaths in British Burma is admittedly very defective. This was the first year of an attempt to extend this registration to the whole province, and, notwithstanding that in the year 1872 an effort was made with some success to secure a more accurate registration in towns, there will be, for some time to come, a difficulty in securing anything like a real return from the rural districts. The work falls upon the village officers, who have generally large tracts under their charge, and cannot be relied on for accuracy. They are already in many parts overworked, and one of the most experienced officers in the province says that "it is utterly impossible for a Thoogyee, especially at certain times of the year, to do his revenue work, and at the same time keep up his registers properly." It was therefore suggested last year that returns of deaths and births might be more correctly furnished by the register being kept in the village, and the Thoogyee at certain periodical times collating these into a general return for his circle. It cannot be expected that the head of every village should immediately on the occurrence of a death or birth proceed to the Thoogyee's head-quarters, a distance possibly requiring a journey of days. As the machinery of our administration in the province increases, it may be possible to receive more reliable returns than at present; but it does not seem that the means now at the disposal of District Officers can possibly supply correct statistics of the various subjects of inquiry.

481. The population of the province is taken at 2,663,110 by the Sanitary Commissioner, and the births at 47,425, and deaths 33,239,—or at the rate of, births, 17.79 per 1,000; deaths, 12.48—both of which are obviously inaccurate. There seems no doubt that the birth-rate of the whole province is erroneous. There will always be greater difficulty in obtaining the birth-rate than the death-rate, because on the occasion of a death the public funeral brings the occurrence to general notice, but an attempt to register births throughout the province for the first time could not be expected to be very correct; and it is satisfactory to find from an examination of the returns from the towns,

where registration was pretty correct, that in them the proportion was 31·12 per 1,000. It may be fairly assumed that in the rural population the rate was fully as high.

482. As regards the death-rate, there is also little trust to be put in the returns for the whole province, which give the proportion as low as 12·48 per 1,000 of population: but here, again, by taking the towns, where registration was presumably pretty correct, it is found that the death-rate in them was 26·15 per 1,000. This is very near what may be expected as a fair average in an ordinary town population. In India, 25 per 1,000 may be accepted as an average town death-rate under favourable circumstances.

483. If, then, 26·15 be taken as the town death-rate in Burma, it may be assumed that the rural population has a death-rate of about 22 per 1,000. In all this there is necessarily a good deal of assumption on comparatively scanty facts; but such value as the deductions have, go to support the conclusion arrived at by ordinary observers, who merely judge by personal experience, and that conclusion is that British Burma is one of the healthiest provinces in the East. It must be further borne in mind that, except in the large towns, the people are entirely without any medical advice: whenever disease attacks them, it runs its natural course, except in those instances—not very rare, it is to be feared—in which disease is aggravated by the violent and unskilful treatment of the people themselves. If medical skill is as efficacious as it is believed to be in European countries, much of the difference in the rate of mortality between Eastern and European countries, and indeed between Burma and India, should be attributed to this cause, and not to climatic conditions.

483. In regard to the detail of the causes of death, it is out of the question to expect that returns prepared by natives of the province, entirely unacquainted with the true classification of diseases, should furnish any trustworthy facts; but it is important to find that, in regard to the deaths according to age, very favorable results are shown in regard to the low death-rate among infants, and this has been to a certain extent corroborated by details derived from the census as to the proportion of children to the total population. It appears that, according to the annual returns, the deaths of children under five years of age were in the proportion of 27·85 of the total

deaths at all ages, whereas in England they were 40 per cent.—this is confirmed from the census returns, which show that the proportion of infants to the total population was high; and, as regards children under twelve years of age, the percentage was 35·8 of the total population; while in Bengal the percentage was 32·48. It is now believed that Burma is a very healthy country for children, and, in opposition to the opinions reiterated for years, that infantile mortality is high in this province, the ordinary traveller throughout the towns and villages cannot help noticing how numerous are the healthy-looking children.

Emigration.

484. THE statistics of emigration and immigration show 82,550 of the former to 122,328 of the latter, against 75,690 and 97,679 in the previous year, thus giving a residue in the year of report of 39,778, against one of 21,989. About one-half of this fluctuating element of the population consists of Burmans from the King's territories, who for the most part come here for work and return at the end of the season. These are chiefly to be found in Henzada District, where in this year there are 30,566 immigrants against 22,968 emigrants. In 1871-72 these figures in Henzada were respectively 26,215 and 19,043. In Thayetmyo, Prome, Toungoo, and Salween there are also large annual increments to the population from Upper Burma, and in these districts these immigrants settle in large numbers. These figures, however, must be accepted with some caution: they are compiled from district returns, and therefore include the movements of the people from one district to another within the province.

485. It is estimated that about one-third of all emigrants and immigrants are coolies from India, mostly from the northern parts of Madras and from Chittagong. These come chiefly to the Rangoon and Amherst Districts. The remaining emigrants and immigrants are Chinese, Shans, Malays and Karens, most of whom may be regarded as permanent additions to the population. In respect of this subject, British Burma differs from India, in that emigration, as understood there, does not exist in this province. Burma is a country of immigration, and the so-called emigrants are only immigrants of previous years returning to their own country.

Emigration and immigration to and from Upper Burma.

Medical Relief.

486. There are fourteen civil dispensaries in British Burma at which charitable relief, in and out-door, is afforded.

487. During 1872, owing probably to the unusually good state of the general health and the absence of epidemic, the attendance at the dispensaries was not so large as in the preceding year, the figures being 45,260, against 48,975; but there was an increase in in-door treatment, as appears from the statement below:—

DISPENSARIES.	ATTENDANCE.				DIFFERENCE.			
	1871.		1872.		In-door.		Out-door.	
	In-door.	Out-door.	In-door.	Out-door.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Akyab ...	298	1,389	398	1,693	100	...	504	...
Kyook-phyoo ...	120	736	139	637	19	...	...	109
Sandoway ...	64	180	63	124	9	...	...	66
Rangoon ...	1,218	16,638	1,263	12,260	145	...	...	4,358
Bassein ...	117	1,695	117	1,184	...	...	...	511
Henzada ...	126	2,789	177	2,673	61	...	...	115
Myanounng ...	119	565	124	609	5	...	...	56
Prome ...	196	2,338	280	2,622	84	...	184	...
Thayetmyo ...	187	2,497	176	2,371	...	71	...	116
Moulmein ...	490	4,287	471	4,776	...	19	449	...
Tavoy ...	206	2,721	177	2,527	...	29	...	198
Mergui ...	186	1,155	169	1,455	...	36	300	...
Shwe-gyeen ...	192	3,834	266	3,497	74	...	...	227
Toungoo ...	169	4,445	185	5,016	16	...	573	...
Total ...	3,678	45,297	4,104	41,486	503	77	2,010	5,851

488. Of the fourteen dispensaries, nine show an increase in the number treated in hospital, amounting in all to 503; four show a decrease of 77; Bassein remains as in last year. Of these, again, five show an increase in the number of out cases amounting to 2,010, while nine show a decrease of 5,851.

489. The average total daily attendance for this year shows an increase over that of 1871 of 14.13 per cent.—the increase of the in-door cases being 25.13 per cent.; the out-door cases showing a decrease of 11 per cent. As the tenor of all the reports from the different dispensaries of the province for the year under review is noted as being favorable to the health of the community, the numbers as above—viz., the increase of the in-door cases—would appear legitimately to show the greater estimation in which these dispensaries are held by the people at large, and the increasing confidence they have in the European mode of treating disease.

490. The stations at which Europeans and Eurasians were treated during the year were, Akyab, Rangoon, Bassein, Thayetmyo, Moulmein, and Mergui.

491. Below is given a list of the diseases, and the proportion they each bear to the whole number of cases treated in these dispensaries:—

Percentage of special diseases to that of admissions.

Diseases.	In-door.	Out-door.
Fevers	24.66	16.38
Cholera	0.39	0.03
Rheumatism	4.77	5.67
Syphilis	3.99	2.41
Chest diseases	2.22	4.34
Dysentery	4.65	2.21
Diarrhoea	3.94	3.22
Skin diseases	5.87	5.09
Injuries	28.07	7.13
Other diseases	15.54	38.86

492. The cases of *rheumatism* treated, have been comparatively few, viz., 4 per cent. *Syphilis* in its primary and secondary forms appears as a percentage of 3.99—161 less than the previous year. *Injuries* give the largest percentage of in and out-door cases, viz., 28.07—wounds and contusions chiefly contributing to swell the number. In-door cases of injuries are for the most part police cases.

493. The death-rate among in-patients has been in the ratio of 8.88 per cent. to the total number treated. The death-rate among out-door patients is not given, as being untrustworthy and practically useless. The death-rate in the major operations was 12.50.

494. The income of the dispensaries during the year amounted to £17,136, and their expenditure to £13,976, leaving a credit balance on the 1st of January 1878 of £3,160, being an increase over the balance which remained on the 1st January 1872 of £16. Of the above-mentioned income, Government contribute £11,756, the remainder being made up of voluntary donations, subscriptions, &c.

495. Besides the Civil Dispensaries, there were in the year of report six Lock Hospitals, at Akyab, Rangoon, Thayetmyo, Bassein, Promé and Moulmein. Of these, four were under the Contagious Diseases Act, and two under the Cantonment Act. All of them are doing good, and, so far as the returns of the Military and Civil Hospitals are a guide, there is every reason to believe that the registration and periodical examination of public prostitutes, and the establishment of Lock Hospitals, has a decidedly beneficial effect on the public health. Whatever the theoretical objections to the Contagious Diseases Act may be, there can be no question as to the great practical benefit which society has derived from its working when we consider the evils which the spread of this disease has on future generations of innocent sufferers, and this tangible result has, moreover, been brought about when, admittedly, the provisions of the Act have not been fully and strictly enforced.

496. In Rangoon, for instance, the cases of venereal disease in the European Military Hospitals decreased from 21.63 per cent. of strength in 1870, and 19.23 in 1871, when the Hospital was opened, to 11.90 in 1872. At the same time, in the Civil Hospital and Dispensary the number of venereal cases decreased from 1,513 in 1871, of which 1,067 were syphilis, to 983 in 1872.

497. At Thayetmyo, out of a strength of 1,219 troops, only 28 cases of primary venereal disease, contracted at the station, occurred. Of these, 24 cases were among the European troops, of which the strength was 528; while in 1868, the year previous to the establishment of the Lock Hospital at Thayetmyo, there were 111 admissions for primary disease to a strength of 500 European troops. In the same period the admissions into the Civil Hospital at this station fell from 223 to 56.

498. Besides the persons noted above, who received medical relief at the several dispensaries and lock hospitals, 151 persons were treated for insanity at the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum; of these, 22 were discharged as cured, and 6 died. Of the 151 lunatics, 38 were criminal insanes. Many of them are only insane at certain times, or on certain subjects, and are capable of performing a good deal of work. The Asylum during the year of review underwent great improvement.

499. The management is conducted on a most economical scale; the cost being for Natives £3-11-1½ per head; while at Dullundah it was £5-17-7½; at Dacca, £5. Having regard to the difference in prices of labour and food in Burma and in the stations mentioned, the foregoing comparison shows that care is taken with the outlay in the Rangoon Asylum. There is one point, however, in which the Asylum compares very unfavorably with the asylums in Bengal, and that is, in respect to contributions for the maintenance of patients by their friends.

500. As regards the health of the patients, the Rangoon Asylum compares favorably with other asylums, the death-rate per cent. on daily average being as follows:—

Health	Asylum	Death-rate per cent.
Rangoon	...	5.12
Lucknow (1871)	...	42.
Dacca	...	19.7
Dullundah	...	12.8
Calcutta	...	8.9
Delhi (1871)	...	13.
Bareilly (1871)	...	15.
Benares	...	14.

501. The percentage of patients discharged on daily average strength was 21.36, which compares somewhat unfavorably with the Bengal asylums, where the discharges were 28.64 per cent. of strength. No doubt this may to some extent be attributed to the greater number of cases in Bengal of patients suffering from the effects of ganjah.

Sanitation.

502. From the reports of District Officers, and those of the Sanitary and Medical Departments, it would appear that the year 1872 was on the whole an unusually healthy one. Cholera and small-pox were confined to small areas, and, except the former in Akyab, were nowhere epidemic.

503. The chief cause of death is fever;—according to the returns, about two-thirds of the reported deaths were assignable to diseases recorded as fever.

Statement showing the districts in which Fevers are recorded as having principally prevailed.

DISTRICTS.	Population.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total 1872.	Ratio per 1,000 of Population.
Akyab ..	266,858	198	175	183	216	164	165	343	254	257	252	328	342	2,579	10.78
Sandoway ..	54,659	51	54	50	35	39	36	39	48	55	52	46	57	561	10.26
Ramree ..	144,251	107	96	132	94	88	117	199	137	144	166	129	113	1,445	10.10
Tavoy ..	72,450	78	60	44	48	43	69	76	59	57	73	64	70	729	9.79
Prome ..	274,872	304	169	212	180	199	280	182	161	150	163	144	295	2,248	8.17
Rangoon ..	431,069	269	260	267	289	344	322	323	290	297	267	298	267	3,503	6.12
Thayet ..	144,181	131	76	63	98	73	85	96	112	81	98	109	112	1,125	7.80
Bassein ..	316,982	212	219	193	201	183	212	217	211	169	225	163	298	2,410	7.60
Amherst ..	236,387	112	183	113	133	102	203	211	137	133	147	139	110	1,797	7.21
Toungoo ..	87,338	57	60	47	42	26	45	52	40	44	50	49	69	688	6.69
Myanung ..	444,750	226	221	267	171	207	204	298	291	257	234	243	263	2,912	6.54
Shwé-gyeen..	142,639	78	69	96	77	61	52	79	107	76	76	56	57	914	6.40
Total ..	2,816,926	1,718	1,647	1,607	1,591	1,538	1,835	2,118	1,821	1,707	1,754	1,741	1,969	21,021	8.3

504. From the above it will be seen that the highest ratios of deaths were in the three districts of Akyab, Ramree and Sandoway of the division of Arakan, and although the total number of deaths registered from fevers must be incorrect, in common with the total number from all diseases, still it may be assumed that they preserve a due proportion in their incorrectness. During 1871, Sandoway, Tavoy and Thayetmyo headed the list, as showing the highest rates of mortality from this cause, and the district of Akyab, well known to be the most feverish part of Burma, showed the lowest. Last year the returns of deaths from fevers are evidently much nearer the truth as regards the localities in which they prevailed. Fevers are returned as having caused 64.37 per cent.

of the total recorded mortality last year, as compared with 58·28 per cent. in 1871. The excess has probably been caused by the deficient rain-fall last year, as compared with 1871, 65·22 inches only having fallen in May, June and July, as compared with 89·19 in the corresponding period of 1871. The greatest number of deaths from fevers were in the month of July, and the next highest in December. These two months—the former when the rains have well set in, and the latter when they have completely ceased—should be periods when deaths from malarious fevers prevail least. This tends to confirm what was said in the report for 1871 regarding the cause of deaths being incorrectly returned by Burmans, who call every disease fever if attended with a hot skin, as well as the *sequelæ* of fevers long after the original disease has ceased. In this way deaths from diarrhœa, dysentery, pneumonia, and other diseases of stomach, bowels and lungs are returned as having been from fevers. According to the returns, the fewest deaths from fever were in the month of May, when in reality if malarious fevers were rapidly fatal the greatest number of deaths would take place; but as above shown the highest mortality is in July, and the next in December: the only explanation for this is, that as a rule the malarious fevers of Burma are not primarily fatal (when properly treated); the natives of the country die, not from them, but from the diseases which follow upon fevers badly treated, such as general dropsy, diarrhœa, &c. Now the periods when malaria is most prevalent being in May, when the first rains fall, and October, when they cease, the secondary diseases developed in the period between these two months and July and December respectively cause the excess of mortality from so-called fevers in the two latter-mentioned months.

505. Cholera in the year of report was confined almost entirely to the Arakan Division, where 640 deaths from this cause were reported. Of these, 524 were in Akyab Town and District; and it may be noted that nearly all the mortality in the town was amongst the Chittagonian coolies, whilst in the jail it was amongst Arakanese,—not one native of India or Chittagong having been attacked, although several were in the jail.

506. In no year of which there is any record, either from Civil Surgeons' reports or from reports by District Officers, has Burma been so free from small-pox as it was last year. Only 845 deaths were recorded from it, or 0·31 per 1,000 of population. The largest

number of deaths, 273, were in the Myanong District, where the inoculators generally carry on a brisk business.

507. Meteorological observations were recorded in a limited and imperfect manner at 14 stations, but there are no observatories at any of them, the few instruments supplied being kept in the civil dispensaries. The instruments were found at the time of inspections, generally speaking, so placed as to yield very fallacious results, and, simple as are the maximum and minimum thermometers, and the solar and terrestrial radiation thermometer, the mode of setting and registering them was not understood by the majority of the Civil Medical Officers, so that very absurd returns were sent from time to time to the office of the Sanitary Commissioner. The greatest range of the thermometer was at the inland station of Thayetmyo, on the frontier of Burma Proper, where it was 44 in the month of March, the thermometer ranging from 57 to 101. The lowest range was at the towns of Moulmein, Tavoy, Akyab, or near the sea-coast. The highest temperature noted (104) was at Thayetmyo, and the lowest also, 52. The minimum thermometer was returned as having registered 50 at Bassein in January last: this is evidently a mistake. It may here be noticed that the direction of the wind at Akyab during the months of January, February and March, when cholera prevailed in the district, was N. and E.N.E., the direction from which the disease came to the town of Akyab. The average rain-fall all over the province was only 128 inches, as compared with 153 during the previous year. The only places in which it was in excess of the previous year were Akyab, where 220·2, and Thayetmyo, where 58·1 inches, fell, as compared with 199·8 at Akyab and 54·6 at Thayetmyo in 1871.

508. During the year great efforts have been made to improve the conservancy of Rangoon. An assignment of funds was made to assist the local resources in inaugurating a new system for the removal of night-soil, and this has already proved fairly successful. Rangoon and Akyab still require improved drainage, and the former is much in need of an improved water supply. These, however, are matters of funds, and will be provided when money is available. In Prome a project for continuing the reclamation of a large swamp in the middle of the town was sanctioned, and has since been nearly completed. In Moulmein several minor sanitary works, including the substitution of external cemeteries for those at present inside the town, have

been proposed. Owing to the configuration of the soil, Moulmein has admirable natural drainage and a reputedly pure water supply. The building of new and the improvements to old Government bazaars throughout the country is a work of considerable sanitary importance; nearly every town of any importance is now provided with a large, airy, well-tended bazaar, under Government control. This has secured for the people, with whom large bazaars are a traditional necessity, the advantage that the articles of their daily consumption have every chance of reaching them in the freshest state, and the evil effects which arise from food being kept and sold in dark, muddy, and insect-haunted arcades, have been averted. In Rangoon, where, from the extent of ground which the low-roofed private bazaars cover, many of the stalls are far removed from direct daylight, the evils arising from dark and overcrowded bazaars are specially to be feared. To meet this, a Government bazaar in the most populous quarter is projected, and will probably be considered a great boon.

Vaccination.

509. There was no change in the personnel of the Vaccination Department during the year. In consequence of the repeated failure both of vaccine lymph and crusts towards the end of 1872, successful vaccination was not established all over the province until very late in the season; in most stations very little work was done until January 1873. The lymph, &c., which failed was received from the Superintendent General of Vaccination, North-Western Provinces, and Calcutta. Constant and consecutive supplies were sent to all stations, commencing at the end of September. 1,782 Crusts and 190 capillary tubes containing lymph were distributed to the several stations in the province by the Superintendent of Vaccination, and with this supply the work of vaccination was carried on during the year.

510. The plan adopted during the year 1871-72, of confining the operations of vaccinators to large towns, where the results of their work could be examined easily, was followed last year also. The following statement shows the working of the department, as compared with the previous years:—

Operations.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.
Total number of people vaccinated ...	23,144	14,076	16,377
Number of successful cases ...	18,101	9,569	11,565
Number of unsuccessful cases, including doubtful ...	4,763	2,991	4,367
Number of cases the result of which is unknown ...	281	...	445
Percentage of successful cases to total number of operations ...	78.68	67.98	70.22

511. From the foregoing it will be seen that there was an increase both in the total number vaccinated and in the proportion of successful cases. The Civil Medical Officers, who are *ex-officio* Superintendents of Vaccination, were well satisfied that, generally speaking, returns of vaccination were correctly rendered. The Provincial Superintendent examined cases all over the province, and was satisfied, with few exceptions, that the returns were worthy

of acceptation as being correct, and that the general characteristics of genuine vaccination were present in fair proportions.

512. Of the total number vaccinated, 1,793 were children of under one year old. An objection to have young children vaccinated has always prevailed amongst Burman parents.

513. In addition to the operations performed by paid vaccinators of the Department, many cases were vaccinated in cantonments which are not included in the returns, and by the members of the American Baptist Mission, who were supplied with lymph by Superintendents of Vaccination.

514. The most hopeful matter connected with vaccination during the year was that Burmese inoculators were supplied with lymph in several districts, and undoubtedly used it largely in vaccinating, with very good results, which are not shown in the returns.

515. Small-pox caused 845 deaths during the year, of which 644 were in the Pegu Division,—the greater number being in the Prome District, where it was introduced at Pongday by inoculators, and became epidemic; but with this exception there was no general invasion of the disease in any part of the province.

516. The total cost of the department was £1,060; which includes pay of Superintendent, viz., £180; pay of clerk and one peon, £61; and £1-10-0 postage. The pay of the establishment of vaccinators was £805. Travelling allowances to the Native Superintendent amounted to £12-10-0.

517. On account of the small proportion of successful cases hitherto obtained during the rains, it was considered undesirable to continue vaccination at that season, and, consequently, the vaccinators were employed in civil dispensaries from May to September inclusive, where they made themselves very useful. If their pay for that period, which amounted to £341, be deducted from the total cost of the department, the net cost was £720, and the cost per successful case amounted to 1s. 4d., as compared with 1s. 9d. in the previous year.

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

Education.

518. There were twenty-nine schools under the immediate supervision of the Educational Department, with 2,817 pupils. Of these seven were Government schools, with 519 pupils; fourteen were Missionary schools, with 1,677 pupils; and eight were other private schools, with 621 pupils. But these figures give a very inadequate conception of the amount of educational work going on in the province, for there were no less than 192 Missionary Primary schools, educating about 4,777 scholars, male and female, and 4,350 Indigenous schools, educating about 49,100 boys and girls. These figures, it is true, are only an approximate estimate, as there are no means at present of ascertaining quite accurately the number of the schools and their scholars independent of State aid. But of these it is estimated that about 4,000 were Monastic schools, educating 44,000 males, and 350 Secular Mixed schools, educating about 3,850 boys and 1,250 girls. In addition to these, there were 18 Independent schools, educating 845 students, male and female. The number of scholars in the Government and Aided schools during the year increased by 361.

519. The want of an Inspector of Schools to assist the Director in the important duty of inspection has been noticed in the reports for some years past: the want of such an officer has no doubt been one of the great drawbacks to the development of the educational system in Burma. An Inspector of Schools has now been sanctioned by the Supreme Government, and the Director will thus be relieved of much detailed work which has hitherto been thrown on him, and the two Inspecting Officers will be able to exercise a far closer supervision over the schools in the districts than they have hitherto been able to do. For the Indigenous schools, five Examiners have now been employed, and have visited a great number of schools, though chiefly since the close of the year under review.

520. Primary education is still in the hands of independent native teachers and of Christian Missionaries : some of the latter are directly or indirectly aided by Government, and

Primary schools.

most of them are devoted to the education of Karens. The Indigenous schools are either monastic, at which only boys are taught, or Lay schools which are generally open to both sexes.

521. The scheme for bringing the Indigenous schools of the country into indirect connection with Government, by appointing Examiners to visit such of the Monastery and Lay schools as they shall be invited to visit by the Hpoongyees and teachers, was alluded to in last year's report. The scheme was only partially introduced as an experiment in some selected districts during the year under review. The two Burmese Examiners met with promise of great success on their first tour. Two other Examiners have now been appointed, and the system is at work in the Rangoon, Henzada, Prome, Amherst, and Akyab Districts. The Chief Commissioner has had an opportunity lately of consulting with several of these Examiners, and they appear to think that the scheme is an undoubted success. Both Monastery and Lay schools show an eager desire in many parts of the country to be examined ; a great many children have been examined, and many have received prizes for passing the lower standard, including some girls. The Examiners say that a great deal of interest is taken in the scheme by the Monastery and Lay teachers ; and that it will certainly have the effect of raising their standard of education. To make the scheme complete, it is necessary that some means should be devised of rewarding the teachers as well as the pupils.

522. The Government Middle schools have not increased in number during the year. There were only six schools, with 455 scholars.

Middle schools.

There is reason, however, to hope that the whole tone of the schools has been much improved by the recent introduction of new masters. The Akyab school has made great progress, and the number of pupils has increased from 97 in October 1871, to 201 at the close of the year 1872-73. The Local Committee and residents of Akyab take a great deal of interest in the school, and education has made greater advances, for many years past, at Akyab than in other parts of British Burma. The Moulmein school has also much improved. There has been a falling-off in the number of pupils

on the roll, through greater stringency in the matter of recording attendance ; but even with this large falling-off in the nominal pupils, the daily average attendance has increased from 64 to 68. The cost to Government of each pupil has increased everywhere, except at Akyab, where the average has been kept down by the large increase of numbers. The cost at Moulmein has very much increased, but this is a natural consequence of the entire reorganization of the school. At present there is a large Aided school in Moulmein, taught by a Burman master, which has all the old pupils of the late S. P. G. school. When the new school-house is completed this will be amalgamated with the Government school.

523. The Aided schools are generally well spoken of by the Director of Public Instruction. They are not as a rule very ambitious, but seem to succeed fairly, while some of them are really very good. The Town School at Moulmein has maintained its reputation during the year. The Director says of this school that he has not seen a school in the East in which the subjects studied are more thoroughly mastered and understood by the pupils. The services of Mr. Gilbert, the Head Master of this school, have been secured for the appointment of Principal of the Government High School at Rangoon, which is now about to be erected.

Aided schools.

High School.

524. The sanction of the Supreme Government has been accorded to the scheme for a High School which was discussed at some length in the report for last year. An admirable site for the school has been prepared, the plans and estimates of the building have been approved, and the work of construction will be taken in hand at once. As regards the question of local and university standards, it is quite impossible to expect Burmese boys to attain anything like the standard of the Calcutta University for some years to come : a local standard is therefore an inevitable necessity, but due importance will of course be given to the degrees of the Indian Universities in the selection of candidates for the public service ; but in point of fact, there is no one in Burma who has ever attempted to obtain such a degree. If the parents of any lads in Burma, for reasons of their own, desire that their sons should obtain that degree in preference to the local certificate, it is better that they should send them to the Calcutta University for the purpose of securing the education necessary for this end, than that the whole of the real education

of the province should be thrown back for the sake of providing one or two show boys in the year.

525. New rules were issued during the year for regulating the proceedings of Local Committees.

Local Committees.

These Committees no doubt have it in their power to do much to promote education in their districts, and they have local knowledge and local influence which the departmental officers can never acquire; but at the same time, too much work must not be thrown on them, for the leading members of the Local Committees are nearly always officers already overburdened with work.

526. The rules for the examination of the graded and ungraded officers of the department in

Examination of officers of the Education Department in Burmese.

the language of the province should result in a great increase in their efficiency. It is impossible that the work of inspection and instruction can properly be carried on without a knowledge of the language.

527. *Female Schools.*—No great progress was made in the matter of female education during the year. The total number of girls at the Aided Female School was 527, being 89

Female education.

in excess of the number last year. But in addition to this, some 1,231 girls are educated at the Village Mixed schools, and about 1,270 at the Karen Baptist Mission Primary schools, 117 in the Roman Catholic Mission schools, and 250 at the Baptist Mission Burmese Mixed schools; in addition to this the Baptist Mission have some Burmese girls' schools, the number of pupils in which is not stated. The school under Miss Haswell, at Moulmein, has largely developed during the year. The grant has been raised for her Morton Lane School from £60 to £120, on the understanding that Miss Haswell will add a Government normal class to her school if called upon to do so. A grant of £200 was made towards furnishing the excellent school-house, with its large dormitories recently erected, and £120 have been given towards opening some Primary schools under the general supervision of the same lady. The school had 52 boarders and 15 day-scholara, and the progress made by the children was very remarkable, and cannot fail to be very gratifying to Miss Haswell, who has devoted herself with singular energy to the cause of female education in Burma.

528. The school of the Rangoon Ladies' Association at Prome, has made very satisfactory progress during the year, and received a small grant, which is to be increased.

Girls' school, Prome.

The school is now more of a Burmese school than it was before, and the European and Eurasian class is a mere offshoot of the main school. At the schools of this Association 150 Burmese girls are now being educated.

529. The Roman Catholic girls' schools are doing much good among the Europeans and Eurasians, and they have also good Burmese orphanages, which supply a great want.

Roman Catholic girls' schools.

The Moulmein Church of England Orphanage is also well spoken of by the Director.

530. Since the close of the year an experiment has been made of opening a Government girls' school for Burmese girls in Rangoon.

Government girls' school in Rangoon.

It opened with about 35 girls, and has in a few months increased to 116. It is under Burmese mistresses, and a great deal of interest is taken in it by a Committee of Burmese ladies, and by many of the principal Burmese official and non-official residents in Rangoon. It is impossible, till it has been longer established, to say what real prospect there is of its ultimate success, but it is a good beginning. Several girls at the Mixed schools have passed the vernacular lower standard for Indigenous schools, and have received prizes; indeed, they seem quicker and more attentive as a rule than the boys. In addition to this, it must be recollected that all the most respectable Burmese are having their girls taught at home to read and write.

531. As to the languages used in the schools of British Burma, it is the policy of the Government to foster vernacular education in such a way that the Burmese shall become the spoken vernacular of all the indigenous or semi-indigenous races inhabiting Burma. In the interests of the people themselves, especially of the Karens, this is desirable.

Language.

No doubt there is some difficulty in the American Baptist Mission schools suddenly making a change, as their teachers know Karen, and not Burmese, and their books are Karen; but it seems to be admitted generally that it is well that the change should be gradually made.

532. The Chief Commissioner considers that great importance is to be attached to the study of Pali; but there is some danger of attaching to it undue importance at the expense of other subjects. Attention will be given to this subject in the High School, where, it is hoped, a Pali class under a qualified professor will be established.

533. A good deal was done during the year in the way of preparing vernacular school-books; but there appear to be doubts whether the books which have been prepared really meet the requirements of the province in this respect: the subject is under consideration. The great difficulty is to find men competent to write such books in the vernacular, who have sufficient time to give to the work. Some progress has been made in the preparation of maps. There is, no doubt, considerable difficulty in deciding how to spell Burmese names in the geographies and in the atlases, but this difficulty is now in course of solution as an authorized list of transliterated names has been prepared and will shortly be published.

534. The English Readers and other school-books at present in use are very unsuitable. It was lately made the subject of complaint by an intelligent Burman, that the children were taught nothing but nonsense in our schools; and that, instead of reading what is useful and moral, they were made to read about things which they could not understand, and which even to young Burman children seemed ridiculous. And this statement is quite borne out by an examination of the Readers prepared by the Calcutta School Book Society. The whole subject is, however, now under the consideration of a Committee lately appointed for the purpose, and a complete series of school-books adapted to the acquirements of the province is now being prepared. In order to provide another important aid to the development of education in Burma, it has been determined to bring out, in a cheap form, people's editions of the Burmese classics. The duty of selecting the books to be printed, and of seeing them through the press, has been kindly undertaken by a Committee of gentlemen acquainted with the language. The first book of the series will be shortly issued.

Vernacular school-books.

Cheap vernacular literature.

535. Another step in this direction is the publication of a vernacular newspaper, to be called the "Education Gazette." *Educational Gazette*, which will contain authentic intelligence and such other matter as is likely to be of real interest to the Burman mind. This *Gazette* has been sanctioned, and it is to be hoped that it will be commenced shortly.

536. Measures are being taken to collect all the best Burmese and Pali manuscripts. If there appear to be any prospect of collecting any large number of such manuscripts, a room will be added to the Phayre Museum, and a learned Burmese scholar will be appointed to take charge of them. The necessity of collecting old treatises on Buddhist law has lately been urged on the Chief Commissioner by the Judicial Commissioner.

537. The total expenditure by the Educational Department during the year was £11,569, and the private expenditure is estimated at £8,181, though this is of course exclusive of the Indigenous schools, in which education is either given gratis or in payment of small fees in kind.

Collection of Burmese and Pali manuscripts.

Expenditure

Literature and the Press.

538. Excluding the Government presses, there were, in the year of review, 16 printing presses and eight newspapers, of which one was in the Burmese language. Of these papers only one was daily, four bi-weekly, two weekly, and one monthly. The last is edited and published by Her Majesty's 67th Regiment, which during the year was quartered in Rangoon. The daily paper has since been made tri-weekly. Besides these newspapers, there are several advertizing sheets in Rangoon, which are issued daily or on alternate days, and one or two monthly Magazines devoted to Missionary or educational purposes. Of the latter one is in Burmese and one in Karen.

539. The English newspapers devote themselves chiefly to local matters, and have a limited circulation, their subscription lists being for the most part confined to the European and Eurasian portions of the community; for, with the exception of officials and school-boys, very few Burmans are acquainted with English. The only Burmese newspaper in the province is reputedly the property of the King of Upper Burma.

540. Of books there were 13, properly so called, published in Burma in the year 1872-73. Of these a compilation of local Rules and Acts and a school-book were in English. The remainder were old Burmese books on religious subjects printed for the first time, or Burmese editions of English school-books. In addition to these there were several pamphlets and Missionary reports printed in Burmese and Karen, and one in Taleing; but no original work in any language was published in the province during the year of review.

Literary Societies.

541. The only "Literary Society" in the province is the "Rangoon Literary Society," which has a fair library and a suitable building, towards the improvement of which the Government has recently contributed. The annual income of the Society is about £150, of which Government gives £30 in the shape of a grant-in-aid.

542. The Society takes in a number of European periodicals and newspapers, and the rooms are occasionally used for lectures and debating purposes.